



Donor Funding Influence on Socio-Economic Development in Kenya: A Case of Water Projects in Lamu County

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ABSTRACT

Kenya has previously been classified as one of the countries that is water scarce in the World while Lamu County is classified or categorized among the water scarce counties in Kenya. There is a serious challenges which are facing the residents of Lamu County in accessing clean portable water. Several institutions both international and local have been making efforts to address the water scarcity situation across the world. These international institutions and organizations collaborate resources with an intention of improving the community access to clean drinking water and eventually improve the socio-economic conditions of the community. Studies that have been found in the past have established that inadequate human resource and lack of qualified personnel has affected the financial management and procurement which affected the implementation of the projects. The study investigate the relationship between donor funding and the socio-economic development in Kenya specifically Lamu county. Theory of poverty was instrumental in guiding of this study and the descriptive research design was adopted for the study. The members of the community-based organizations were considered as the target population since they are members of the water projects, county government officials and the service providers within Lamu County. The sampling technique that was used was the systematic random sampling in order to identify and select the 80 participants and respondents who took part in the study. The questionnaires were used as data collection instruments for the collection of information and data while the Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS v.24). The descriptive statistics, frequency distribution and the regression, model were used as the data analysis techniques. The study revealed that the water projects had a statistically significant relationship to the socio-economic development in Kenya specifically for the people of Lamu County as a community.

Key Words: Donor funding, Demographic variables, Collaborate resources, International Institutions, Water projects.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The water access in Kenya cannot be said to be in line or to have achieved the provision of drinking water for the better part of the population in line with the constitutional requirements. Byaruhanga & Debesay, (2021) found that only 60% of Kenyans have access to safe drinking water. Even though there are climate change challenges which might have a hand in the same, this has influenced the socio-economic livelihoods and aspects of the community. The lack of adequate water has led to increased community conflicts due to scarce water resources due to lack of legal framework for water sources that is shared by different groups or counties (Kitivo, 2019). Water resources encroachment has been ongoing for many years and the disturbances of the water catchment areas. This makes it hard for the available water to serve the ever growing population for both domestic and livestock use. The entire world has continued to experience water shortages which can be attributed to among other factors the climate change across the world and specifically within the developing economies. The donors and sponsors financial support in debt and grants

have been able to make a difference in the in the developing economies in terms of growth and economic development more specifically in Sub-Saharan Africa countries (Takwa, 2016). It is important to note that the donor funding would mostly have varying results and outputs or effects on the development of the community based on the community beliefs, norms and ethical standards. This journal investigated the influence of the donor funding on the socio-economic development of the community within Lamu County in Kenya.

Though few studies have been done in relation to the community development (Galvin & Habib, 2003, Waweru & Fatoki, 2021, WASREB, 2018 and World Bank, 2020), there are inadequate studies in the available literature which have specifically addressed the issue of socio-economic development and its association to the donor funding or how it's influenced by the same. With consideration of there is gap left by the previous studies in knowledge; the current study investigates the influence of the socio-economic development. There were more than 189 countries in the United Nations summit held in 2000 that agreed and signed the millennial declarations targeted at improvement of the conditions of the poor part of the population also referred to as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs are a set of 10 goals that were supposed to have been achieved before or in the year 2015. One of the main or key resolutions was to achieve supply and access of clean drinking water and sanitation by the year 2015.

The World Health Organization report has demonstrated that the MDGs key facts (2018) about 7% was achieved with about 90% of the targeted population having access to safe and clean drinking water by the year 2012. This is in comparison to the 1990 when there was about 76% of the population that had access to clean, safe-drinking water. In Sub-Saharan region this target was not able to achieve fully by the year 2015 (Kenya Government Spending Watch Report, 2018). The significant progress that was achieved was in the sanitation sector which saw about 2.5 billion people getting access to better or improved sanitation services while those who were practicing open-defecation remaining significantly high at about 1 billion people (WHO, 2019).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Having realized the water shortage and the problems that the people in developing economies are facing with access to clean water different non-governmental and international organizations have over the years decided to come up with solution and assistance to help the local community to have access to clean water. There seems to be a link between poverty and water projects in Lamu County; despite the efforts of both the government and the NGOs to improve the welfare of the community and advocating for self-reliance there is still much that needs to be done. This means that there is need to create reliance in the long run for community members in order for the projects established therein to be beneficial in the long-run which will have an impact on the socio-economic development.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to assess effects that donor funding has on socio-economic development in Kenya; a case of water projects in Lamu East Constituency in Lamu County, Kenya.

