

**ETHNIC CONFLICTS INFLUENCING SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF BORDER COMMUNITIES, A CASE OF ABAGUSII AND KIPSIGIS IN
BORABU AND BOMET CENTRAL SUB-COUNTIES, KENYA**

JOROMS OGETO ATEMBA

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DECLARATION AND CERTIFICATION

Declaration by the Student

I declare that this thesis is my original work and has not been presented for any other award in any other institution.

Signature.....

Date.....25/08/2022

Joroms Ogeto Atemba

MJSS/2014/79162

Approval by the Supervisor

This thesis has been presented for examination with our approval as the University supervisors.

Signature.....

Date.....17/08/2022

Dr. Elijah O.S. Odhiambo, PhD.

Department of Arts, Governance & Communication studies

Bomet University College, Kenya.

Signature.....

Date.....25/08/2022

Dr. Zedekiah Orera, PhD.

Mount Kenya University

Department of Humanities

DEDICATION

Because of their patience, understanding, and unwavering encouragement, I am able to complete my project, and for that I am eternally grateful to my wife and children.

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ABSTRACT

Ethnic conflicts are a global menace, with the highest frequency in newly democratic African countries. They are marked with deficiency in communication, or lack of peaceful coexistence that hampers interaction between members of different ethnic groups. The recurrence of ethnic conflicts along the border in the study location has been a common phenomenon, it was therefore, imperative that this study sought to assess the ethnic conflicts influencing socio-economic development of border communities between the Kipsigis and Abagusii of Bomet Central Sub-County and Borabu Sub-County respectively. The specific objectives of the study were to: analyze the ethnic conflicts of multiparty democracy influencing socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border, examine the ethnic conflict of administrative-political resource sharing influencing socio economic development of Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border and evaluate the challenges in ethnic conflicts mitigation influencing socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border. The study was informed by the Theory of Ethnic Conflict and Identity theory. The researcher used correlation research design adopting both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. The study was carried in Borabu and Bomet Central Sub-Counties with a target population of 243,610 people from the two Sub-Counties. A sample population of 384 respondents determined by Mugenda and Mugenda formula was used in the study involving; youth group leaders, elders, administrators and clergy. Data collection instruments included questionnaires, interview guides, observation and document review. The qualitative data collected from the field was coded and edited in conformity with specific research objectives of the study while quantitative data was analyzed thematically. The analyzed data was presented using descriptive statistics in form of figures, tables and charts. The study adhered to ethical standards which included anonymity of participants and insuring that they gave their consent before participating. The findings of the study revealed that multiparty democracy influenced ethnic conflicts through ethnic and regional choice, multiparty elections and multiparty disagreements. Ethnic violence was influenced through politically instigated resource sharing among border communities. Administrative way of sharing resources like land interfered with land uses leading to communal discords. This influenced negatively the socio-economic development along the border. The study also found that lack of compensation of the aggrieved parties in the ethnic conflicts and perceived bias in the administration of justice and resource sharing were the major setbacks in the management of ethnic conflicts along the border. The study concluded that, besides communities perceiving resource sharing being underlining causes of conflicts, multiparty democracy in Kenya has a place too in influencing ethnic conflicts especially among border communities. The study recommends that sensitization of communities on multiparty democracy and good governance through elected leaders. Furthermore, perceived bias in resource sharing along the border should be addressed through development of partnerships between institutions, local leaders and communities. Finally, the study recommended that ensuring sustained peace and ensure socio-economic development along the border requires a bottom-up peace building initiative where warring communities fully participate in decision making on peace progress and socio-economic development.

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LIST ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

| | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| AMISOM | : | African Union Mission to Somalia |
| AU | : | African Union |
| CAR | : | Central African Republic |
| CBOs | : | Community Based Organizations |
| CIDP | : | County Integrated Development Plan |
| CMD | : | Center for Multiparty Democracy |
| COPA | : | Coalition for Peace in Africa |
| CSOs | : | Civil Society Organizations |
| CRECO | : | Constitution and Reform Education Consortium, |
| ERC | : | Ethical Review Committee |
| EU | : | European Union |
| FORD | : | Forum for Restoration of Democracy |
| IEBC | : | Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission |
| IGAs | : | Income Generating Activities |
| KADU | : | Kenya African Democratic Union |
| KNBS | : | Kenya National Bureau of Statistics |
| NACOSTI | : | National Council of Science, Technology and Innovation |
| NATO | : | North Atlantic Treaty Organization |
| NGOs | : | Non-Governmental Organizations |
| SADC | : | Southern African Development Community |
| SPSS | : | Statistical Program for Social Scientists |
| UDP | : | United Democratic Party |
| UN | : | United Nations |
| UNGA | : | United Nations General Assembly |

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

This chapter highlights the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, research objectives, research questions, justification the study, scope of the study, assumptions of the study, limitations and delimitation of the study. It also highlights operationalization of key concepts and chapter summary.

1.1 Background to the Study

According to Afzalurr and Rakhim (2010), conflict is "an occurrence of people and organizations disagreeing with one another on the basis of differing ideas, views, or viewpoints." It is said that disagreements may have undesirable though beneficial connotation which could bring the desirable change in the community (Kymlicka & Bashir, 2010). The desirable change will only be reached if warring communities leave in a peaceful environment. Eidelson et al (2003) argue that peaceful co- existence among neighboring communities is a prerequisite to accelerate developmental projects in a given region.

In world history, ethnic conflicts have been deemed as a component of transnational politics. In contemporary societies, war has turned out as the most common form of armed conflicts (International Crisis Group, 2018). White settlers and native Indians, then the Spanish, engaged in some of the bloodiest conflicts in American history (Barber, 1998). The people of India was seen as inferior and as a member of the second kind of civilization (Barber, 1998). Immigrants to America have a degree of ethnic identity as Jamaican, Haitian as well as black. The immigrants faced some of the most chilling aspects of ethnic oppression, as they are immediately assigned to membership of a group identified with minority historical oppression (Barber, 1998).

In Latin America, after democratization, many countries have witnessed increasing ethnic conflicts based on citizens' ethnic identity (Stoiber, 2016). Political inclusion of the indigenous and afro-descendant citizens has been at the core of the conflicts (Stoiber, 2016). Conflicts between the Uzbek and Kyrgyz ethnic groups was cited to be caused by socio-political and economic exclusion of one ethnic community (Asankov, 1996). Weak socio-cultural structures, non-existent of democratic organization, high poverty rate and tension aggravated the outbreak of a conflict between the two ethnic groups (Dziadosz, 2012)

Inter-ethnic conflicts in Africa have continued to cause havoc; fueling violence in among other countries such as: Chad, Rwanda, Congo, Nigeria, Central African Republic (CAR), Somalia, Kenya, South Sudan and Sudan (Jeremy, 2015). European colonialists drew administrative boundaries based on Europe's national disputes and interests, completely ignoring the ancient regions of Africa's ethnic groupings, which exacerbated tensions between them and led to a number of bloody confrontations (Lamphear, 1994).

Nigeria is experiencing problems of ethnic rivalry that continue to beset its efforts at democratization and development (International Crisis Group, 2018). Ethnic violence in South Sudan began in 2011 as part of the Sudanese nomadic conflicts but continues to affect communities such as the Murle, the Lou, the Nuer and Pibor (Dziadosz, 2012). Ethnic conflicts and violence in Kenya have been characterized by such historic events as the repeal of Article 4(2) of the Kenyan constitution; which paved way for a multi-party democratic state founded on national values and principles of governance (Orucho, 2019). Different ethnic communities aligned themselves to parties led by political leaders of either their ethnic group or region (Orucho, 2019). Such an arrangement led to ethnic antagonism and hatred that was evidenced in the country in

the 1992 general elections and the worst of the ethnic conflicts was the 2007–08 election related crisis (Wepundi, 2021). Several factors such as historical injustices, political intolerance, competition over resources, discriminatory behaviors, cattle raiding and poor governance have been identified as key causes of ethnic conflicts (Nthiga, 2019). Rugege (2015) reports that the ethnic clashes between the Kipsigis and the Abagusii communities along the borderline were evidenced during this times.

The Abagusii and Kipsigis community along the border have historically been on the limelight for the wrong reasons of ethnic conflicts in Kenya (Eller, 2012). These are historical disagreements in resource sharing, political and administrative factors and ethnicity (Bosire, 2013). The Center for Multi-Party Democracy {CMD} (2015) affirms that most of these conflicts start as minor skirmishes but later grow into latent conflicts. Severity of these conflicts are witnessed during general election encounters; in 1992 general elections, during the 2007/2008 post-election election crisis and the 2013 general elections and the 2017 general elections (Odinga, 2018).

The Coalition for Peace in Africa {COPA} (2011) reports that the ethnic conflicts have common factors including resource sharing, cattle rustling, political provocation, lack of alternative livelihoods etc. It is evident that common fueling factors behind many ethnic conflicts are resource-based and political influence, where neighboring communities face hostility and disagreements in sharing already meager resources amicably (Nthiga, 2019).

The Kipsigis and Abagusii as neighboring ethnic groups have been locked in conflicts sporadically exploding to violence time and again (Bosire,2013). Whereas Wepundi (2021) has attempted to describe the prevalence of small arms and light weapons in the area, the other factors are not discussed in detail. Mwangi and Njuguna wrote about the conflict in the area focusing on the election violence of 2017 (Mwangi & Njuguna N.d).

A study by Akinyi and others provided the impact of past and potential ethnic conflicts in the area (Akinyi et al., 2019). From the foregoing literature, it can be noted that there is a gap with regards to ethnic conflicts influencing socio-economic development of border communities between the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities that this study sought to fill.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The Kipsigis and Abagusii ethnic communities of Bomet Central and Borabu Sub-Counties borderline have experienced a lot of continuous conflict, insecurity, frequent cattle rustling and periodical cycle of political election conflicts which has caused social disorders at the border region. Although much has been written on inter-ethnic conflicts in the world and Kenya specifically, scanty information related to ethnic conflicts between the Kipsigis and Abagusii of the Bomet Central and Borabu border exist. Scholars like Rutto (2014) and Mwangi and Njuguna (2005) have written much on the history of the Abagusii and Kipsigis respectively, but, they have not cited much on the ethnic conflicts between the two communities. A few of the studies carried out along the border share the idea that, the conflicts between the Kipsigis and Abagusii have much to do with politics of the region. Other studies like the Kiliku Report (1992) points to economic resources especially land. Omwenga (2016)., Chepkemoi *et al* (2017) studied the influence inter-ethnic conflicts along Borabu-Sotik and Chebilat-Borabu borders respectively. This study however, was carried out along the border of Borabu-Bomet Central Sub-Counties, to assess ethnic conflicts influencing socio economic development of the border communities.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to assess ethnic conflicts influencing socio-economic development of border communities, a case of Abagusii and Kipsigis in Borabu and Bomet central sub -counties, Kenya.

1.4 Research Objectives

The general objective of the study was to assess ethnic conflicts influencing socio-economic development of border communities, a case of Abagusii and Kipsigis in Borabu and Bomet central sub- counties and the specific objectives were to:

- i. Analyze the ethnic conflicts of multiparty democracy influence on socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border
- ii. Examine the ethnic conflict of administrative-political resource sharing influence on socio economic development of Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border
- iii. Evaluate the challenges in ethnic conflicts mitigation influencing socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border.

1.5 Research Questions

The specific objectives were supplemented by the following research questions:

- i. How does ethnic conflicts of multiparty democracy influence socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border?
- ii. How does ethnic conflict of administrative-political resource sharing influence socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border?
- iii. What are the challenges in ethnic conflicts mitigation influencing socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border?

1.6 Justification of the Study

Wepundi (2021) lists boundary/land disputes, political concerns, leadership disagreements, livestock problems, ethnic differences, personal attitudes, and envy as the root causes of ethnic strife in Kenya. Nthiga (2019) lists issues related to water, criminality, corruption, personal property, inheritance, poor communication, and misunderstanding as examples of underlying causes of conflict. The election violence of 2017 was the primary subject of Mwangi and Njuguna's (n.d.) account of the unrest in the region. The effects of previous and possible ethnic conflicts in the region were detailed by Akinyi et al. (2019). It is clear from the aforementioned research that there is a hole in our understanding of how ethnic conflicts impact the socioeconomic growth of Kenya's Abagusii and Kipsigis border villages.

This research has the potential to inform scholarly discussions on how to lessen the destructive impacts of the violence in the region. So, this research has the potential to bolster the expanding corpus of scholarly work on the monetary and social repercussions of Kenya's ethnic wars. Competition for scarce resources, often a precursor to conflict, has been shown to increase the likelihood of violent conflict, which in turn may have far-reaching social and economic consequences.

In order to enable policy makers create effective policies and measures to assist policy implementers in coming up with other means of reducing the inevitable, the research attempted to determine the primary socio-economic repercussions of conflict in the region. In this approach, decision-makers at the national and local levels of government can create policies that are most effective in overcoming these difficulties. The study's conclusions may also play a significant role in guiding a variety of policies, such as the economic and social ones.

1.7 Scope of the Study

The study was restricted to the period between 1992 and 2017; this is after the re-introduction of the multiparty democracy in 1992 which fueled hostility among border communities especially between the Kipsigis and Abagusii and the recurrence of ethnic conflicts. The study was further restricted to the Borabu-Bomet Central Sub-County cross-border conflicts between the Kipsigis and Abagusii communities. This is because the two communities have been living in tension, suspicion and jealousy over another over resource use, multiparty democracy and conflict mitigation efforts from either side.

1.8 Limitations and Delimitations of the Study

The following challenges were encountered in the field while collecting data; The Abagusii and Kipsigis communities are widespread. Data collection in the whole study area was not possible. However, this was delimited by use of stratified random sampling and purposive sampling specifically targeting specific group of people in the two Sub-Counties. There was also a prior perception that data collected could have inaccuracies and inconsistency due to perceived bias and exaggerations. However, the study exclusively identified respondents along the border for exactness in data collection process. Furthermore, some stakeholders were not willing to release information touching on socio-economic wellbeing for traditional norms for being private. To overcome this challenge, the researcher deployed locally trained research assistants from the ethnic groups to explain the purpose of the study and research ethics attached to the whole process.

1.9 Assumptions of the Study

This study expected that;

Respondents gave honest and independent opinions regarding questions asked during the research study; the area remained peaceful during data collection and the community members were cooperative in the entire process and the leaders in the Sub-counties were able to identify the administrative obstacles in governance of the region in relation to ethnic conflicts.

1.10 Operationalization of Key Concepts

Border communities: The Abagusii and Kipsigis ethnic communities living along the border line between Nyamira County (Borabu Sub-County) and Bomet County (Bomet Central Sub-County).

Conflict: Violence and negative attitudes between the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities along the border of Nyamira and Bomet Counties.

Ethnicity: It has been used to refer to traditions and customs which have led to tension and turmoil between the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities along the border of Nyamira and Bomet Counties.

