

**INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS ON  
IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC POLICY IN KENYA: A CASE OF MERU  
COUNTY**

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## DECLARATION AND APPROVAL

### Declaration by Student

This is my original proposal for the research and has not been submitted to any other university for academic award.

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This work has been submitted with my approval as the university supervisor

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## DEDICATION

I dedicate this to my loving wife Purity, daughter Claire for their support and patience.

Grateful to family, friends for encouragement throughout this journey.



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I am grateful to my supervisor, Dr Kennedy Nyariki for his guidance and support during the entire period of my proposal work. Your advice, constructive criticism was valuable and led to a successful completion of this proposal. It is a privilege to learn from you. I also wish to acknowledge my lecturers and the supportive team from the university who have contributed and assisted me to achieve this milestone; May God bless you. I thank the Almighty God for being my inspiration throughout this journey.



## ABSTRACT

Effective implementation of public policies remains a significant challenge, particularly in developing countries like Kenya, where socioeconomic determinants can profoundly influence policy outcomes. Meru County, being one of the counties in Kenya, is no exception. The purpose of this study is to investigate the influence of socioeconomic determinants on the successful implementation of public policies in Meru County, Kenya. The study will be guided by the following objectives: to assess the influence of resource allocation on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya, to investigate the influence of public participation on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya, to evaluate the influence of stakeholders' literacy on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya, and to evaluate the influence of community income levels on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya. The study is grounded in the resource dependence theory and the resource-based view theory, providing a theoretical foundation for understanding the study variables: The resource availability, capability, and policy implementation. The study is delimited within Meru County, covering the 45 wards forming Meru County. The study employs a descriptive cross-sectional survey design using a mixed-mode approach, combining qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, with data collected using self-administered open-ended questionnaires and key informant interview guides. The study will target members of the county assembly and ward administrators as key respondents, while county executives and assembly heads will be targeted as key informants. The total target population will be 102 respondents. A pilot study will be carried out in the neighboring county of Tharaka Nithi, targeting 10% of the sample population. Data will be analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. Finally, the study is designed to observe the highest level of integrity and observe ethical issues throughout the process. The study's findings confirm that resource allocation remains a significant challenge in Meru County, consistent with the broader literature that underscores the critical importance of adequate and effectively distributed resources for successful policy implementation. While stakeholders in Meru County have some access to necessary information (mean score of 3.3168), their social capital, knowledge, attitudes, and interpretive skills are notably insufficient, with mean scores of 2.3861, 2.0693, and 2.3267, respectively. The study concluded that inadequate resource allocation significantly impedes the effective implementation of public policies in Meru County. The insufficient financial and human resources, coupled with ineffective mechanisms for mobilizing and distributing resources, hindered the execution of policy initiatives. To improve policy implementation, there is a critical need for better allocation of financial and human resources and more efficient resource mobilization strategies. The study recommended that Meru County should develop and implement a comprehensive resource allocation framework. This framework should aim to ensure an equitable distribution of both financial and human resources across various policy initiatives. It should also focus on enhancing the effectiveness of resource mobilization strategies to improve overall policy implementation efficiency.



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

<b>ACF</b>	:	Advocacy Coalition Framework
<b>CDF</b>	:	Constituency Development Fund
<b>CEC</b>	:	County Executive Committee
<b>ERS</b>	:	Economic Recovery Strategy
<b>IMF</b>	:	International Monetary Fund
<b>MCA</b> s	:	Members of the County Assembly
<b>NACOSTI</b>	:	National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation
<b>NGO</b>	:	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>PWD</b>	:	People with Disability
<b>RBV</b>	:	Resource-Based View
<b>RDT</b>	:	Resource Dependence Theory
<b>SPSS</b>	:	Statistical Package for Social Sciences

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background to the study

Every policy seeks to address a public issue that has been recognized as such on the agenda of the government. They thus reflect how the political-administrative apparatus has responded to a social reality that is seen as politically unacceptable. Policies cover a range of administrative actions taken by the government, including laws, rules, decrees, and directives. They have specific functions. A more accurate definition of public policy is an ongoing series of actions done to solve social issues through the policy-making process (Yalmanov 2020). There are many various kinds of policies that legislators create. Certain policies provide a good or service to all others aim to promote equality and allocate resources to particular groups while some want to create executive agencies and regulate behavior.