1.3.1 Research Objectives

- a. To find out the effects of donor funding on sustainability of socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya.
- a. To find out effects of donor funding on stakeholders' involvement in socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya.
- b. To establish the influence of donor funding in capacity building and socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya.

1.3.2 Research Questions

- a. What is the influence of donor funding on sustainability of socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya?
- b. What are the effects of donor funding on stakeholders' involvement in socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya?

- c. What is the influence of donor funding in capacity building and socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya?

1.4 Significance of the Study

The study influences the changes in policy on community development and community growth by the future policy makers. This is because the results and findings of the study assessed how socio-economic development is influenced by the incidence of donor funding and also addressed whether the community is able to grow or will be over dependent on donor funds even after it has been withdrawn. The summary findings and conclusion will enlighten donors on mistakes to avoid in future projects. We have myriads of outcomes of donor funding to socio-economic development, this study highlighted the adverse effects that funds have towards development and how community structures are not empowered due to over reliance; affecting development. The donor support should be tailored in such a way that it helps the projects and the community to exist in the long-run without donor support and be self-sufficient.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Empirical Literature Review

Byaruhanga, & Debesay, (2021) investigated donor funding in relation to the transfer payments in Uganda among the older generations or those people who has since retired and are not in active employment. The study established that the main issue that affects the Uganda's Senior Citizens Grants is the lack of funds and as such it needs donor support and donor funding to remain in operation. The study by Onchoke (2013) investigated components influencing wellbeing of the community development projects in Kisii in Kenya. The study considered financial resources and other sources of finance. The triple prerequisite methods were used by the study in order to estimate projects performance which uses time, scope indicators and the plan on spending.

The study also made use of the stratified testing and the utilized optional and essential information. The data analysis techniques and procedures that were adopted include the inferential statistics for the examination of the information and the descriptive statistics for the summary or the data or the feel of the data. It was established that the different sources of funds have a significant and gigantic effect on changes in exhibited performance through triple confinement framework. The study examined all the community development projects but the current study specifically addressed the donor funding of water projects on socio-economic development in Lamu County. The study also adopted different data analysis techniques which includes the regression and the correlation statistics or matrices while the study by Onchoke adopted the triple constraint methodology.

Ochieng (2016) investigated the effects of dimension on the subsidization on the usage of contributor activities within Nairobi and specifically in Kibra slums. The study utilized an enlightening review configuration to gather data and information which was an appraisal and interrogated the respondents within Kibra. The respondents were composed of target group and members of staff from the NGOs in Kibra that are beneficiaries of donor funds. The study took a sample of about 99 respondents by use of the randomized sampling techniques. The study found that there where there are resources that are inadequate then the same can be an impediment on the donor funded waster-projects. Further, the study by Ochieng (2016) adopted funding as an independent variable while in the current study the same is used as a donor-funding and it is used in specific objectives.

Ngugi & Wanyonyi (2018) investigated the factors that influence performance of the projects that are donor funded in Kenya specifically in Embu County Water and Sanitation Company. The design that was utilized was the descriptive research design; the population that was targeted was composed of 49 that is 20 water kiosks employees, 2 public sanitation facility employees, about 15 members of the Embu County sanitation team combined with the Ministry of Health, 3 government officials, 4 community health workers and public health officers. It was found that the funding done was implemented by use of commercial channels but not through pure grants. This is an indication that the form or funding influence performance of donor funded projects. This is majorly because one is a form of a loan while the other one is a grant and as such the members are not expected to give back the funds to the donors as a financial facility.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

There are different types of research methods which can be used in a study for the investigations of the various phenomena some of which includes: qualitative research, quantitative and mixed research methods. The study designed semi structured interview format to guide interview sessions. The researcher also facilitated one on one, telephone and email interviews, well structure instruments (questionnaires) that capture targeted information.

3.2 Sample Size and Sampling Procedures

3.2.1 Sampling Procedure

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), the process of identification of part of the population as a representation of the whole is called sampling. The researcher adopted the systematic sampling methods in identification of respondents. The researcher investigated the influence of donor funding on community development in Lamu County in Kenya. In a bid to achieve this, the study considered the random sampling technique to identify the respondents. The researcher considered both the membership of the water projects in Lamu County and the leadership in order to get as more information as possible from both fronts. Further, the following table was adopted to get the sample size and number of respondents.

The researcher identified 80 respondents by use of purposive sampling; these were made of ten sample members. The researcher distributed the questionnaires among these sample members and conducted the interviews in order to check for any errors or corrections on the research instruments.