Democracy: It is the consensus or agreement between the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities on fairness in social, economic and political aspirations for the betterment of the two communities.

Socio-economic development: It is the societal progress in social (health, harmony and education) and economic activities (trade and economy) between the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities along the border.

1.11 Chapter Summary

Chapter one has given background to the study from global, regional and national perspective on how ethnic conflicts influences socio-economic development of border communities. The statement of the problem highlights the gaps the study sought to fill. The general objective, specific objectives and research questions guided the study. The justification and scope of the study provided clear indication of the need to assess Ethnic Conflicts influencing Socio-Economic Development of Border Communities, a case of Abagusii and Kipsigis, Kenya. The next chapter provides a detailed analysis of relevant literature related to the specific objectives of the study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter outlines literary resources in the context of theoretical perspective, elements of ethnic conflict, identity theory in ethnic conflict, beliefs that propel ethnic groups to conflict, economic factors which predispose to conflict, ethnic conflict and development theories, empirical literature, influence of multiparty democracy on ethnic conflicts, political and administrative representation of the community influence on the conflict, pre-post multiparty political influence on the socio-economic wellbeing of the community along border, challenges in mitigating ethnic conflicts along border, theoretical framework and the conceptual model.

2.1 Elements of Ethnic Conflict

Eidelson *et al.* (2003) define ethnic conflicts as those disagreements of identity and values between two warring parties or groups. The disagreements are usually between two directly involved actors. They take place in visible and connected ways that go beyond accepted regulatory protocols and endanger the rule of international law or a fundamental state function, or at least pose the possibility of doing so. Additionally, ethnic conflicts challenge the previously established order and harmony amongst the fighting groups (Eidelson *et al.*, 2003).

According to the conflict process by Jeong (2005) the substance of ethnic conflict lies within discrepancies depicted by the concept of positional differences. The conflict resolution procedures involve the existence of the following essential components: first, there must be at least two subjects who are capable of the intellectual and creative ability of conveying it. Second, in order to become aware of the incompatibility of the

actors' ideas and thoughts included within their content, there has to be action and communication that is both reciprocal and linked between the actors. According to the findings of the research, these interactions and exchanges are referred to as measures. The measures represent the various political leanings. Third, there is always a reference to a specific subject in communication, and there is always an action directed at a specific object. The topics of discussion in this research include the distribution of resources and the exercise of political power. In this research, the people of different ethnic backgrounds who live along the border are the subjects, also known as actors. Social conflicts are made up of these three components, which are also their primary defining characteristics. In a similar vein, political conflicts may be thought of as a subset of social conflicts. The political disputes arise as a result of the fact that the issues at hand are crucial for society as a whole, the fact that there are no generally acknowledged strategies for resolving these issues, and the participation of important subsets of the population (Eidelson et al., 2003).

2.1.1 Ethnic Conflict Beliefs

There are many beliefs that may propel communities or groups into a conflict. Eidelson *et al* (2003) probed “some of the beliefs that trigger or constrain conflicts between warring groups”. Various belief domains were identified and among others are; superiority, injustice, vulnerability, distrust and helplessness. These beliefs play significant role in Kenyan ethnic communities (Kanyinga and Walker, 2013).

2.1.1.1 Superiority

A sense of superiority, according to Kanyinga and Walker (2013), is a deeply held conviction. This fundamental worldview centers on the firm conviction that one is fundamentally superior than others. Feelings of superiority, deservingness, and

entitlement are all part of the mental state often linked with this idea. Some groups of people in society believe they should be given special treatment in politics at the expense of others. However, the belief in one's own superiority is a major contributor to an inability to adopt a cooperative approach to dispute resolution.

2.1.1.2 Injustice

Kanyinga and Walker (2013) cite injustices as individual-level core beliefs among members of a group. It is the perceived mistreatment by specific others. The conviction of mistreating others tends to make the mistreated perceive unfairness (which might be merely unfortunate), thereby inappropriately making mistreated engage in acts which are retaliatory in nature. At the ethnic level, the injustices to the other ethnic group are labeled to be “legitimate grievances against another group”. However, the injustice mindset in most cases leads to the mobilization of “very powerful and violent collective revolts, as typically shared perceptions of injustices heighten the identification and allegiance that individuals feel towards one another as groups” (Kipkemoi, 2015:65).

2.1.1.3 Vulnerability

It is an individual-level core belief among the members of an ethnic community. The vulnerability conviction turns around a person's mindset that he or she is perpetually living in a very dangerous surrounding. It implicates someone's perceptions as the subject to both internal and external dangers over which he/she lacks control or is insufficient to afford own safety in a sensible manner. At ethnic level it is collective vulnerability which is spread among ethnic groups (Kanyinga and Walker, 2013). In contrast with this, fears about the future are what drive the ethnic conflicts and may lead to spiraling of violence in communities. Kipkemoi (2015) affirms that many ethnic conflicts are triggered by minority ethnic members who feel vulnerable and surrounded by the dominant ethnic members. This scenario is common in Kenya's ethnic conflicts

and especially among the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities.

2.1.1.4 Distrust

It is an individual-level core belief among the members of an ethnic group. Distrust as a core belief relatively encompasses the mindset of presumed aggression and harmful intent of others. The expectations of distrust rely on perceptions that other people/group will abuse, hurt, humiliate, lie, cheat or take advantage of others with the aim of intentional harm with unjustified and extreme slackness. When such perceptions assume someone's mindset, collaborative efforts for developing positive relationships collapse leading to conflicts (Kanyinga and Walker, 2013). At ethnic level it is about other ethnic communities. This scenario is responsible for the case where violent conflicts easily recur after the first conflict which is a case of Borabu and Bomet Central border.

2.1.1.5 Helplessness

It is an individual-level core belief among the members of an ethnic group. Helplessness as core belief presumes that even with unprecedented, well-planned and implemented actions in place, desired outcomes will not always be reached. This is due to individual's perception that he/she lacks the unmatched ability required in attaining ultimate goals (Kanyinga and Walker, 2013). This fundamental idea often self-perpetuates since it reduces motivation, regardless of whether helplessness is based on mistaken perception or objective fact. In this case, one ethnic group may feel that they are being oppressed by the other ethnic group, for example, election oppression or unequal resource sharing.

Kanyinga and Walker (2013) further allude that the powerlessness mindset describes "a shared mentality of dependency; this is a group perception that they are helpless when they assess and reflect on their abilities. Furthermore, the capabilities of the

surrounding environment (whether rich or poor in opportunities) in advancing group desires. The helpless group perpetually feels aggrieved by the stronger group and nurtures the belief that produces deep seated conflict and hatred. The hatred is what grows into ethnic conflicts between warring parties.

2.1.2 Economic Factors Predisposing to Conflict

Robert (1990) explains how various economic factors influence conflict scenarios and has put forth three economic hypotheses to explain inter-community conflict. This way, communities within a state can cause the intra-state war for instance, between the Abagusii and Kipsigis.

2.1.2.1 Group Motivation Hypothesis

Robert (1990) cites that inter-community struggles in most scenarios mainly involve rebellions between bordering groups due to different factors like; group motives, resentments, and ambitions as motivational factors. However, group separation based on cultural or religious lines, geographical boundaries or class is not worth fighting. Only when there are other significant distinctions between groups, notably in the allocation and use of political and economic power, can such inequalities become worthwhile causes to fight for. In such a case, it is probable that the oppressed groups would look for justice (or allow their leaders to urge them to do so). The wealthy groups could also feel compelled to defend their status against comparably impoverished ones. Such cases exacerbate conflicting interests warranting conflicts between warring communities for instance between the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities.

2.1.2.2 Private Motivation Hypothesis

Robert (1990) further examines how private motivations leads into conflicts. Here,

group conflicts become the breeders of profiteers and looters from shortages and from aid and arms trade. Furthermore, illicit production and trade in drugs and other resources are easily carried out due to opportunities provided in the conflict scenario. Sometimes, the likelihood of conflicts occurring and lasting longer is probable because there are fewer alternatives available due to poor income, limited work choices, and the potential for significant wealth generation via war. The greed hypothesis, which has its foundations in economic rational choice theory, is the one that is most likely to be true.

2.1.2.3 Failure of the Social Contract

Social contract is viewed as the “assumed agreement between the people and the administration for social, economic and political stability i.e. better service delivery and political choice”. Robert (1990) argues that the populace usually accepts given state authorities as long as the government delivers the needed services like provision of reasonable socio-economic conditions (employment, health and incomes). However, after economic stagnation or decline and worsening state services, the social contract ultimately breaks down, and violence resumes. Hence ever increasing high levels of poverty and ever declining quality of state services is highly expected to trigger conflicts. This scenario is common in Kenya where the administration may favor one side of the community fabric at the expense of the other in service delivery due to political loyalty. The other communities may feel sidelined leading to economic stagnation for instance, the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities in Borabu and Bomet Central Sub-Counties.

2.1.3 Ethnic Conflicts and Development

The high financial toll of ethnic wars is undeniably one of the main reasons why their countries remain economically underdeveloped. Poverty is commonly believed to have

a significant role in starting wars, which in turn perpetuates the cycle of poverty and violence (Cordell and Wolf, 2009). Still, in middle- and high-income places that experience wars, such Middle Eastern nations like Syria and Yemen, the assumption of a honest instrumental relationship between poverty and violence is assumed.

2.2 The Concept of Ethnic Conflict

Ethnic conflicts do have a political and armed conflict touch; for example there were confrontations between the white settlers, the Spanish and the indigenous red Indians, over which community was supposedly subordinate to the other. Furthermore, the American immigrants have reportedly been downgraded on lines of ethnicity i.e. communities from Mexico, Haiti, Jamaica and Africa (Barber, 1998).

Smith (2000) observes that real definition of ethnic conflicts is still surrounded with controversies. Majority of the conflicts experienced around the world; like in Syria, Yemen and Burundi are controversial in terminology to be used. Ethnic conflict as a term has majorly been used in referring to conflicts which in realest sense are struggles over political positions, class and resource distribution as well as utilization. These are 'grievance conflicts' due to strong mobilizing force behind or attributed to group affiliations ethnical in nature. Ethnic conflict, according to Smith (2000:58), is "a continuum of events ranging from the expression of dissatisfaction, protest, mobilization, confrontation, intermittent or prolonged violence, and civil war or rebellion, in which ethnicity plays a crucial part." Ethnic conflicts have their roots based on resource sharing, political and class affiliations. Moreover, some of these conflicts do not explode into violence thus; ethnic conflicts exist as violent and non-violent conflicts, with the latter being inevitable. Violent conflicts can be avoided if right strategies are adopted and applied.

African countries like Nigeria, Rwanda and Central Africa Republic (CAR) are a conglomeration of several nationalities which make the countries to be “pluralistic and multi-faceted society”. The diversity of languages, customs and traditions give such countries diversity in their culture. Ethnic conflicts in Africa have been pinned to political independence where communities struggle over political powers and natural resources (Ebegbulem, 2015).

Kipkemoi (2015) in her thesis cites land resource as a core factor in persuading most ethnic conflicts in Kenya. Land is a core factor of production in Kenya and thus groups as well as individuals struggle over it for ownership and production thus, land-based conflicts exist almost everywhere in the country. However, since the year 1991, inter-ethnic violence have erupted with high intensity and worrying regularities, not seen before in the country’s decades of relative peaceful independence. Resource sharing in Kenya after independence has become the key issue in fueling inter-ethnic conflicts whereby, some communities feel they were oppressed and marginalized in resource sharing as compared to other communities. Such cases have existed more specifically along border communities of the Abagusii and Kipsigis.

2.2.1 Multiparty Democracy and Ethnic Conflicts

Lake and Rothchild (1998) on global viewpoint on democracy and conflicts, they argue that during the Cold War period, waves of advocacies and debates around liberal democracy, democratic transitions and violence were ushered in in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. There were also renaissances of intra-state wars and conflicts in various parts of the world which illogically “coincided with the process of transitions to democracy” (Lake and Rothchild, 1998:67). However, this is more of dark democracy which is the dark side of improperly managed democratic transitions.

On African perspective, Michael (2010) argues that the African democracy took shape in the 1990s with key political changes 3 decades down since independence. The political and liberal movements on the African continent resulted into unrestricted media, formation of democratic opposition political parties, trade unions and mass of civil organizations self-governing from the government (Fisher, 2011). According to Stewart and O'Sullivan (1998), multiparty elections or political pluralism, with a focus on competitive elections and the opportunity of the people to express their views, are synonymous with the democratic transition in Africa. Ethnic conflicts, however, are fueled by divided politics, particularly in border villages like the Abagusii and the Kipsigis. The study analyzed the influence of multiparty democracy on socio-economic development of border communities.

As stated by Kaufman (2009:79), "the ethnic violence that put an end to the democratic regime in Burundi, factional street fighting in the Congo, and highly flawed second multi-party elections in Mali, Zambia, and Madagascar" have led "many observers to belittle the degree of political liberalization actually achieved in the past and the prospects for democratic consolidation." According to Reilly (2011), of all the countries, Ghana is the one that is seen as the most stable and the one that is positively developing. It is imperative that multiparty elections fuel ethnic violence putting a stop on democratic transitions, beside democratic transitions since 1992 to 2013 in Kenya. The study analyzed the influence multiparty democracy has had in influencing ethnic conflicts among the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities along the Borabu and Bomet Central Sub-Counties borderline.

Multiparty democracy seems to have been established as a result of the wave of democratic political developments that began in the early 1990s. Political parties often form on the basis of ethnic and regional interests rather than shared philosophy or

political ideas, which has led to the polarization of particularistic organizations as a result of the establishment of political plurality (Dreyton, 1995., Nzongola and Lee, 1997., Jonyo, 2002). This propensity does not ensure a nation's cohesion and stability. Additionally, governmental policies of hostility and recalcitrance operate as powerful catalysts for ethnic strife (Osamba, 2001; Mwagiru, 2002).

According to Nyukiri (1997), ethnic confrontations broke out in the Rift Valley, Nyanza, Western, and Coast regions after the reintroduction of multiparty politics in Kenya in 1992. In part, this was because former president Moi had warned that switching back to a multiparty system would spark ethnic conflict that would ultimately destroy the country. According to 2012 study conducted by the Partnership for Peace in the Rift Valley, high levels of fear and distrust amongst communities have been perpetuated through patronage politics, the political exploitation of ethnicity, and stark horizontal disparities in the area (Partnership for Peace, 2012).

Apollos (2010) argues that, since the emergence of multiparty politics in 1992, successive election years have been routinely characterized by sporadic political violence and ethnic conflicts. Elections have been seen not to be “free and fair” as a result of the need to manipulate and create political dominance in certain parts of the country. These works were of importance to this study as they helped the researcher in finding out the contribution of political pluralism in the conflicts between the Kipsigis and Abagusii border communities.