The difficulties involved in developing and putting into practice policies have frequently been underestimated in existing policy research. Many of these difficulties are a result of the inherent complexity of formulating policies in situations of extreme uncertainty. Problems can also occur when policy receivers disregard official orders or when policymakers behave irresponsibly. Policies become more volatile due to a combination of non-compliance risks, malicious activities, and uncertainties, which raises the possibility of failure (Howlett and Leong 2022). Amidst the age of technological progress, the process of formulating, adopting, and implementing policies has encountered challenges stemming from adverse social, political, economic, and legal determinants, hindering the advancement of public policy.

Public policies are crucial instruments employed by governments worldwide to address societal issues and promote the well-being of citizens. These policies reflect the political-

administrative apparatus's response to social realities deemed politically unacceptable (Weible & Sabatier, 2018). Governments, by their very nature, are established to provide services to the public, not necessarily with the motivation for profits or earned revenues. If the government does make profits, the same is reinvested in the form of more services for the public. To facilitate this, the government must develop policies aimed at guiding and streamlining this process. These policies are created and approved by the people with the support of government entities and instruments. Public administration research is increasingly examining and depicting government service delivery through the perspective of service models or, in other words, business models (Bel et al., 2014; Wirtz et al., 2021). Service models portray how a government task is carried out from the standpoint of the administration providing the service. They differentiate between three aspects: the value proposition offered with a service, the way public value is generated, and the method through which the service is sustainably financed. This comprehensive approach offers the advantage of enabling the analysis and innovation of an entire service delivery system (Schedler and Guenduez, 2023).

Globally, policies are put in place to promote sustainable development across economic, social, and environmental aspects. These policies either align with or provide guidance for country-specific policies to ensure they are in line with international goals and commitments. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, established by the United Nations, provides a comprehensive framework for global policies aimed at addressing critical issues such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and environmental degradation (United Nations, 2015). This has led to the advancement of global policies concerning climate change and economic development. The modern environmental situation involves a complex set of linked challenges, including pollution, the widespread use of plastic, overfishing, depletion of natural resources, loss of biodiversity, and

climate change. A joint workshop held in 2021 by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services emphasized the strong connection between conserving biodiversity and developing strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change (Pörtner et al., 2021). Furthermore, other academic studies (e.g., Ojija and Nicholas, 2023), global initiatives (e.g., BlueGreen Governance), and major international organizations like the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) – Climate, Biodiversity and Water Division of the Environment Directorate, have explored more complex interconnections, such as those between biodiversity, climate, and water resources, which have significant effects on both the northern and southern regions of the world.

Policy implementation in Africa continues to face significant challenges, hampering sustainable development efforts. Nanjakululu (2016) highlights issues such as political expediency and egoism, where policies are often abandoned or rebranded due to changes in leadership, hindering continuity. The absence of robust "executionary" frameworks and structures for policy implementation exacerbates the problem, as policies lack enforcement mechanisms. Overcoming these challenges requires a shift in focus towards participatory governance, robust monitoring and evaluation systems, and establishing strong implementation structures to bridge the gap between policy formulation and effective execution on the ground (Nanjakululu, 2016).

Research has shown that policy implementation in Africa often fails due to a lack of evidence-based approach in policy development and poor coordination during implementation. In South Africa, the interplay between evidence-supporting policies and the political environment has fostered an increased utilization of evidence, resulting in more successful policy implementation. This illustrates how broader contexts influence

a country's EIDM system and hold the potential to influence the overall system, carrying significant policy implications. The regular incorporation of evidence into decision-making necessitates the establishment of new norms across policy and evidence systems, involving a range of stakeholders, organizations, and institutions. Lessons from various experiences, especially in LMICs, can help establish the use of evidence in policymaking. This case study highlights the need for progress in both evidence-generation and utilization systems to effectively implement evidence-informed policies.

The failure of development programs in developing nations due to inadequate implementation of government support policies is increasingly recognized (Hudson et al., 2019). Research indicates that East African countries, particularly Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania, exhibit higher policy implementation performance compared to other developing countries. Among these nations, Kenya performs the best, followed by Uganda and Tanzania. Despite having solid policies and programs, Uganda faces notable implementation issues, highlighting the need for concerted efforts to address obstacles in policy implementation, especially in developing regions like sub-Saharan Africa.