Table 1: Sample Composition

Group Category	Population size	Population Ratio	Sample size
Members of the water projects	700	0.1	70
Water Project leaders	100	0.1	10
Total	800	0.1	80

Source, Author, 2023

3.3 Research Instruments

The research instruments adopted in this study are the primary research tools that include the questionnaires and the interviews. The questionnaires appear to be more applicable because they would allow the beneficiaries and other sample members to be able to express themselves through the questions provided and the options therein. Further, the interviews are going to be important because they served to complement the questionnaires. This is because the interviews gave the researcher provision to seek clarification and observe the respondents as they respond to the questions.

The interviews were conducted on the officials of the different projects on water or the donors in Lamu East constituency while the questionnaires were distributed to the different sample members who are not necessarily officials of the projects. The questionnaires were used by the sample members of the community members while the interviews were used on the officials of the projects and the community initiative which are being supported by the donors in terms of water supply.

The researcher conducted interviews directly with key informants such as the County Directors, County Executives in the water department. The researcher designed semi structured interview format to guide interview sessions, also plans to facilitate one on one, telephone and email interviews. The researcher also structured questionnaires that they administered to the community-based organization members and water projects beneficiaries

3.4 Data Collection Procedures

The actual collection of the facts and figures from the field and the elements required by the study and the researcher in order to assist in making inference by the study is referred to as the data collection process (Cooper and Schindler, 2005). The quantitative methods were applied in the collection of the information, facts and figures that were used in the data analysis and estimation of the results in this study. The collection of data in this study was done among members of the public in Lamu County who were identified from within the County. Interviews and questionnaires were adopted for data analysis and data management of the collected data. The researcher also conducted online communication and collection of data to increase the response rate. This means that the sample members who were out of reach during data collection time were contacted for interviews through the phone. The questionnaires for these respondents were shared through email for the respondents to fill them from their location or office.

3.5 Data Analysis Procedure

The statistical packages for social sciences (SPSS. V.26) version 26 was adopted for the analysis and the, management of the primary data that was gathered by the researcher from the respondents. The frequency tables and figures were used for presentation of the general information and results while the linear regression model was adopted for the estimation of the inferential statistics and results.

3.6 Ethical Considerations

The researcher followed all ethical procedures and protocols that are a requirement by the university. This includes the acquisition of an introductory letter from Mount Kenya University which the researcher utilized to obtain a research permit from the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). The permit allowed the researcher to now approach the respondents in the locality and be able to get permission from the relevant authority to get or collect the dataset. Further, the researcher also allowed the respondents the much needed space to make the decision of taking part in the study and giving information in relation to the phenomenon under investigations.

4. FINDINGS

In this section the study presents the variables that were included in the regression model which was used to demonstrate the relationship between the phenomenon under investigation. It shows the two sides of the equation that is the left and the right-hand sides for the dependent and the independent variables respectively.

Table 2: Variables Entered/Removed

Variables Entered/ Removed ^a			
Model	Variables Entered	Variables Removed	Method
1	Capacity_building1, Government policy, Stakeholder involvement, Donor funding	.	Enter

a. Dependent Variable: Socio-economic development

b. All requested variables entered.

In the model summary below the results shows that the R-square for the regression model was 0.372 which is an indication that the different the explanatory variables explained 37.2% of the dependent variable that is the socioeconomic development of the Lamu Community.

Table 3: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.610 ^a	.372	.338	3.07572

a. Predictors: (Constant), Capacity_building1, Government policy, Stakeholder involvement, Donor funding

The analysis of variance was estimate din he regression model and presented in the table 19 below which shows that the significant coefficient was 0.000 which is not greater than the critical value that is 0.05. This means that there was a statistical significance in the estimated model and that there was goodness of fit; further that the explanatory variables fully explained the changes in the dependent variable that is the socioeconomic development.

Table 4: ANOVA

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	420.045	4	105.011	11.100	.000. ^b
	Residual	709.505	75	9.460		
	Total	2229.550	79			

a. Dependent Variable: Socio-economic development

b. Predictors: (Constant), Capacity_building1, Government policy, Stakeholder involvement, Donor funding

The table20 results in this analysis show the coefficient for different explanatory variables that were regressed against the dependent variable that is the source economic development to indicators in Lamu County. It was estimated that there was a positive statistically significant relationship between the donor funding and the changes in the socio-economic development in Lamu County. This was established because of the positive coefficient that is 0.298 for the explanatory variable that is the donor funding. This means that a unit change in the donor funding leads to 0.298 units change in the socio-economic development of the community in Lamu County.