The resumption of multiparty democracy in Kenya, according to Musau (2018), was the result of domestic and foreign allies pressuring Kenya to accept the return of multiparty elections, despite fierce opposition from those in power. At least theoretically, the return of multiparty political pluralism was seen as a giant step forward for democracy and a means of achieving democratic goals like the freedom to express one's political

views, the defense and advancement of human rights, and the equitable distribution of the nation's economic and other resources (Kymlicka & Bashir, 2010). On the contrary, multiparty democracy, which was highly advocated by among other political parties; Forum for Restoration of Democracy (FORD), Kenya African Democratic Union (KADU) and Union for Democratic People (UDP), was deemed to have fueled ethnicity and ethnic conflicts in Kenya. The situation is evident during the general elections and political party nominations (Odinga, 2018).

Furthermore, to Elischer (2008), Kenya moved to 'a democratic camp' when ethnic violence significantly decreased in 2003 during a peaceful handover of leadership mantle to President Kibaki. Kenya received praises from the global community citing her as an iconic stability in Africa. Unfortunately, all the compliments and hopefulness were dampened with the weaklings of 2007/2008 post-election skirmishes. The violence is believed to be the most vicious and the most horrible ever experienced since Kenya gaining independence. Approximately 1,200 people lost their lives and at least 500,000 families forcefully displaced from their settlements.

Similarly, a report by the Center for Multiparty Democracy {CMD} (2015) alleges that minor clashes are common in Kenya, occurring frequently. However worst ethnic violence were witnessed after the reintroduction of multi-party politics in 1992. The worst ever ethnic division was felt during the 2007/2008 post-election violence. Major conflicts have also led to exoduses of ethnic minority communities with roots in other geographical areas. The study assessed the influence of multiparty democracy on ethnic conflicts among the border communities of the Abagusii and Kipsigis.

Mokua (2013) on multiparty political influence on the wellbeing of communities cites that though Abagusii and the Kipsigis, just like other communities in Kenya, along borders live with different dialects, traditions and cultures, and historical cattle-rustling

disputes, many lived in harmony during ‘one-party system’. Harmonious coexistence suddenly “changed after the 1992 general elections in which violence broke up. This pattern was to be repeated again in subsequent general elections. It is clear that multiparty democracy of 1992 influenced negative ethnicity in Kenya with disagreements and tensions between border communities fueling ethnic conflicts. The study analyzed the multiparty political influence in fueling ethnic conflicts between the Abagusii of Borabu and Kipsigis of Bomet Central Sub-Counties.

2.2.2 Administrative/Political Resource Sharing and Ethnic Conflicts

Rothchild (1998) observes that the political and administrative representation dates back to the 1920s during the immigration and assimilation of ‘second generation’ Americans into political culture. The concept emerged in describing the experiences of existence within twofold, unequally and unbalanced worlds by the immigrants. Political representation plays a crucial role in the awakening of conflicting issues within given communities based on the level of representation in governance.

To Mafeje (1971), inequalities in accessing the political and resource structures is often politicized and characterized with political sidelining. Politicization of administrative and political sharing of resources leads to emergence of “in-groups” and “out-groups” where the latter tries to break the inequality structure whilst the former responds through building of barriers in ensuring continuous access to perceived privileged positions. However, the elite groups are often at the base spreading wrong perceptions of threatened exclusion thus invoking negative ethnic ideology with illusion of instituting a strong support base to fight for their personal interests.

On African perspective, Wallerstein (1979) affirms that previously acquired political privileges and interests are always protected by the group holding them but, when such

freedoms are perceived to be threatened by the other group, struggles occur over them. However, the group that isn't privileged in any way may decide that now is a good time politically to finally get what they've been denied all along, hence escalating tensions and confrontations with other ethnic groups. Ethnic expressions in Africa are a phenomena of elites and class when one community's elites feel excluded from economic and political power by another. They then convince their people that this is an outside plot that must be fought at all costs by portraying it as the work of their own ethnic group.

Although both works of Mafeje and Wallerstein do not address any community in particular, this study used these works to address the conflicts between the Kipsigis and the Abagusii along the Bomet Central and Borabu Sub-Counties border.

Inter-ethnic violence in the Horn of Africa is explained by Oyeniya (2011), who notes that "to a considerable degree, what has been referred to as ethnic conflict is elite-driven conflicts." Assefa (1996) goes on to state that "ethnic conflicts are expressed in confrontations between elite groups that originate from various ethnic origins more than people-to-people violence among the masses." In her thesis, *Cross Border Conflicts Between the Kipsigis and Abagusii of Kenya, 1963-2002*, Omwenga (2016) observes that while the ethnic groups "do have their own prejudices and stereotypes about each other, these attitudes have not normally turned into conflict at the people-to-people level unless manipulated and organized by political leaders."

However, negative attitudes accompanied by political or administrative manipulation have resulted in conflicts between the two ethnic groups. Ethnic biases and stereotypes have long provided elites with a convenient platform from which to nurture support for their political and economic goals. By framing their goals in terms of ethnicity or nationalism, they are more likely to attract followers and get widespread support.

Political and/or administrative elites have a key influence in majority of ethnic conflicts happening in the world, especially in the Horn of Africa (CRECO, 2012).

A report by Stiftung (2012) observes that many African states during the 20th and the 21st Centuries, their governance processes, resource allocation and power sharing have been undemocratic and politicized based on social and cultural base of a given state. Politicians use their constituents, the clergy and other ethnic diversities as means to justify their ends through endorsements to lead. However, they do this not for patriotism but for personal gains and greed. Democracy in Africa has been cited to be shadowed by those in 'power' whereby it only belongs to a few elites, even in political party nominations, many people have been sidelined in the process and such dilemma fuses down to community levels thus stretching cohesion and harmonious co-existence to the brink.

Political representation, according to Ebegbulem (2015), was a contributing factor to disagreements and the civil war that broke out in Nigeria in 1967. Nigeria's political and economic development, as well as its standing in Africa and the rest of the world, are all significantly influenced by the politics of ethnic and regional security. Nigeria's political and economic growth is significantly influenced by the politics of ethnic and regional security. It is the primary reason for Nigeria's worsening political problem at this time. By doing so, it undermines the selection of national leadership that is accountable and sensitive to the needs of the country. The insufficient representation of all groups not just in Nigeria but also throughout Africa as a whole has resulted in political and socio-economic systems that are far inferior to those found in other countries. The importance placed on one's ethnicity has contributed to the recurrence of conflicts that break out amongst the many ethnic groups that make up Africa.

Jama (2000) looked into African countries' history and contextual structure of major

conflicts and civil wars. It was learnt that the root cause behind sporadic spread of civil wars and conflicts in countries like Somalia, Burundi and Sierra Leone was poor governance which is ethnic based and authoritarian. A study of the situation in Somalia revealed that bad administration was the main contributor to the ongoing conflict there since 1991. By manipulating clans, Said Barre fostered a climate of distrust and hatred that eventually damaged both traditional and governmental institutions on a national level. The civil war in Sierra Leone was mostly brought on by an individualized tyranny. Cases of corruption, entrenched violence, restraining and exploitation of constitutional institutions for power and personal wealth were common in the country. Therefore, poor representation of the citizenry by African governments has fueled ethnic violence and tensions leading to loss of lives, displacements and destruction of property.

The Human Rights Watch (1993) details that, imbalances in democratic governance and regional development agendas started grappling the country in 1992 onwards. With various policies and political motivations being put in place, which set center-stage in the country, little happened regarding bringing a balance in Kenya's governance structures. Such imbalances in resource allocation and development agendas locked out other areas due to political and/or administrative influence of the day, leading to growth in ethnic tensions.

Stiftung (2012) affirms that the inequalities and imbalances, which were never mitigated in the first place, are today the root causes of socio-political ethnic conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Kenya for instance, the 2007/2008 post-election skirmishes predicated on extreme flaws of the governance system dating back to the post-independent regimes. Historical injustices, regional imbalances and marginalization of 'non-influential' ethnic groups are some of the numerous cases which remain

unresolved. The country still experiences traditional power imbalances between the sexes, resource distribution continues to involve a murky undercurrent of inequality based on region, ethnicity, and class, infrastructural development continues to marginalize the already marginalized communities, and public service continues to display generalized ethnic imbalance, according to Stiftung (2012:123). The research looked at how administrative and political resource sharing affected ethnic tensions between the bordering villages of Abagusii and Kipsigis.

The historical genesis of ethnic conflicts in Kenya has been attributed to land ownership claims as the colonialists' interfered with the traditional land ownership arrangement. Ombati (2012) in his study on tribal clashes reported that over 80% of ethnic conflicts are land related and political inclination among others accounts for less than 20%. The major ethnic conflicts emanated from past colonial policies on land, political instigation on land issues. Furthermore, poor administrative and political resource sharing has led to lack of other livelihood sources, cattle raiding and access to pasture lands, loss of grazing lands, terrorism fears, harassment and extortion thus influencing border communities to fight over scarce resources available.

The ongoing cycle of electoral violence, according to Branch and Cheeseman (2008), is not only "a response to disagreements over election outcomes," but rather stems from deeper structural problems that have gone untreated in Kenya ever since the country achieved independence in 1963. There have been numerous complaints about disparities and long-standing conceptions of inclusion and exclusion in the allocation of public resources ever since powerful political elites have formed support using state resources, shortly after independence. This research looked at how the Abagusii and Kipsigis villages along the border handled their ethnic tensions and how sharing administrative and political resources affected the situation.

They (Mueller and MacArthur, 2008) further claim that the Legislature, the Judiciary, the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), and the National Police Service have all been eroded by patronage over time. These bodies have been deprived of their independence, trust, and credibility. Thus, members of the executive's ethnic group are more likely to see key institutions through the lens of being "partisan" and "connected to the political elite."

Moreover, Kanyinga and Walker (2013) analyzed the fact that the presence of weak and individualized institutions was sure to produce dissatisfaction and ignite numerous contestations at some point in history. Kenyan politics were infused with ethnic and regional inequality, further dividing the country along those lines. As groups of people from one ethnic group were favorably viewed by the governing political class and given increased access to government jobs, social services, and other benefits at the cost of those from another ethnic group, tensions and animosity between the two groups only grew. As these disparities widen, people who aren't in the political elite's good graces get more and more resentful, which in turn fuels the causes and intensifies the intensity of violent conflict.

Mokua (2013) lists a number of historical grievances, particularly those related to land ownership, as well as unequal resource distribution, entrenched patronage and exclusionary politics, ethnicization of Kenyan society, massive electoral fraud, and underdeveloped national institutions that are vulnerable to political manipulation as the causes of the mayhem and the fragility of stability. When local politicians stir their constituents against their neighbors on a "us-versus-them" sociopolitical-economic categorization, as commonly occurs during election seasons, the potential for violence increases.

Mworia and Ndiku (2012) imply that political provocation, tribal tensions, and

polarizations are to blame for the ethnic violence between the Meru groups in the Tharaka and Tigania districts. Many political hopefuls, either intentionally or unintentionally, incite community conflict over land ownership because they place a high importance on it while trying to win over voters. This research looked at how the Abagusii and Kipsigis living along the boundary of Borabu and Bomet Central were affected by the distribution of administrative and political resources. The Abagusii and the Kipsigis both place a high importance on their land resources, seeing it as a means to financial security. Colonialism and its successor, postcolonialism, enforced and maintained strict administrative borders based on fictitious categories of people. Communities in the Rift Valley have internalized the externally imposed idea of ethnic identities as administrative entities as a result of these sociopolitical shifts (Von Doepp and Villalon, 2005). Conflicts among ethnic groups are not caused by a scarcity of land, but by divergent social values and interests. Land resources may be shared peacefully and avoid violence if the state's current governing structures and institutions are flexible, open, and effective at fostering social cohesion rather than fragmentation.

Schools in Borabu, Nyamira County, are still struggling from the impacts of ethnic conflict along the Nyamira, Kericho, and Bomet counties," Ombati (2012) found in a study along the Abagusii/Kipsigis line. There are also lingering impacts from the post-election violence in 2007-08 in some of the schools that were damaged during the 1992 conflict between the Kipsigis and Abagusii populations. Communities bordering borders have been driven to dread and violence by political provocation and bad ethnic stereotypes. When people in an area, like Manga Girls High School, are always on edge, it may have a negative impact on everyone's mental health. Nyamira County's once-prestigious all-girls school "has never recovered" from the violence that erupted there in 1992. People who had been displaced by the fighting took refuge at the school.

Some children who had been scarred by the violence never returned, and the school had to be shut down as a result. Women of the 1970s and 1980s flocked to this institution. More than 600 children enrolled in the school between grades 1 and 6 in 1989. The school had to transfer several instructors since enrollment dropped to 80 kids in 2004. However, this research looked at how sharing administrative and political resources affects ethnic tensions in border areas and how it affects the region's economy.

2.2.3 Challenges in Mitigating Ethnic Conflicts

Globally as noted by Morgenthau (2007), maintenance of peace has become the concern of all nations, with the United Nations (UN) embracing the avoidance of war as an ultimate objective. The UN General Assembly is used as an open conscience of the world and that such public opinion is the most potent of all forces of peace. Global opinions transcend national boundaries and unite members of different nationalities with consensus to certain international issues. However, no rules of international law are binding upon the national state but those it has created for itself through its consent. The challenge in application of international law has been crippled by “the sovereignty of nations” such as independence, equality and unanimity.

Diplomacy has always been cited as the most preferred and best conflict intervention initiative. International and regional organizations like the UN, European Union (EU) and African Union (AU) have been seen on the forefront in bridging peace among warring parties (Morgenthau, 2007). However, some missions have failed to bring sanity in countries such as Burundi and Somalia due to resent from ethnic groups. Bitter rivalries are also common along the border of the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities. This study aimed at filling the gap of resent as a core challenge in mitigating ethnic conflicts along ethnic borderlines.

Conflict mitigation increases sustainable peace significantly, however, peace building initiatives require effective and more focused interventions in state building right from the grassroots levels. However, according to Ndiku (2015:76), "challenges lay in peace processes, which normally concentrate on the national and international levels and disregard the bottom-up causes of disputes." When crafting peace accords, it's important to keep local tensions in mind, invest heavily in programs that help communities manage conflict, and educate diplomats and peace activists from the ground up. Efforts to foster harmony between individuals and communities must take into account the many ways in which people are divided along ethnic, political, religious, economic, and social lines.

Potterbaun (2005) affirms that states have the most effective economic and political might to restore security, regulate economic activities and establish development priorities and strategies that harmonize local, regional and national interests. Donors and aid agencies should only encourage the government to tackle political challenges such as corruption, weak regulatory regimes or exclusive policies. But donor strategies for peace must be tailored to local environments and avoid exacerbating community divisions or legitimizing corrupt and violent power structures. However, if the aid agencies substitute the state and or are often compromised by the local political leadership, automatically this makes them deviate from the official mandate. The 2007/2008 post-poll chaos experienced in Kenya was mitigated by the AU and non-state actors. Therefore, there is a challenge in government's mandate in peace-building and social cohesion despite having institutions obliged with such responsibilities.