The explanatory variable stakeholder involvement was estimated to have a positive coefficient of 0.144 which means that there was a positive relationship between the community or stakeholder's involvement and the changes in socio economic development of the community. Thus, it an indication that when there is a unit change in the stakeholder involvement the same leads to a 0.144 change in the positive for the socioeconomic development of the community in Lamu County. This also means that when there is a unit reduction in the community involvement or the stakeholder involvement then the same would reduce or lead to a -0.144 change in the socio-economic development of the community. When the stakeholders and all the shareholders are fully engaged in different stages and areas of the projects the same would have a significant impact in the socio-economic development because this means that the community and the members of the community therein are able to not only own the project but also feel like they are appreciated in the decisions making of the projects and the laws and regulations of the projects. There is also a good chance that the community will be able to adhere to the laws and regulations of the projects due to the fact that they were engaged in the development and the formulation of the laws. Therefore, it would be very difficult for them to go against these laws when they were involved in the formulation and the development of the same.

Table 5: Variable Coefficients

	Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	4.305	2.380		1.809	.074
	Government policy	.570	.119	.466	2.316	.023
	Stakeholder involvement	.144	.083	-.163	-1.731	.088
	Donor funding	.298	.129	.220	-3.770	.000
	Capacity_building1	.347	.092	-.366	4.803	.000

a. Dependent Variable: Socio-economic development

The capacity building was also added as one of the determinants of the socio-economic development of the people of Lamu County and the water projects by donors therein. It was found that there was a positive relationship between the changes in the capacity building and the socioeconomic development of the people of Lamu County. This means that a unit change in the capacity building leads to a 0.347 change in the socio-economic development of the people of Lamu County. This as means that when there is a unit decrease or deviation from the capacity building by the donors r the responsible administration the same leads to a -0.347 decrease in the socio-economic development of the community of the people in Lamu.

The building of capacity is cone of the key areas that the different players and stakeholder should not only take into consideration but also build on in order to assure or ascertain the going concern of such public projects. In this case it was established that there was a positive statistically significant association between the building of capacity and the changes in the socio-economic development of the community or members of the public in Lamu County. This was indicated by the probability value that is attached to the capacity building explanatory variables that was 0.000, this is less than the critical value that is 0.05 which means that there was a statistical significant association between the socio-economic development and the changes in the capacity building of the community. When the human resource and the man-power that is responsible for the maintenance and management of the projects have been well informed and addressed then it means that the project have a good chance at growth and sustainability.

Government policy was found to have a positive coefficient of 0.570 which is a positive relationship between the government policy and the changes in socioeconomic development. This means that when the government policy is favorable and supportive the same influences a positive change or increase in the socio-economic development of the people of Lamu County.

The policy by the government was estimated to have a positive statistically significant relationship to the changes in the dependent variable that is the socio-economic development. This statistically significant relationship was shown or addressed by the probability value that is 0.000, this is less than the critical value that is 0.05. Therefore, when the government policy are set right and the changes in the same are supportive of the donors and foreign investments then it means that even the external donors and the non-governmental organization would be able to come in and support the socio-economic development.

There are many policy which are outdated and which have been formulated many years ago and which have been passed by time. However, if the government could make more reforms and strategies or policy that are in line with the support of the community development then this would be able to bring some positive change and influence on the socio-economic development of the community. The more positive the policy and major reforms in the project scene the better the socio economic development of the community and this applies not only within Lamu County but across all other counties and regions in Kenya.

4.1 Donor Funding on Sustainability of socio-economic development in Kenya

The first objective of the study was to establish the influence or effects of the donor funding on the sustainability in sustainability of the socio-economic development specifically in relation to the water projects in Kenya, it was established that the water projects sustainability was made more sustainable when donor funding was involved. This is because most of the water projects especially in Lamu County do not have a way of making income. This means that when funds are required for repairs and maintenance then it becomes a problem which might and can actually kill or destroy the project entirely. In this study the model estimated established that there was a positive relationship between the donor funding's and the sustainability of the water projects.

4.2 Effects of donor funding on stakeholders Involvement in socio-economic development in Kenya, Lamu County

In relation to the second objective of the study that is the effects of the donor finding on stakeholder's involvement on the socio-economic development specially water projects in Kenya, it was established that there was a positive association or relationship between the change in the stakeholder's involvement and the success of the water projects in Kenya. Therefore, the positive association or nexus between the two variables is an indication that when the stakeholder's involvement is improved or increased then the same means that there will be a subsequent positive influence on the success of the water projects in Kenya especially in Lamu County. This results and findings are in agreement to the report by Byaruhanga, & Debesay (2021).