Mkutu (2008) further affirms that though Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) play an acceptable facilitative role and stimulate the formation of peace committee at various levels in most of the conflict prone areas in East Africa. This observation is relevant to

Bomet Central and Borabu border because the presence NGOs balance the region's economic marginalization from the state through income generating activities for the community. However, the government of the day is required to give the consent to international peace crusaders and development partners to operate in the border between Borabu and Bomet Central Sub-Counties, in ensuring that peaceful co-existence prevails.

A dilemma moreover, confronts the Kenyan government where Mkutu (2008) agree that additional resources are needed to address conflicts, it remains unclear how to generate these additional resources. Institutional mandate in peace building have collapsed and communities continue to fight one another with "some leaders being accused of arming ethnic combatants". Apart from benefits accruing from tax regimes, the government is mostly unwilling to mentor the aid agencies to implement local policy development at the expense of foreign policy development strategies.

According to Abdi (2008) there have been efforts in mitigating conflicts along border communities. However, traditional institutions of mitigations to inter-ethnic conflicts have not been fully entrenched into the governments' judicial systems and peace initiatives during mediation talks". Issues of community and individual egoism lead into sporadic and identity- driven ethnic conflicts.

Ndiku (2015) hints that "limited constructive discussion and communication inside and across communities are some of the factors that generate suspicion rapidly and cause tension," especially when poor communication has negative connotations that impact perceptions and interaction between groups. Because the source of the issue lies inside the community itself, it is imperative that an open line of communication be established, with the emphasis being placed on a down-up communication approach.

The public believes the police and the government are biased and use excessive force.

Law enforcement, the government, and the political classes in Kenya lack the expertise to address the types of conflict that are present in the country because there are no effective models for conflict sensitivity and analysis, and no means of addressing the root causes of conflict at the national level (Ndiku, 2015:78).

2.3 Theoretical Framework

This study was anchored on the theory of ethnic conflict by Caselli and Coleman (2012) and identity theory by Eidelson et al (2003).

2.3.1 Theory of Ethnic Conflict

According to Caselli and Coleman (2012), ethnic distance has a role in the development of ethnic conflict. The authors argue that "ethnic groupings are more prone to collide the more evident the distinctions between the groups that constitute the ethnic cleft." Consider two hypothetical ethnic categories, A and B. For the theory to hold, the following must occur if group A is the dominant group and group B is to be exploited by group A: Group A and Group B are quite different in terms of their ethnic backgrounds; (ii) the country's endowment of appropriable resources is neither too little nor too great; (iii) Group B has a high per-capita income; (iv) Group A has a low per-capita income; and (v) Group A has a high per-capita income. This theory is relevant to the study as both the Kipsigis and Abagusii may perceive that they have mutual suffering resulting in negative attitude to each other. However, it is not empirically established whether the case is as such in realism. The group conflicts arise on suspicion of political favoritism or command of the resources to one another's disadvantage.

Robert (2000) notes that in a conflict, "there must be opposing interests between

warring parties and that there is a belief of one party acting against the other. This notion is likely to be validated by acts performed, as well as by the fact that conflict is a process, having grown from their previous encounters. A conflict is a process that is exhibited with incompatibility, conflicts, or discord inside or between social groups or entities. This definition is based on the ideas that were discussed before. People who have desires, views, beliefs, values, or aspirations that are in direct opposition to one another are more likely to find themselves in a state of conflict. In addition, Robert (2000) "details various signs of conflict behavior, beginning with disagreement, followed by verbal abuse and interference." [Citation needed] Quarrels between individuals, labor strikes, competitive sports, or military confrontations are all examples of the types of conflicts that may arise between groups of people, organizations, and even other individuals.

One person's struggle with his or her own internal struggles might be considered a conflict unto oneself (the intrapersonal conflict). Team disputes are often inevitable and foreseeable; nonetheless, Robert (1990) references to the fact that such disagreements may either end in non-productive consequences or contribute to quality lives.

In addition, the definition of conflict states that it is "an activity that takes place when conscious people (individuals or groups) desire to carry out behaviors that are mutually contradictory about their goals, needs, or commitments" (Nnoli, 1998). The inconsistent concerns escalate thus creating a conflict environment which eventually may lead into a fight between the opposing parties.

Learning how to manage conflicts, on the other hand, can lessen the likelihood of unproductive escalation and should be incorporated into the processes of conflict management. Although not all conflicts can necessarily be resolved, it is possible to lessen the likelihood of unproductive escalation by learning how to manage conflicts.

The does not take into account any of these other elements. According to Eidelson et al. (2003), "conflict management comprises gaining skills linked to conflict resolution, self-awareness regarding conflict modes, conflict communication skills, and building a system for management of conflict in your environment." This is exactly what has been said.

2.3.2 Identity Theory in Ethnic Conflict

Humanity and civilization have always been propelled by the power of psychology, in that, identity to a particular culture is psychological in nature. The driving force behind identity theories is psychologically motivated. According to Eidelson and colleagues (2003), "individuals consider themselves as members of a range of organizations which frequently span a number of their interests." [Citation needed] An individual's membership in a group may be determined by factors such as his or her geographical origin, gender, caste, class, language, politics, ethnicity, career, and social convictions, to name just a few. In the Kenyan scenario, ethnic differences are the predominant factor. Such interests tend to give individuals identity or belonging to a particular religion and/or nationality and are psychological motivations.

Robert (1990) cites identity theory in ethnic conflicts by arguing out that human senses of belonging to a given community can have enormous contribution to an individual's relation with others i.e. that sense can give him/her the "warmth and strength" of belonging here thus, fighting the outside community becomes inevitable. Identity is often evocative which is mythical or imagined i.e. ethnicity. The sense of identity can have enormous contribution to the strength and warmth of an individual's relations with others. The sense of identity can contribute greatly to the strength and warmth of an individual".

2.4 Conceptual Framework

According to Kombo and Tromp (2006:98), "conceptual framework is a collection of concepts and principles chosen from relevant areas of investigation and utilized to shape future presentations." Moreover, the conceptual framework is "a form of thoughts concerning correlations between variables in the research and displaying these relationships visually or diagrammatically," as defined by Mugenda & Mugenda (2003). A conceptual framework therefore, shows the Dependent Variable (DV) and the Independent Variable (IV) as shown diagrammatically in Figure 1. The study was guided by the following conceptual framework.

Independent Variables

Dependent Variables

Ethnic Conflicts

Socio-economic Development

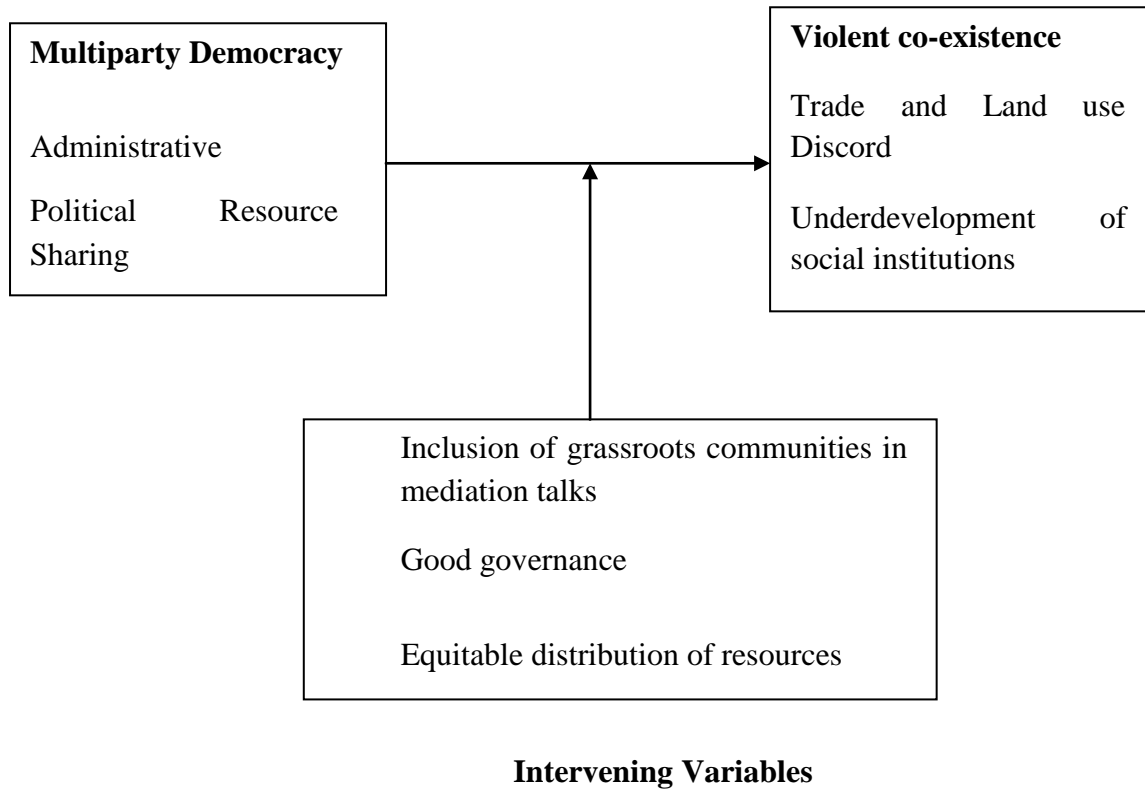


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

Source: Researcher, 2018

The study was conceptualized by the influence of ethnic conflicts as the independent variable operationalized through the influence multiparty democracy, political and administrative representation has in fueling ethnic conflicts along the border. Socio-economic development is theorized as the dependent variable measured through violence levels, trade and land use disagreements as well as the general development of the area along the border between the Kipsigis and Abagusii. An increase or decrease in the dependent factors will be determined by the intervening variable through factors such as; inclusion in mediation talks, good governance and equitable resource sharing.

2.5 Summary of Literature Review

This chapter has endeavored to show the gaps that were to be filled by the study. Review of literature was done thematically to answer specific objectives which were to: analyze multiparty democracy development influence on ethnic conflicts between the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border, examine the ethnic conflict of administrative-political resource sharing influence on socio economic development of Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border and evaluate the challenges in ethnic conflicts mitigation influencing socio economic development of the Kipsigis and Abagusii along the border. The next chapter provides research methodology that the study adopted.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This section highlights the research methodology used in the study. It includes research design, study area, target population, sample size and sampling procedure, data collection, data collection procedures, data collection instruments, pilot study, reliability of the research instruments, validity of the research instruments, data analysis techniques and ethical considerations.

3.1 Research Design

Nachmias (2005) defines a research design as a well-laid down plan of procedures used in guiding a given research investigation in data collection, analysis and interpretation of observable phenomenon made. The study used a descriptive research approach known as correlation analysis. This design cannot infer a cause-and-effect connection between variables. It can only prove that two or more characteristics or outcomes are linked. This requires gathering information on two or more discrete variables to test for the existence of a correlation. Correlation research further described the nature of the relationship between ethnic conflicts and socio-economic development of conflict affected ethnic groups. Correlation research helped in identifying the magnitude of relationships that existed between the variables (Kothari, 2011).

This design gave a critical description of the status of ethnic conflict between the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities in relationship to the socio-economic development of the communities and the moderating influence of governance efforts of affected communities. The information gathered through correlation design was used to answer question that had been asked and used when examining social issues that exist in a

community. Hence, this design was adopted to describe and justify the findings related to the socio-economic development of the neighboring communities as a result of conflicts in this study.

3.2 Study Area

The Borabu and Bomet Central Sub-Counties, which are home to the Abagusii and Kipsigis ethnic groups, respectively, served as the research sites for this study. The counties of Nyamira and Bomet, in which they are located, each include one of these sub-counties.

According to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2012), "Bomet County is located between the latitudes of 0 degrees 29 minutes and 1 degree 03 minutes south, and between the longitudes of 35 degrees 05 minutes and 35 degrees 35 minutes east." Nakuru County is located to the east, Kericho County is located to the north-east, Nyamira County is located to the south, and Narok County is located to the west of it. It has a total geographical area of 2037.4 km² in its entirety. The county of Bomet has a total of 25 county wards in addition to its five constituencies. Constituencies such as Bomet East, Bomet Central, Chepalungu, Konoin, and Sotik are included here. The Kenya Population and Housing Census report from 2009 indicated that the population of Bomet County was 782,531 at the time of the survey. By the year 2020, it is anticipated that its population would have increased to 991,968. (2012).

According to the Bomet County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP), which was published in 2013, it is established that "Bomet Central has the highest population density of 494 people/Km²," and that "this is so due to attractive economic opportunities in the constituency," which include "the rich agricultural land, commercial activities, and the largest urban center Bomet town," which is also the

administrative center of the county, "hence a large concentration of settlements within this particular area." We selected to conduct our research in this particular region because it has a history of racial tensions and is next to the Abagusii settlement, which is located in the Borabu Sub-County.

The majority of farmers in the county engage in mixed farming, which includes the cultivation of tea, maize, and dairy products. This is due to the fact that the climate in the county is favorable for agricultural output, as seen by the huge tea plantations located in the region. Although the county is not known to have any minerals or precious stones, it does have a variety of rocks that have economic worth to the community as a whole (Bomet CIDP, 2013). Bomet Central Sub-County, which has a population of 126,520 people and an estimated area of 261.50 km², served as the primary research location for this study. As can be seen in Table 1 and on the map of the research region shown in figure 2, the subcounty is divided into the following Wards:

Table 1: Bomet Central Sub-County Assembly Wards

| Ward | Sub-Locations | Population |
|-------------------|--|-------------------|
| Silibwet Township | Kapsimotwo, Silibwet, Chepngaina and Motigo | 27,500 |
| Ndarawetta | Teganda, Nyongores, Kabusare and Ngainet | 22,069 |
| Singorwet | Singorwet, Aisaik, Kabungut, Mugango and Kitoben | 21,796 |
| Chesoen | Kamogoso, Chesoen, Sibaiyan, Kiplelji and Kapkoros | 34,476 |
| Mutarakwa | Solyot, Kapsangaru, Kanusin, Leldatet and Tarakwa | 20,679 |
| TOTAL | | 126,520 |

Source: Bomet County Integrated Development Plan, (2013)

Nyamira County, which is located in the western highlands of Kenya, served as the research location for the Abagusii ethnic group. The county has a total population of 750,000 people and an area that is 894 square kilometers in size. Current estimates put the annual growth rate of the population at 2.4%. It is bounded on the east by the county of Kericho, on the south east by the county of Bomet, on the south by the county of Kisii, on the west by Homa Bay, and on the north west by the county of Kisumu. The county is subdivided into five subcounties, which are named Nyamira, Borabu, Masaba North, Nyamira North, and Manga. These subcounties are further subdivided into a total of twenty wards (KNBS, 2012).

Borabu Sub-County was the study area of focus due to the recurrence of ethnic conflicts and is populated by both the Abagusii and Kipsigis ethnic communities. The Borabu Sub-County population is 117,090 (Kenya Population and Housing Census, 2009) with an area of 297.70 km². The sub-county has the following Wards as shown in Table 2 and the map of the study area in figure 2:

Table 2: Borabu Sub-County Assembly Wards

| Ward | Sub-Locations | Population |
|--------------|---|-------------------|
| Mekenene | Mwongori, Mogusii, Kitaru Nyankono/Kerumbe | 18,976 |
| Kiabonyoru | Omonono, Mokomoni, Nyangoge Nyaramba | 43,664 |
| Nyansiongo | Nyansiongo and Matutu | 27,496 |
| Esise | Manga/Raitigo, Ekerubo Isoge/Kineni | and 26,965 |
| TOTAL | | 117,090 |

Source: Nyamira County Integrated Development Plan, (2013)

Map of the Study Area

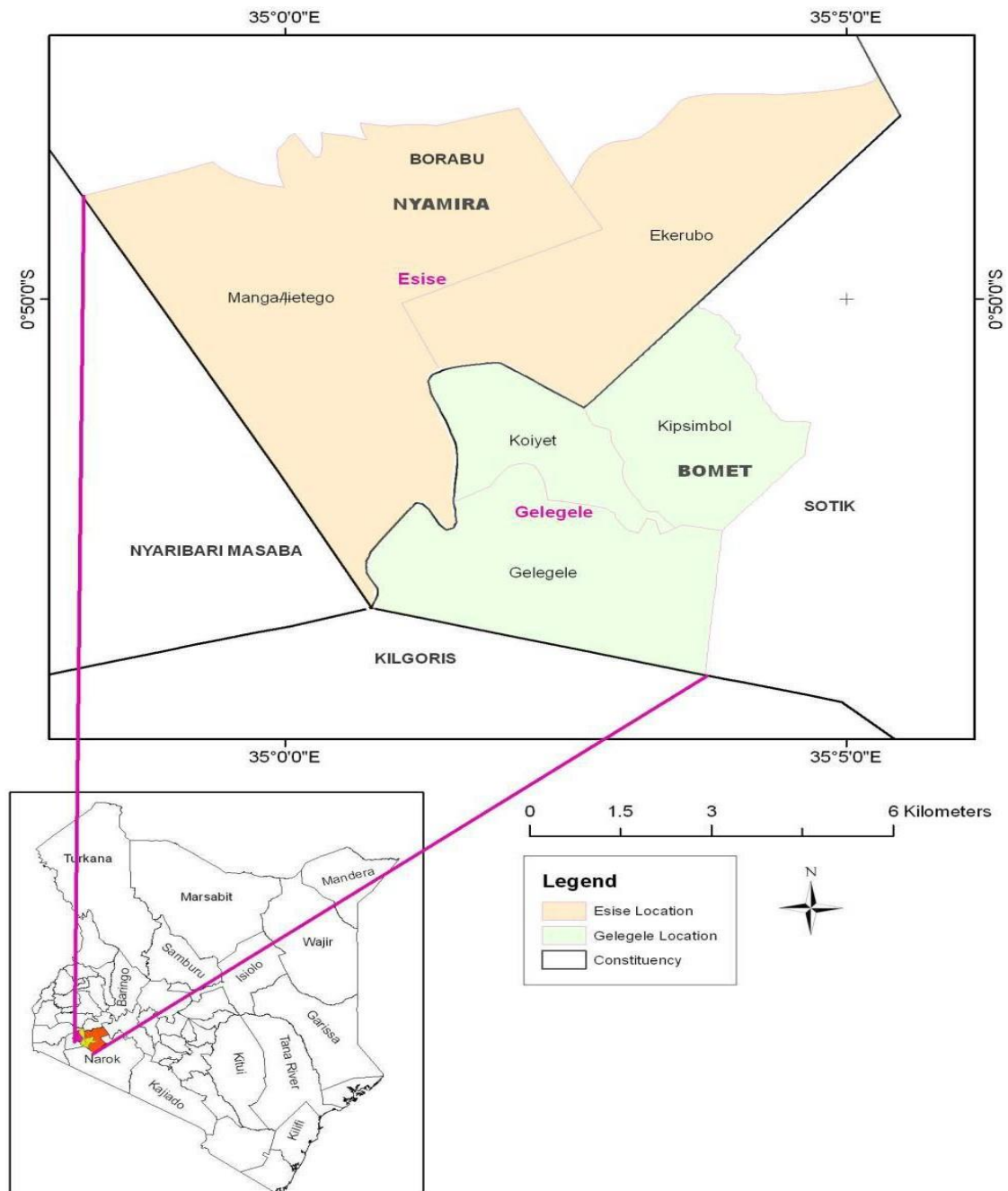


Figure 2: Map showing the Border of Nyamira and Bomet Counties

Source: Researcher, (2018)

3.3 Target Population

Kombo and Tromp (2006) define a population as “a complete set of individual, cases or objects with some common observable characteristics”. The target population for both sub-counties was 243,610. Bomet Central Sub-County had 126,520 people while Borabu Sub-County population is 117,090 (KNBS, 2012). But in this study the target groups were the youths, Church leaders, community leaders, National government administrators and Non-Governmental Organizations.

In Bomet Central sub-county there were: 3900 Youth Leaders, 1020 Community Elders, 600 Church Leaders, 180 National government administrators and 21 Non-governmental Organizations while in Borabu sub-county there were: 3780 Youth Leaders, 870 Community Elders, 510 Church Leaders, 120 National government administrators and 17 Non-governmental Organizations. Apart from Non-Governmental Organizations which were few in both sub-counties, to get the sample size the researcher used Mugenda and Mugenda formula who suggests that 30% is appropriate while for Non-Governmental Organizations since they were few, we sampled half of them.

3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

What one seeks to learn, the value and veracity of the inquiry, and the use of the results all influence the sample size chosen (Patton, 1980). The study's population was limited to those living in the two Sub-Counties (a total of 243,610 people). Given that this is above 10,000, as claimed by Mugenda & Mugenda (2003), the correct number for sampling should be 384, as will be shown below. Accordingly, 384 individuals became part of the sample.

The number of youth leaders, community elders, and church leaders in Bomet Central

and Borabu Sub-Counties were counted using a simple random sample method. This was done since the number of household units in these two sub-counties varied. This method, known as probability sampling, involves the researcher selecting volunteers from a population in a manner that is completely at random. It is possible for each individual in the population to have an equal probability of getting chosen (Kothari, 2011).

Purposive sampling identified key informants for the study; National Government Administrators and Non-Governmental Organizations Directors. Key informants are considered as respondents rich with in-depth information related on subject under study. Furthermore, interviews with key informants ensure that gaps left out in other tools like questionnaires (Kombo and Tromp, 2006). Based on this, the study drew 200 respondents from Bomet Sub-County 184 from Borabu Sub-County as shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Sample Size for Bomet Central and Borabu Sub-Counties

| | Bomet Central | | Borabu | | Sampling Technique |
|---|---------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|
| | Population | Sample | Population | Sample | |
| Youth Leaders | 3900 | 130 | 3780 | 126 | Simple Random |
| Community Elders | 1020 | 34 | 870 | 29 | Simple Random |
| Church Leaders | 600 | 20 | 510 | 17 | Simple Random |
| National government administrators | 180 | 06 | 120 | 04 | Purposive |
| Non-governmental Organization Directors | 21 | 10 | 17 | 08 | Purposive |
| TOTAL | | 200 | | 184 | |

Source: Researcher, (2018)

3.4.1 Sampling Strategy

The formula that was offered by Mugendas' was used by the researcher in order to arrive at the appropriate sample size (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003). The formula developed by Borg and Gall (1989) was used throughout the process of determining the sample size of the sub-groups. The formula may be found further down the page.

$N=Z^2pq/d^2$ Where:

N= desired minimum sample size

Z= the standard normal deviate at confidence interval of 99% (1.96),

p= proportion in the target population estimated to have the characteristic of population under Study (0.8)

$q = 1 - p$ (0.2) and

d = level of statistical significance of estimates (0.05) for desired precision

thus derivation of multi-stage random sample size was

$$N = 1.962 \times 0.8 \times 0.2 / (0.05)^2 = 384$$

3.5 Data Collection

This requires the identification of sources for data, the development of data collecting instruments and methods, as well as the validation and verification of data gathering tools.

3.5.1 Data Collection Procedures

The researcher submitted the research proposal to Mount Kenya University Ethics Review Committee (ERC) for review, afterwards they granted an ERC authorization letter. The letter was then submitted together with the proposal to National Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) for processing of a research permit. The research permit and a letter of authorization to carry out field research were submitted for authorization from Bomet and Nyamira County administrations for security and ethical reasons. Questionnaires were distributed to relevant respondents through the help of locally trained research assistants while the interview guides were administered by the researcher to key informants in the study areas.

3.6 Data Collection Instrument

According to Kothari (2008), many methods, such as questionnaires, interview guides, observation, and document analysis, are often used in the data collection process. A robust study design should make use of questionnaires as the instrument of data collecting, according to Oso and Onen (2009) who advocate this approach. In the

course of our research, we made use of things like questionnaires and interview schedules, in addition to observation and document analysis.

3.6.1 Questionnaire

"A questionnaire," according to Revilla (2015), is "a research instrument that is composed of a sequence of questions with the aim of obtaining information from respondents, in which the questions should flow logically from one to the next." In order to capture the wide range of responses to the constructs, this research employed both closed and open-ended questionnaires. This instrument targeted the youth leaders and church leaders and community Elders.

3.6.2 Interview Guides

Interview guides targeted views from the National Government Administrators and non-governmental organizations directors as they are custodians of policy implementation and logically play the role of key informants on administrative strategies. Interviews were audio-taped by the researcher to confirm what might not be captured while taking notes during the interviews. The questions were designed to appear exactly as the questions were asked. All respondents were given complete attention (Freeman and Matherson, 2009).

3.6.3 Observations

An observation checklist was developed to aid the researcher to note observable features such as destroyed property and trade activities (see appendix IV). The data was summarized and analyzed qualitatively.

3.6.4 Document Analysis

Document analysis checklist was developed to help in identifying relevant documents related to ethnic conflicts and management (see appendix V). Document analysis was listed and organized in a table as shown in appendix V.

3.7 Pilot Study, Validity and Reliability of Instrument

3.7.1 Pilot Study

Through pilot testing, we confirmed the instruments' validity and dependability. According to Orodho (2005), researchers may ascertain the validity and reliability of the instruments by conducting a pilot study. The Masaai and Abagusii borderlands in Narok County and Kisii County's Nyangoso region were chosen for the pilot research. The researcher sent out 90% of the surveys to youth and church leaders, but only used 10% of the data. The pilot study allowed the investigator to spot questions with grammatical or semantic errors, eliminate any remaining ambiguity, and streamline the survey for more efficient data entry.

3.7.2 Reliability of Instrument

To Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), instrument validity refers to “the level of cogency in the collected data using a given instrument is representative to particular realm of indicators/contents of given model while reliability is the degree of consistency measure of which a research instrument yields in given trials”. To ensure the validity of the data collection instruments, the instruments were presented to the supervisors who are experts to determine whether or not the tools are answering the research questions. The questionnaire tool was pre-tested in Nyangoso. The researcher gave indicators or measure of content for each of the variables studied such that they adequately

represented the qualities to be measured. The researcher through the help of supervisors ascertained whether the research instruments had content validity. Affirming this, Borg and Gall (1989) cite that “instrument validity is improved through expert judgment”. Research experts from Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology and Mount Kenya University analyzed the instruments in relation to the specific objectives the constructs were to address.

3.7.3 Reliability of the Research Instrument

In ensuring consistency of the questionnaire tool, the researcher used test-retest method to check on the dependability of answers generated from the respondents with similar characteristics as those in the two study areas. Responses and the flow of the questions were analyzed with the help research supervisors. Furthermore, the results were subjected to the Cronbach’s alpha. For the most part, a Cronbach's alpha of 0.7 or above is considered adequate; but, in certain circumstances, such as exploratory investigations, values of 0.6 or higher may also be acceptable (Harriet, 1998).

3.8 Data Analysis Techniques and Presentation

The collected data from the field was first categorized into quantitative and qualitative data: the categorized data was then checked for completeness, usefulness and accuracy. Qualitative data was coded into themes and sub-themes related to the objectives of the study. Quantitative data was subjected to data coding and entry into the statistical computer program, SPSS v23, to check for accuracy and reliability. Descriptive analysis was then conducted on both categories of data to describe the effects of conflict in Borabu and Bomet Central. Analyzed data was presented in form of descriptive statistics i.e. frequency tables and figures.

Quantitative analysis further involved the use of inferential statistics; Pearson Correlation Moment and simple regression analysis to explore the relationship between ethnic conflict and socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border.

3.9 Ethical Considerations

Leah (2005) terms ethics as the moral judgment between what is wrong and right. In research, ethical consideration involves the right procedures and standards entailing the process of research. Some of research morals include among others; the principle of confidentiality, anonymity and voluntary participation. The researcher first sought permission from the University Research Ethics Committee and the National Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI), the permit was then presented to the administration of Nyamira County before embarking on field study. In the field, the researcher fully adhered to ethical standards as stated above.

3.10 Chapter Summary

Chapter three has presented the research design, study area, target population, sample size, data collection procedures and instruments, pilot study, validity and reliability of research tools, data analysis and presentation techniques. This chapter has as well discussed the ethical considerations adhered to during the field data collection. The next chapter presents Research Findings, Analysis and Presentation.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents an analysis of the findings and discussions on demographic characteristics of respondents as well as specific objectives of the study which were to; analyze multiparty democracy development influence on ethnic conflicts between the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border, examine the ethnic conflict of administrative-political resource sharing influence on socio-economic development of Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border and evaluate the challenges in ethnic conflicts mitigation influencing socio economic development of Kipsigis and Abagusii along the border.

4.1 Response Rate

The following table encompasses the response rate for the study;

Table 4: Respondents' Response Rate

| | Targeted Rate | Response Rate | Percentage |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Bomet Central Sub-County | 200 | 120 | 60% |
| Borabu Sub-County | 184 | 110 | 60% |
| TOTAL | 384 | 230 | 60% |

Source: Field Data, (2019)

The study gained 60% (230) response rate from a target of 384 respondents. Mugenda and Mugenda, (2003) recommends that, where a response rate of 50%, it is deemed adequate for analysis and reporting; 60% is good, 70% and over is excellent. The study therefore, attained a good response rate for analysis and reporting. This clearly shows that the response rate in this study was good.

4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

The study analyzed the demographics of respondents based on the following characteristics; gender, age, education and the main economic activities in the study areas.