4.3 Influence of donor funding in capacity building and socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya

The third objective was in relation to donor funding in capacity building and socio-economic development in Lamu County in Kenya specifically water projects. It was established that there was a positive relationship between donor funding in capacity building and socio-economic development in Lamu County specifically in water projects development in Kenya. This was done through the estimated regression model that was conducted in the data analysis section. Therefore, this means that when there is improved capacity building then the water projects are more developed because it allows for the improvement of the features of the projects due to improvement in capacity of the same.

5. DISCUSSIONS

5.1 Research Aims and Objectives

The aim of this study was to assess effects that donor funding has on socio-economic development in Kenya; a case of water projects in Lamu East Constituency in Lamu County, Kenya.

5.1.0 Research Objectives

- b. To find out the effects of donor funding on sustainability of socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya.
- c. To find out effects of donor funding on stakeholders' involvement in socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya.
- d. To establish the influence of donor funding in capacity building and socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya.

5.1.1 Donor Funding on Sustainability of socio-economic development in Kenya

Regarding the first objective that is to establish effects of donor funding on sustainability of socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County; it was found that there was a positive relationship between the donor funding and the sustainability of the socio-economic development within Lamu County. This is purely because when the water and sanitation worry has been lifted off and the members of the community are not wondering

off for long distance to look for water, they are able to concentrate on other issues and activities that are able to improve their livelihoods and their socio-economic conditions.

5.1.2 Effects of donor funding on stakeholders Involvement in socio-economic development in Kenya, Lamu County

Secondly, there was also an objective to find out effects of donor funding on stakeholders involvement in socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County. The study found that there was a positive relationship between the donor funding stakeholder's involvement and the changes in socio-economic development in Lamu County. That the involvement of the stakeholders was able to improve the water projects which mean that there is increased changes of success for them because the different decisions are made in consideration of all stakeholders. This also means that there is a very slim chance that there could be embezzlement and pilferage of the funds that are brought in by the donors because when the stakeholders that is all stakeholders are involved then there will be overhaul oversight from all area. This is very important because the socio-economic development of the community of Lamu County is a subject of many factors. Therefore, if and when there is involvement of the community and the stakeholders then it means that there is movement of the different stages and steps with the community being involved in strategies and decision making and measures that re being taken.

5.1.3 Influence of donor funding in capacity building and socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County, Kenya

To establish the influence of donor funding in capacity building and socio-economic development in Lamu East Constituency, Lamu County; was also one of the objectives which guided the study and it was established that there was a positive statistically significant relationship between the donor funding and the capacity building. The building of capacity happens to be one of the things that would not only establish the institutions of the water project but also put in place the required technology and hardware to implement the different and necessary condition for the project. This was also in agreement with the study by Waweru, & Fatoki, (2021). The positive relationship between the donor funding in capacity building and the improvement in the socio-economic development of the community in Lamu is because when there is proper implementation of the water projects; this will translate in better livelihoods.

5.2 Contribution to Literature

There are studies that have been done on community development and donor funding but there is scarce information on the effects that donor funding has on socio-economic development (Galvin & Habib, 2003; Waweru, & Fatoki, 2021; WASREB, 2018 and World Bank. 2020). Therefore, the researcher investigated effects of donor funding on socio-economic development given that there is a knowledge gap brought about by the existing studies on these phenomena. This means that the study results and findings contributed directly to a problem in the society and a gap in the existing literature in relation to socio-economic development of the community in Lamu through the water projects. Some of the studies that have been done in the past have shown that there is a connection between the donor funding and different projects. However, this study is able to demonstrate that there is a difference in the variables that were used or taken which includes none financial elements and factors such as human resource, the capacity building and the stakeholders involvements for the sustainability of the water projects and economic developments.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on these results, the study makes the following recommendations;

- That the different water projects within Lamu County are an important asset to the community which also contribute to socio-economic change in Lamu and as such there is need for support of these projects by the government and other stakeholders for their sustainability and long life.
- The government and other donors should continue supporting the water projects in Lamu County with resources and ensure that there is capacity building for the same which includes the training of the members and workers therein for posterity and sustainability that will not come with a heavy cost.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to appreciate and acknowledge all those who directly and indirectly contributed to and made this study a success. In addition; I acknowledge the authors whose studies were reviewed and used in this article for review and discussions this article may not have been successfully developed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST STATEMENT

I take this chance to inform the editor that no conflict of interest exists with respect to this article and that the paper was entirely developed by myself

I also confirm that I took into account intellectual property protection related to this paper, hence no obstacles exist impeding its publication relating to intellectual property. Hence, this article is in line with intellectual property regulations.

Ethical and logistical regulations were considered and adhere to when formulating and developing this study and especially when addressing the respondents. All institutional and individual approvals were acquired before the commencement of this study.

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