4.2.1 Gender

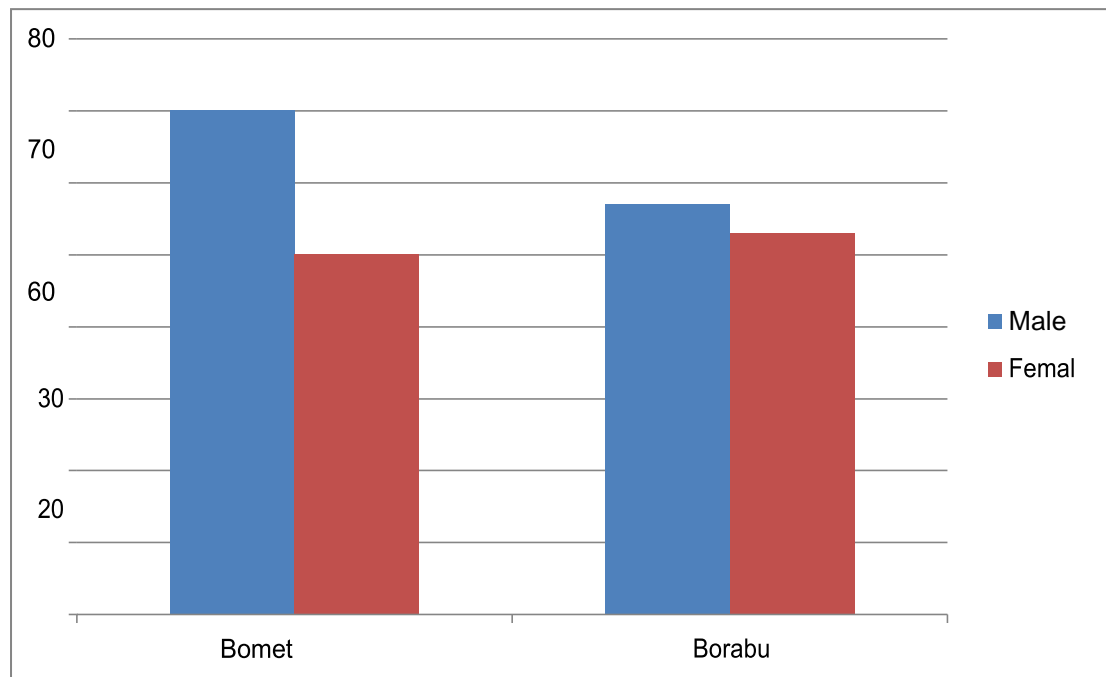


Figure 3: Gender Representation for Bomet Central and Borabu Sub-Counties

The study sought to establish the gender of 120 respondents from the Bomet Central and 110 respondents from Borabu Sub-Counties. Respondents were thus asked to indicate their gender.

The results in Figure 3 indicate that 58% (70) were male while 42% (50) were female for Bomet Central Sub-County. The results also indicate that 52% (57) were male while 48% (53) were female for Borabu Sub-County. The study established that most households are headed by male as opposed to their female counterparts. The results are skewed against female gender in both Sub-Counties, indicating the persistent disparities

that exist due to cultural issues which remain a potential source of conflict within the study areas.

Concurring with the results of the research, Yohannes et al. (2005) argue that women are socially disadvantaged and oppressed via a variety of means. Livestock is only passed through the male line, abduction is common, and women are subjected to a wide range of violence, including the removal of their milk teeth, genital mutilation, the rejection or outright murder of newborn females, and floggings during ceremonial cattle-jumping rituals.

4.2.2 Age of Respondents

Table 5: Age of Distribution for Bomet Central and Borabu Sub-Counties

| | Bomet Central | | Borabu | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | Frequency | Percentage | Frequency | Percentage |
| 20-30 years | 22 | 18% | 14 | 13% |
| 31-40 years | 55 | 46% | 52 | 47% |
| 41-50 years | 34 | 28% | 31 | 28% |
| 50 years and above | 09 | 08% | 13 | 12% |
| TOTAL | 120 | 100% | 110 | 100% |

Source: Field Data, (2019)

The study sought to establish age distribution of respondents from Bomet Central and Borabu Sub-Counties. Respondents were thus asked to indicate their age as shown in Table 5. The results indicate that those in the age bracket of 20-30 years were 18% (22), 31-40 years were 46% (55), 41-50 years were 28% (34) and those above 50 years were 08% (9) for Bomet Central Sub-County. While those in the age bracket of 20-30 years were 13% (14), 31-40 years were 47% (52), 41-50 years were 28% (31) and those

above 50 years were 12% (13) for Borabu Sub- County. The analysis indicates that respondents in the age bracket of 31-40 years were majority in both Sub-Counties at 47% representation.

The results of this research were in accord with those of Nyukiri (1997), who observed that unemployment, particularly among young people, causes a segment of the population to be idle and unable to satisfy its day-to-day demands. The findings of this study were in agreement with those of Nyukiri (1997). He believed that such a population is unstable and prone to participate in lawless activities because it has the lowest opportunity cost in the case of mayhem, anarchy, or disputes. This led him to conclude that such a group is prone to violence (since they have little or nothing to lose in the first place).

This age bracket represents young population and according to Mooka (2013) on ethnic conflicts, young persons are the weakest to be incited to trigger mayhem and instability due to their low levels of economic stability and experience in conflict resolution. Additionally, Mworia and Ndiku (2012) cite ethnic conflicts are attributed to political incitement of young people; who are resource-poor and easy to lure to create tribal tensions.

4.2.3 Education Background

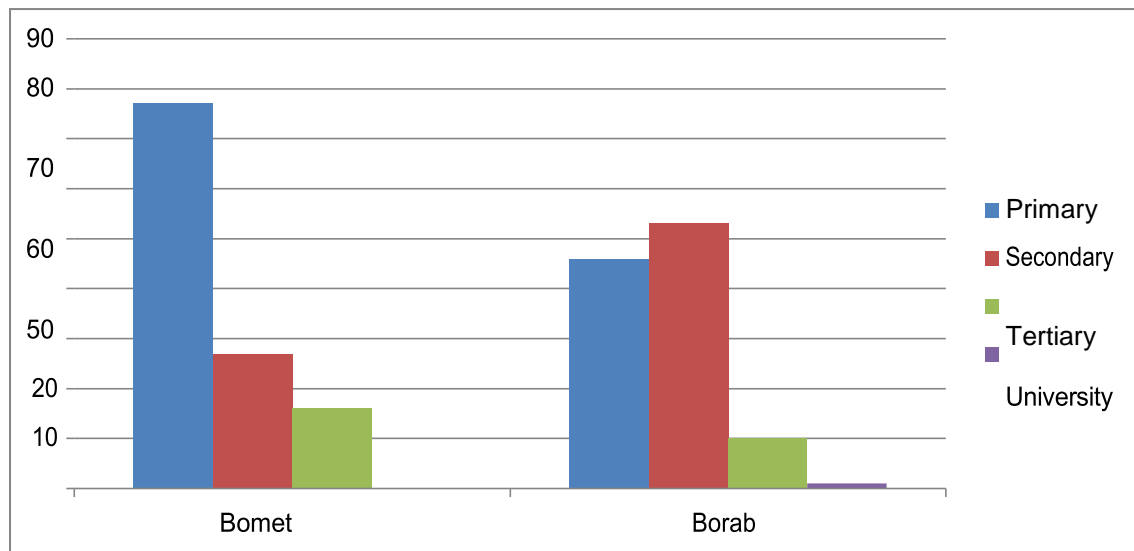


Figure 4: Education Background for Bomet Central and Borabu Sub-Counties

The study sought to determine the educational level of respondents. The results are given in Figure 4. The results indicate that out of the total 120 respondents from Bomet Central Sub- County, 64% (77) of respondents had primary education, 23% (27) had secondary education, and 13% (16) had tertiary education while none had university level of education. The results indicate that out of the total 110 respondents from Borabu Sub-County, 42% (46) of respondents had primary education, 48% (53) had secondary education, 9% (10) had tertiary education while 1% (1) had university education.

The low education levels are indicative of the fact that majority of the respondents are affected by, low enrollment due to school inaccessibility, displacement and tensions which exist between the two groups. The low education levels can be used to aptly explain the frequent occurrence of ethnic conflicts which remain predominant. The results are in agreement with a report from KNBS (2012) which indicates that less than 15% of Bomet County residents have a tertiary level of education or above while a total of 35% of Nyamira County residents have a university level of education only.

An elder from Silibwet village, Bomet Central Sub-County in response to education levels asserted that: during ethnic violence, education system is negatively affected due to destruction and displacement of people. Furthermore, here as parents don't send their children to school but rather use boys as herders to their livestock while girls are married off for livestock or land. However, things are changing slowly since the inception of Free Primary Education (FPE) system to cater for the need of the children as well as the peace we have today... (Field Interview at Silibwet village, 23rd November, 2018).

Furthermore, Ombati (2012) in a survey along Abagusii/Kipsigis border revealed that schools in Borabu, Nyamira County, are still affected by the effects of ethnic violence. Some schools have never recovered while others are still feeling the effects for example; Manga Girls High School whose population reduced to 80 from 600 students. Both communities are affected by high level of illiteracy and school dropout owing to ethnic conflicts which render many families destitute.

Additionally, small and light arms held by the locals including machetes, bows and arrows have fuelled tension, which is opined to remain the biggest security challenge in the region.

4.2.4 Main Economic Activities

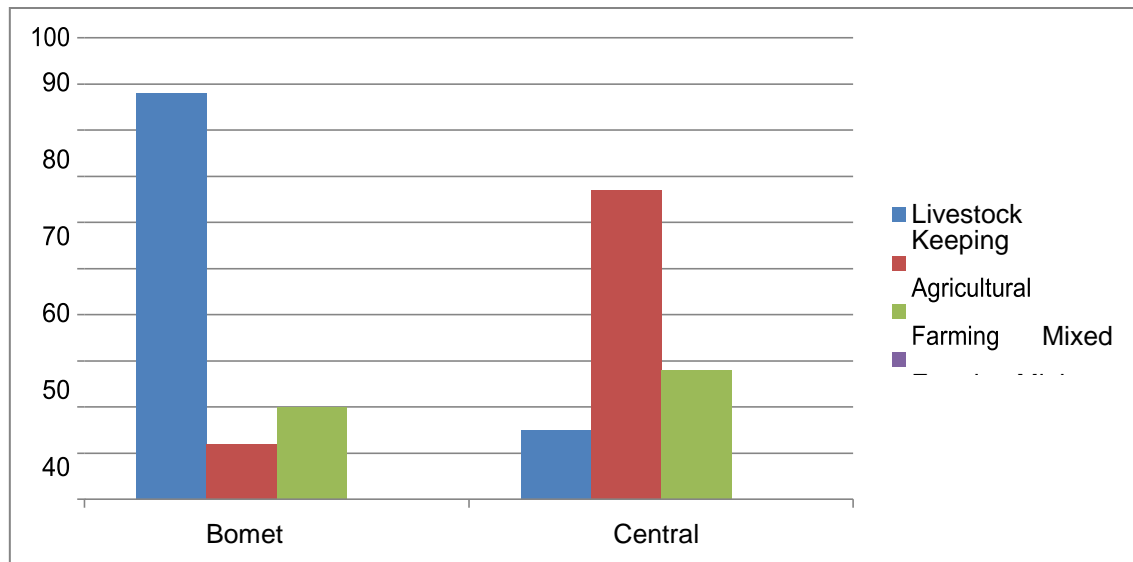


Figure 5: Main Economic Activities for Bomet Central and Borabu Sub-Counties

The study sought to determine the main economic activities of respondents. The results are given in Figure 5. The results indicate that out of the total 120 respondents from Bomet Central Sub- County, 73% (88) reared livestock, 10% (12) were agricultural farmers and 17% (20) carried out mixed farming. None of the respondents were involved in mining activities.

The results also indicate that out of the total 110 respondents from Borabu Sub-County, 14% (15) kept livestock, 61% (67) were agricultural farmers and 25% (28) were mixed farmers while none was involved in mining. Farming and livestock rearing are the main economic activities in the Borabu and Bomet Central Sub-County respectively.

According to Kipkemoi (2015), the results are supported by the fact that raising cattle takes a substantial amount of land, which is difficult to locate. As a consequence of this, there have been instances in which pastoralists have allowed their animals to wander onto the farmlands of agriculturalists, which has created a fertile ground for inter-ethnic strife. Furthermore, some ethnic groups believe that the only way for them to have sufficient land for their own use is to destabilize and eject other ethnic groups,

whom they consider to be not the original inhabitants of the Sub-County, because of the need to acquire, own, and use land for agricultural purposes. As a result of this misconception, certain groups within a society may see the land of another community as a tool to get more land for their own purposes.

Land, as well as other resources associated to land, such as water and biodiversity, are the primary drivers of inter-ethnic conflict. Resource-based concerns play a vital part in the kindling of inter-ethnic conflict. It is imperative that economic activities such as livestock keeping and land for agricultural activities could be one of the main reasons for repeated ethnic conflicts among the border communities of the Abagusii and the Kipsigis. This is because economic activities like these could be one of the main reasons for repeated ethnic conflicts.

4.3 The Influence of Multiparty Democracy Development on Ethnic Conflicts

In answering specific objective one of the study, the researcher pursued facts which analyzed the ethnic conflicts of multiparty democracy influence on socio economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border. The parameters for measuring multiparty democracy were; multiparty disagreements, multiparty elections, ethnicity, regional choice of leaders and political confrontations.

The findings are as shown in Figure 6.

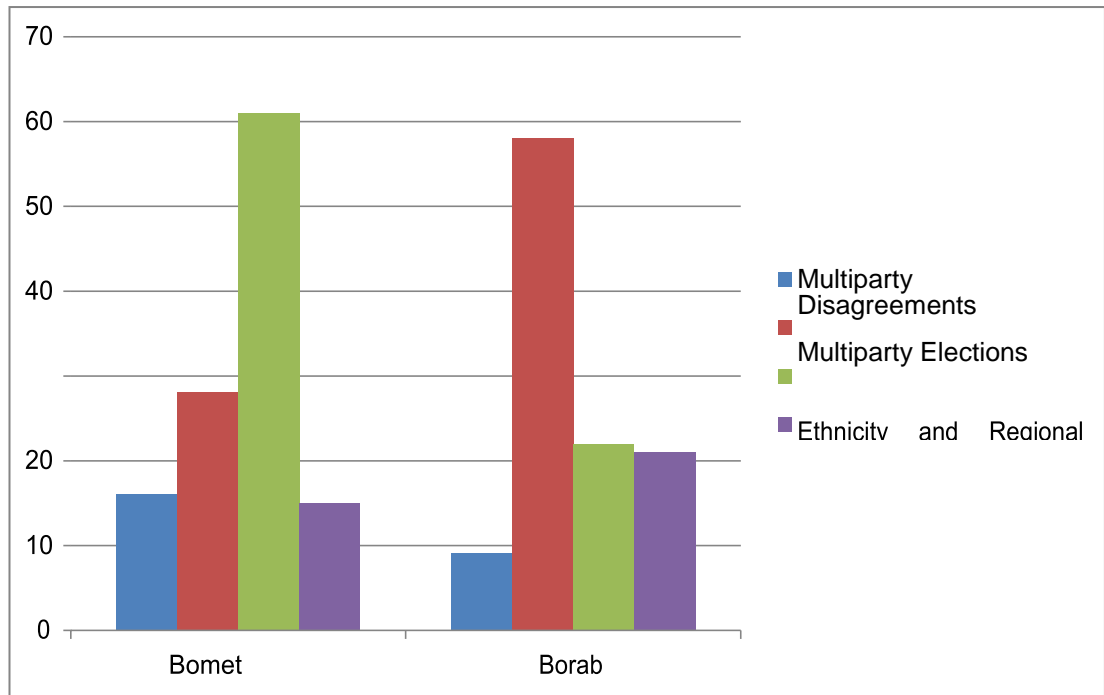


Figure 6: Influence of Multiparty Democracy on ethnic conflicts

Figure 6 presents findings on the influence of multiparty democracy on ethnic conflicts. The results indicate that out of the total 120 respondents from Bomet Central Sub-County, 13% (16) agreed that multiparty disagreements influenced ethnic conflicts while 87% (104) disagreeing, 23% (28) agreed that multiparty elections influenced ethnic conflicts while 77% (92) disagreeing, 51% (61) agreed that ethnicity and regional choice of leaders influenced ethnic conflicts while 49% (59) and 13% (15) agreed that political confrontations led to ethnic conflicts while 87% (105) disagreeing.

The results also indicate that out of the total 110 respondents from Borabu Sub-County, 08% (9) agreed that multiparty disagreements influenced ethnic conflicts while 92% (101) disagreeing, 53% (58) agreed that multiparty elections influenced ethnic conflicts while 47% (52) disagreeing, 20% (22) agreed that ethnicity and regional choice of leaders influenced ethnic conflicts while 80% (88) and 19% (21) agreed the political confrontations led to ethnic conflicts while 81% (89) disagreeing. From the

findings, multiparty democracy influenced ethnic conflicts among the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities through ethnicity and regional choice of leaders as well as multi-party elections.

Duffield (2012), an author who specializes in elections, asserts that regions with a predominance of people of the same ethnicity as the presidential candidates have historically provided enormous support and followings for both the candidates and their political parties. This is a trend that has been consistent throughout history. The remainder of the nation's ethnic groupings have the tendency to believe that the governing government gives preferential treatment to members of the ethnic group whose presidential candidate came out on top in the most recent elections. This tendency drives a wedge in the nature of connections and cohabitation between the many different ethnic groups that exist inside the nation.

The findings are in tandem with those findings of Mokuu (2013) on multiparty political influence on the wellbeing of communities. After the violent general elections in 1992, peaceful cooperation abruptly shifted. In later general elections, this trend would be replicated. It is clear that multiparty democracy of 1992 influenced negative ethnicity in Kenya with disagreements and tensions between border communities fueling ethnic conflicts. Furthermore, a report by CMD (2015) acknowledges that ethnic conflicts in Kenya occur frequently, since the reintroduction of multi-party democracy in 1992. Worst ethnic violence was witnessed during the 2007/08 post-election.

An administrator from Nyansiongo Ward asserted that:

...during general elections, confrontations and disagreements are witnessed among the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities bordering each other due to choice of their leaders especially at the presidential level. It has never happened where the two communities supported same

presidential aspirant. This is where ethnicity rises to violence and conflicts... (Field interview with an administrator at Nyansiongo, 19th December, 2018)

Contrary to the findings that multiparty democracy influences ethnic violence, Butterfield (2005) argued that conflicts at times accelerate development in various spheres. Conflicts can be about heightened security, institutional development, economic boost, cultural significance, networks and representation. Additionally, peace-building is part of the security dimension focusing on human rights, conflict resolution and social cohesion.

A respondent from Esise argued that:

...the ethnic violence has led to improved security organs in the area for example; we have a new police post mandated with enhancing security in the area. Other government institutions National Cohesion and Integration Commission have had communal meetings in the area. Development projects have also been initiated in both regions.... (Respondent from Esise Ward, Borabu Sub-County, 27th November, 2018)

It is imperative that multiparty democracy influenced ethnic conflicts among the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities through elections which are marred with disagreements and confrontations due to ethnicity and choice of leaders to represent them. However, ethnic conflicts also accelerated development in various spheres like heightened security measures, development of various projects, economic boost through trade, cultural significance, networks and Representation through governance.

4.4 Influence of Administrative/Political Resource Sharing on Socio Economic Development

In answering objective two of the study, the researcher sought information on the influence of administrative/political resource sharing on socio-economic development of border communities. The parameters were; ethnic violence, community discord, low progress in trade and underdevelopment. The findings are as shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Administrative/Political resource sharing on socio-economic development

| | Bomet Central | | Borabu | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | Frequency | Percentage | Frequency | Percentage |
| Ethnic violence | 61 | 51% | 22 | 20% |
| Community discord | 31 | 26% | 56 | 51% |
| Low progress in trade | 12 | 10% | 04 | 04% |
| Underdevelopment | 16 | 13% | 28 | 25% |
| TOTAL | 120 | 100% | 110 | 100% |

Source: Field Data, (2019)

Table 6 presents findings on the influence of administrative/political resource sharing on ethnic violence among the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities. The results from Bomet Central Sub-County indicate that out of 120 respondents, 51% (61) agreed that administrative/political resource sharing led ethnic violence while 49% (59) disagreed, 26% (31) agreed that resource sharing led community discord with 74% (89) disagreeing, 10% (12) perceived that administrative/political resource sharing led to low progress in trading activities while 90% (108) having contrary opinion on trade and 13% (16) perceived underdevelopment in the study area due to administrative/political resource sharing. However, 87% (104) disagreed on the opinion that

administrative/political resource sharing led to underdevelopment in the study area.

The results from Borabu Sub-County indicate that out of 110 respondents, 20% (22) agreed that administrative/political resource sharing led ethnic violence while 80% (88) disagreed, 51% (56) agreed that resource sharing led community discord with 49% (54) disagreeing, 04% (04) perceived that administrative/political resource sharing led to low progress in trading activities while 96% (106) having contrary opinion on trade and 25% (28) perceived underdevelopment in the study area due to administrative/political resource sharing. However, 75% (82) disagreed on the opinion that administrative/political resource sharing led to underdevelopment in the study area.

A study by Ebegbulem (2015) in Nigeria cements the findings of the study where political representation and resource sharing are common sources of conflicts and the civil wars in Africa. Poor representation of all communities, not only in Nigeria but in Africa as a whole, has led to political and socio-economic to fall below the international standards. Perceived ethnic dominance over other ethnic groups in Africa is believed to result into sporadic outbursts of ethnic violence.

A report by Stiftung (2012) further avows that the inequalities and imbalances, which were never mitigated in the first place, have progressively developed into a root cause of socio-political ethnic conflicts in Sub-Sahara Africa. For instance, the 2007/08 post-election violence experienced in Kenya was grounded on extreme weaknesses of an ethnicized governance system. Such systems were rooted to cases of historical injustices and emergent of marginalization associated with the previous regimes. It is believed that Kenya still suffers from such ethnicized governance systems.

A community elder from Chesoen Ward, Bomet Central Sub-County argued that:

...Resource sharing along the borderline between the Abagusii and Kipsigis has always been done based on who is supporting which side of

political factions. Politics of the day dictates how the resources (both from the national and county governments) are shared among the border communities. This has seen competition in trade between the two sides open up ethnicity and thus inter-conflicts....(Interview with community elder in Chesoen area, 20th December, 2018)

It is imperative to the researcher that political and administrative sharing of resources has not been equitable among the border communities under study. Due to this, violence attacks and discords among the communities have slowed down socio-economic progress in the region.

4.5 Challenges in Mitigating Ethnic Conflicts along Kipsigis and Abagusii border

In answering specific objective three, the study evaluated the challenges in ethnic conflicts mitigation influencing socio economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border. Study parameters constituted of; ineffective conflict resolution policies, unclear operations by conflict resolution institutions, perceived bias in operations by the county administrations, lack of compensation of aggrieved parties and conflict of interests between different stakeholders.

The findings are presented in Figure 7.

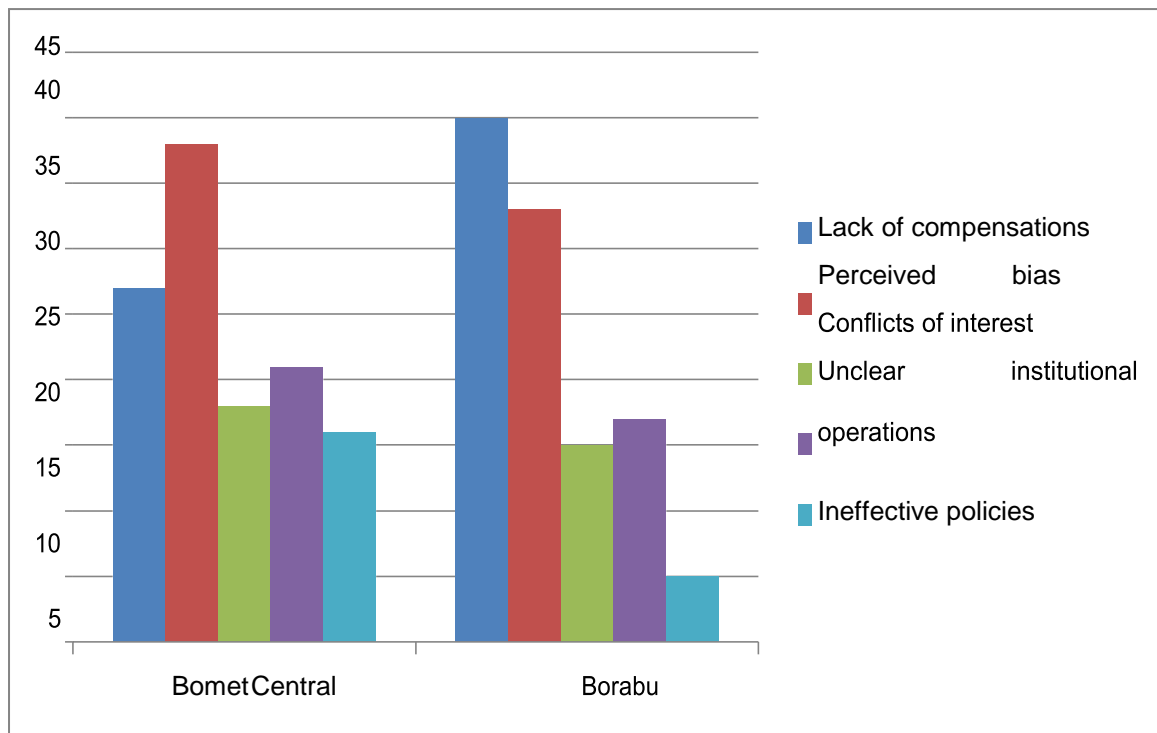


Figure 7: Challenges Faced in Mitigating Ethnic Conflicts

The study evaluated the challenges faced in mitigating ethnic conflicts. The results are given in Figure 7. The findings indicate that out of the total 120 respondents from Bomet Central Sub- County, 23% (27) agreed that lack of compensations was a setback in peace building while 77%

(93) Disagreeing, 32% (38) agreed that perceived bias in resource sharing hindered the conflict resolution initiative while 68% (82) were in disagreement. Furthermore, 15% (18) perceived conflicts of interest between governments and Non-State Actors like NGOs, CSOs and CBOs were stalling the peace process with 85% (102) having a divergent opinion. On unclear institutional operations, 18% (21) agreed that institutions were not doing their best in managing retaliations with 82% (99) disagreeing. Finally, 13% (16) were of the opinion that ineffective policies were behind the unresolved ethnic conflicts with 87% (104) disagreeing.

The findings also indicate that out of the total 110 respondents from Borabu Sub-County, 36% (40) Agreed to lack of compensations with 64% (70) disagreeing, 30% (33) agreed that perceived bias in resource sharing hurdled the conflict resolution initiative with 70% (77) were in disagreement. Furthermore, 14% (15) perceived conflicts of interest between governments and Non-State Actors like NGOs, CSOs and CBOs were stalling the peace process with 86% (95) having a divergent opinion. On unclear institutional operations, 15% (17) agreed that institutions were not doing their best in managing retaliations with 85% (93) disagreeing. Finally, 5% (05) were of the opinion that ineffective policies were behind the unresolved ethnic conflicts with 95% (105) disagreeing.

The study corroborates with the findings of Morgenthau (2007) on failure of peace building operations in countries like Somalia and Burundi due to resent from ethnic groups. Bitter rivalries and retaliations are also common along the border of the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities due to unclear and weak institutional and policy frameworks. However, Mkutu (2008) disagrees with the study findings on conflicts of interests between the two levels of governance and non-state actors by affirming that such organizations play an acceptable facilitative role and stimulate the creation of reconciliation committees at grassroots levels in conflict prone areas in East Africa. This observation is relevant to Bomet Central and Borabu border because the presence NGOs balance the region's economic marginalization from the state through income generating activities for the community.

The government's initiative of allowing international peace crusaders and development partners to operate in conflict prone areas to prevail peace initiatives, such initiatives sometimes hit hurdles due to cases where elders bless and approve raids to be undertaken by the community's youth (Gulliver, 1951; Goldsmith, 1997).

As noted by an administrator during interview:

...Ethnic conflicts along the border for long time have not been managed due to non- integration strategies between the warring parties. Social integration activities such as sports and other outdoor activities are not common around here. In addition, our leaders never spearhead talks before conflicts erupt and those affected are never compensated of their lost property posing the challenge of administrative justice... (Administrator, Mekenene village, Borabu Sub-County, 30th November, 2018)

The researcher considered the lack of political will from both sides of the borderline has influenced communal violence. The exclusion of communities in mediation talks significantly expressed how line ministries, institutions and government departments have failed in addressing ethnic conflicts in robust manner.

4.6 Chapter Summary

This chapter has explored the research findings and discussions. It has highlighted the response turnout, demographic characteristics of respondents. Additionally, it has analyzed the results and discussions for the specific objectives of the study. These findings lead to the last chapter based on summary of findings, conclusions and recommendations.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents a summary of the findings, conclusions and recommendations. Furthermore, it presents recommendations for further studies.

5.2 Summary of Findings

On specific objective one, the study analyzed, the ethnic conflicts of multiparty democracy influence on socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipasigis along the border. It was found out that multiparty democracy influenced ethnic conflicts among border communities through; ethnic and regional choice, multiparty elections and multiparty disagreements. However, it was argued that conflicts at times accelerated development in various spheres including security, institutional development, economic boost, cultural significance, networks and representation.

On specific objective two, the study examined the ethnic conflict of administrative/political resource sharing in influencing socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipasigis border communities. It was evident that ethnic violence was influenced through politically instigated resource sharing among border communities. Administrative way of sharing resources like land interfered with land uses leading to communal discords.

Furthermore, heightened ethnic conflicts led to underdevelopment i.e. poor school enrollment, low education standards and deprived health services. However, trade progress was not affected by administrative/political sharing of resources along the border.

In answering specific objective three, the study evaluated the challenges in ethnic

Conflicts mitigation influencing socio economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border. It was found that lack of compensation of the aggrieved parties in the ethnic conflicts and perceived bias in the administration of justice and resource sharing were the major setbacks in the management of ethnic conflicts along the border. Furthermore, conflicts of interests between the national, county governments and non-state actors (NGOs, CSOs and other developing partners). Unclear institutional operations and frameworks; thus facing retaliation setbacks and ineffective conflict resolution polices.

5.3 Conclusions

On specific objective one of the study, the study analyzed the ethnic conflicts of the multiparty democracy influence on socio economic development of the Abagusii and Kipasigis along the border. The study concluded that multiparty democracy influenced ethnic conflicts especially among the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities. However, the ethnic conflicts also brought development in the region be it improvement of security, economic boost, cultural significance, networks and institutional development.

On specific objective two, the study examined the ethnic conflict of administrative/political resource sharing in influencing socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities. It was concluded that political and administrative sharing of resources along ethnic border communities under study was perceived to be biased and ethnic-based. Due to this, repeated violence attacks and communal discords have not only slowed down socio-economic progress in the region but also led loss of lives and livelihoods.

On the specific objective three of the study, the study evaluated the challenges in

ethnic conflicts mitigation influencing socio economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis along border

It was concluded that lack of good leadership/governance structures in place to enhance positive political leadership in the Study area influenced communal violence. The exclusion of communities in mediation talks significantly expressed how government institutions have failed in addressing ethnic conflicts in robust manner.

Overall conclusion of the study was that ethnic conflicts influenced socio-economic development of the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities through multiparty democracy, perceived bias in administrative/political resource sharing and bad governance.

5.4 Recommendations

It was found that multiparty democracy has a role in the repeated ethnic conflicts along the border line of the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities. The study therefore recommends that sensitization and awareness programs if put in place to educate the communities on the importance of multiparty democracy in our society. Such an initiative can be championed by the County Governments of Nyamira and Bomet, the non-state actors and the national government through National Cohesion and Integration Commission and CMD.

Resource sharing based on administrative/political alignment is still a big challenge among border communities in Kenya. The border along the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities shares this big chunk of resource-based ethnic conflicts. The study however, recommends that the political class should take up the responsibilities of uniting all Kenyans and spur development projects in partnership with other border communities through adoption of good and democratic governance. Furthermore,

improvement in security surveillance along the border can also be met through scaling up of security organs along the border.

It was evident that conflict resolution mechanisms failed in the past due to exclusion of the effected border communities in mediation talks. To ensure a lasting peace along the border, the study recommends that peace building initiatives should take a bottom-up approach; where grassroots communities (affected by the conflicts) fully participate in the processes of developing long-lasting peace building initiatives. Furthermore, elders in communities are perceived to be behind ethnic conflicts thus, border communities should have continuous and constant dialogues through their leaders so as to sensitize them on the importance of harmonious coexistence.

5.5 Suggestions for Further Research

In light of the study's findings, conclusions and recommendations, it is clear that there remain gray areas that require further research. It is therefore, suggested that further research be conducted in these areas.

On multiparty development and its influence on ethnic conflicts between the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities, the study suggests further research carried out on influence of multiparty democracy on ethnic conflicts in regard to cross-border communities.

On the ethnic conflict of administrative/political resource sharing in influencing socio-economic development, further research be conducted on viability of administrative/political actors in addressing misconceived resource sharing as key players in conflict situations.

More study has to be done on the key components of policy and institutions that are involved in the prevention of conflict, sustainable development, and the construction of

peace. These are the issues that come with minimizing ethnic conflicts. If this is not done, it may put the fragile peace at risk, raise the likelihood of a resumption of violent conflict, and put at risk the efforts being made to rebuild after the war.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Letter of Introduction

Joroms Ogeto Atemba, Mount Kenya University

P.O. Box 552-50100 Kakamega.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Intend to carry out Field Data Collection

I am a Master's student (MJSS/2014/79162) from Mount Kenya University. I am conducting an academic research on "The Ethnic Conflicts influencing Socio-Economic Development of Border Communities, a case of Abagusii and Kipsigis in Borabu and Bomet Central sub- counties Kenya" as a requirement of the qualification for the award. The findings of this study will contribute immensely to the management of the conflict in the area. The information that will be obtained in this study is confidential and will only be used for the purposes of this research and not for any other purpose.

Yours faithfully,

Joroms Ogeto Atemba joromsatempa@gmail.com 0729728621

Appendix II: Questionnaire Tool for Youth Leaders, Church Leaders and Community Leaders

Section A: Demographic Data

1. Kindly indicate the Sub-County of residence?

Borabu Sub-County { }

Bomet Central Sub-County { }

2. What is your gender?

Male { }

Female { }

3. What is age bracket?

18-24 { }

25-35 { }

36-45 { }

46-55 { }

60 and above { }

4. Kindly indicate your highest attained education.

Primary { }

Secondary { }

Tertiary { }

University { }

5. What is the main economic activity in your area?

Farming { }

Animal keeping { }

Mining { }

Mixed farming { }

Section B

| Multiparty Democracy | SA | A | N | DA | SDA |
|---|----|---|---|----|-----|
| That there are disagreements between the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border due to multipartyism | | | | | |
| These disagreements are usually realized during the multiparty electioneering period | | | | | |
| During elections, communities vote different parties based on ethnicity, individual community member and regional choice. | | | | | |
| That ethnicity realized during elections leads into ethnic conflicts between the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities due to Political confrontations | | | | | |

KEY

SA- Strongly Agree

A- Agree

N- Neutral

DA- Don't Agree

SDA- Strongly Don't Agree

Which other influences do you perceive fuels ethnic conflicts between border communities? Please explain.

.....

In your opinion, what are the effects on ethnic conflicts due to multiparty democracy on socio- economic development between border communities? Kindly explain.

.....

Which other influences do you perceive fuels ethnic conflicts between border communities? Please explain.

.....

In your opinion, what are the effects on ethnic conflicts due to multiparty democracy on socio- economic development between border communities? Kindly explain.

.....

| Administrative-Political Resource Sharing | SA | A | N | DA | SDA |
|--|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Politically instigated resource sharing has fuelled ethnic violence among the Abagusii and Kipsigis border communities | | | | | |
| Administrative resource sharing, especially land, has interfered with land uses leading to community discord | | | | | |
| Political and administrative resource sharing among the two border communities has led slow progress in trade along the border | | | | | |
| The heightened ethnic conflicts have led to underdevelopment i.e. poor school enrollment, low standards of education and poor health services along the border | | | | | |

In your opinion, how do you perceive the political and administrative representation of the two communities and how it influences ethnic conflicts along the border? Please explain.

.....

| Challenges | SA | A | N | DA | SDA |
|---|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Conflict resolution policies have not been effective in mitigating the ethnic conflicts due to the exclusion of border communities in mediation talks | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Conflict management institutions have faced retaliation setbacks due to unclear operations in managing the conflicts | | | | | |
| The county administrators have frequently administered justice and fairness to both communities whenever a conflict arises | | | | | |
| The national government has compensated aggrieved parties in the conflicts along the border | | | | | |
| Both national and county governments face conflicts of interest from the NGOs, CSOs and other development partners | | | | | |

In your own opinion, which other challenges do you perceive are facing the conflict resolution strategies along the border communities? Explain

.....

.....

.....

Appendix III: In-depth Interview Schedule for National Government

Administrators and Non-Governmental Organization Directors

- i. How long have you served as an administrator in the area?
- ii. Kindly give an account on multiparty democracy and its influence on ethnic conflicts along the border?
- iii. Describe ethnic conflicts of political party differences among the Abagusii and Kipsigis along the border?
- iv. What is the influence of administrative resource sharing on socio-economic development of border communities?
- v. In your own opinion, have ethnic conflicts on resource sharing made trade activities go down and how?
- vi. How does ethnic conflicts among the Abagusii and Kipsigis interfere with farming activities along border region?
- vii. In your opinion, has the administration frequently equitably shared public resources between the members of the communities along the border?
- viii. What has been the role of administration and politics in managing ethnic conflicts here at the border?
- ix. Which social unification forums such as sports and other social activities are being used in bridging ethnic conflicts along the border?
- x. Is their justice and fairness in mediation talks between the Abagusii and Kipsigis communities along the border?
- xi. Do you think the government political structure and its administration have brought about change in conflict resolution in

the area?

- xii. Are there any forms of compensation to the aggrieved parties whenever reported?

Appendix IV: Observation Checklist

| What to be observed | Remarks |
|---|--|
| Evidence of property destruction | Schools and other buildings |
| Trading activities | Running well |
| Social amenities | Health centers, schools and markets |
| Ownership of business premises in rural areas | Common for the natives |
| Existence of tension among the communities | Tension still exists |
| Presence of community <i>Barazas</i> with local administrations | Community meetings are common (twice a month) in both Sub-Counties |

Source: Researcher, 2019

Appendix V: Document Analysis Checklist

| Document check | Remarks |
|---|--|
| Recorded minutes on efforts of conflict resolution | Existed in the office of Deputy County Commissioner, Bomet Central Sub-County. |
| Reported cases of conflicts | Reports existed in the Kenya Police Service, Borabu Police Post |
| Existence of reading materials, manuals and training materials on conflict management | Non-existent |

Source: Researcher, 2019

Appendix VI: Certificate of Ethical Clearance



SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

Ref. No. MKU/ERC/0707

CERTIFICATE OF ETHICAL CLEARANCE

This is to certify that the proposal titled "THE INFLUENCE OF ETHNIC CONFLICTS ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF BORDER COMMUNITIES, A CASE OF ABAGUSHI AND KIPSIGIS" Whose Principal Investigator is Mr Atemba Ogeto Joroms (MJSS/2014/79162) has been reviewed by Mount Kenya University Ethics Review Committee (ERC), and found to adequately address all ethical concerns.

Dr. Francis W. Makokha
Secretary, Mount Kenya University ERC

Sign: [Signature] Date: 06.09.2018

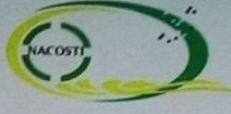
Prof. Francis W. Muregi
Chairman, Mount Kenya University ERC

Sign: [Signature] Date: 06.09.2018



Main Campus, General Kago Road, P.O. Box 342-01000 Thika. Tel: +254 67 2820 000,
Cell: +254 720 790 796, 0709 153 000
Email: info@mku.ac.ke, Web: www.mku.ac.ke
Chartered and ISO 9001 : 2008 Certified Institution.
Unlocking Infinite Possibilities

Appendix VII: NACOSTI Research Authorization Letter



**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

Telephone +254-20-2213471,
2241349,3310571,2219420
Fax: +254-20-318245,318249
Email: dg@nacosti.go.ke
Website : www.nacosti.go.ke
When replying please quote

NACOSTI, Upper Kabete
Off Wariyaki Way
P.O. Box 30623-00100
NAIROBI-KENYA

Ref. No **NACOSTI/P/18/39541/25989** Date **26th October, 2018**

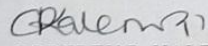
Joroms Ogeto Atemba
Mount Kenya University
P.O. Box 342-01000
THIKA.

RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION

Following your application for authority to carry out research on *“The influence of ethnic conflicts on socio-economic development of border communities, a case of Abagusii and Kipsigis,”* I am pleased to inform you that you have been authorized to undertake research in **Nyamira County** for the period ending **26th October, 2019**.

You are advised to report to **the County Commissioner and the County Director of Education, Nyamira County** before embarking on the research project.

Kindly note that, as an applicant who has been licensed under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 to conduct research in Kenya, you shall deposit **a copy** of the final research report to the Commission within **one year** of completion. The soft copy of the same should be submitted through the Online Research Information System.


GODFREY P. KALERWA MSc., MBA, MKIM
FOR: DIRECTOR-GENERAL/CEO

Copy to:

The County Commissioner
Nyamira County.


The County Director of Education
Nyamira County.

National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation is ISO9001:2008 Certified

Appendix VIII: NACOSTI Research Permit

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:
MR. JOROMS OGETO ATEMBA
of MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY,
190-50100 Kakamega, has been
permitted to conduct research in
Nyamira County
on the topic: THE INFLUENCE OF
ETHNIC CONFLICTS ON
SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF
BORDER COMMUNITIES; A CASE OF
ABAGUSII AND KIPSIGIS
for the period ending:
26th October, 2019

Permit No : NACOSTI/P/18/39541/25989
Date Of Issue : 26th October, 2018
Fee Recieved :Ksh 1000



Applicant's Signature
[Handwritten Signature]

Director General
[Handwritten Signature]
National Commission for Science, Technology & Innovation

Appendix IX: Nyamira County Research Authorization Letter

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE PRESIDENCY

Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government

Telephone: 020-2012491
Fax: 058-6144446
Email: cc.nyamira@interior.go.ke
ccnyamira2012@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONER
NYAMIRA COUNTY
P.O. BOX 2 - 40500
NYAMIRA

When replying please quote our

REF: NYRC/ED.2/VOL.II/150 DATE: 7th November, 2018

All Deputy County Commissioners
NYAMIRA COUNTY

RE: JOROMS OGETO ATEMBA – MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY
RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION

Reference is made to letter Ref. No. NACOSTI/P/18/39541/25989 dated 26th October, 2018 from the Director General/CEO, National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, Nairobi authorizing *Joroms Ogeto Atemba* to carry out research on "*The influence of ethnic conflicts on socio-economic development of border communities, a case of Abagusii and Kipsigis* in Nyamira County".

This is to inform you that the planned research will be conducted in Nyamira County, upto 26th October, 2019.

Kindly accord him the necessary assistance.

GRACE L. NGINDA
FOR: COUNTY COMMISSIONER
NYAMIRA

Copy to:

National Commission for Science, Technology
& Innovation,
P.O. Box 30623
NAIROBI

County Director of Education
P.O Box 4
NYAMIRA

ETHNIC CONFLICTS
INFLUENCING SOCIO-
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF
BORDER COMMUNITIES, A CASE
OF ABAGUSII AND KIPSIGIS IN
BORABU AND BOMET CENTRAL
SUB-COUNTIES, KENYA

by Joroms Atemba

Submission date: 21-Aug-2022 09:41AM (UTC+0300)

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ETHNIC CONFLICTS INFLUENCING SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF BORDER COMMUNITIES, A CASE OF ABAGUSII AND KIPSIGIS IN BORABU AND BOMET CENTRAL SUB-COUNTIES, KENYA

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