Kenya, like many other African nations, has grappled with the challenges of implementing public policies effectively. Despite the country's efforts to develop and enact policies aimed at addressing issues such as poverty alleviation, healthcare, education, and economic development, the implementation process has been hampered by various social, economic, and political determinants (Mungai & Katuli, 2018; Owiti, 2014). Public participation and stakeholder engagement have also been identified as crucial determinants influencing policy implementation in Kenya. Low levels of public awareness, limited stakeholder involvement in the policy-making process, and inadequate communication channels have contributed to a lack of ownership and buy-in from the intended beneficiaries (Owiti, 2014; Oloo, 2019). One of the significant

challenges in Kenya has been the allocation of adequate resources for policy implementation. Limited financial resources, coupled with inefficient resource management, have often led to the underfunding of critical policy initiatives, hindering their successful execution (Brynard, 2005; Odhiambo-Mbai, 2003).

### **1.1.1 Social – Economic Determinants**

Socioeconomic status (SES) is a way of measuring a person's overall place and respect in society. It is studied a lot in social science. SES looks at things like education, job prestige, and household income (Yousif, Alrayah, & Ahmed, 2023). Social-economic determinants refer to a range of interconnected elements from the social and economic domains, which affect various aspects of people and societies. These determinants include employment opportunities, economic growth, poverty levels, inflation, resource distribution, infrastructure development, education, occupation, income, healthcare, cultural norms, and social inequality. Research from around the world has explored how various determinants influence community interactions with projects, programs, policies, and development strategies. Key factors such as age, gender, income, occupation, education, duration of residence, cultural diversity, religion, traditions, access to urban centers, and migration patterns shape how communities engage with and benefit from these initiatives (Jaman, Saha, & Ghosh, 2021). This study focuses on assessing socio-economic determinants by examining several critical aspects.

Community literacy, which includes access to information, social capital, and knowledge, plays a crucial role in shaping community participation and engagement. Access to information affects how well individuals understand and interact with policies and programs, while social capital—the networks and relationships within a community—facilitates collective action and cooperation. Knowledge about various issues, including environmental conservation and health, further influences community

involvement and effectiveness. Infrastructure within a community also significantly impacts development outcomes. Evaluating infrastructure involves assessing the availability of essential resources like clean water, quality roads, and social facilities such as schools and healthcare centers. These factors are vital for improving the quality of life and supporting community development. Household income levels are another critical determinant. Employment status and financial mobilization capacities directly affect a community's ability to participate in and support development projects. The stability and availability of financial resources influence the sustainability and effectiveness of these initiatives. Traditional practices offer valuable insights into community resilience and sustainability. Traditional ecological knowledge provides an understanding of local ecosystems and resource management methods, which can enhance conservation efforts. Traditional land tenure systems and adherence to social norms also play a role in shaping community behaviors and acceptance of development strategies. By examining community literacy, infrastructure, income levels, and traditional practices, this study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of how socio-economic determinants impact community-based conservation efforts. This approach helps in designing more effective and sustainable development interventions.

### **1.1.2 Implementation of public policy**

Policy implementation is crucial for effective service delivery. Proper implementation ensures improved service delivery in both the private and public sectors. The implementation process also determines how much the policy enhances service delivery (Safari and Mbirithi 2022). Implementation of public policy refers to the process of translating a government's stated intentions and objectives, as outlined in policy documents, into tangible actions and outcomes (Howlett et al., 2020). Public policy serves as a roadmap for action, encompassing a broader framework to put into practice a

philosophy, principle, vision, decision, mandate, and so on. These concepts are then translated into a variety of programs, projects, and actions designed to address specific issues and achieve particular goals. A policy serves as a guiding framework that outlines the overarching objectives and actions necessary to navigate future challenges. It delineates the methods, strategies, and resources required to accomplish these goals and provides a structured approach for governmental intervention (Khan, 2016). By setting clear priorities and directing resources, a policy helps ensure that efforts are aligned with intended outcomes and effectively address societal needs. Public policy, as defined by Anderson (2014), represents a deliberate and systematic plan of action formulated by individuals or groups to address a particular problem or issue. It is a response to recognized needs or challenges, aiming to create solutions through coordinated efforts. This plan is not just a set of ideas but a strategic approach that involves making informed choices and implementing specific actions to achieve desired outcomes. Stewart, Hedge, and Lester (2018) describe public policy as a series of government actions or decisions that are arranged to tackle social issues. These actions are often interconnected and are designed to address multiple aspects of a problem. Public policy involves creating and enforcing regulations, allocating resources, and coordinating with various stakeholders to implement effective solutions. The process includes setting goals, devising strategies, and evaluating outcomes to ensure that the policy effectively addresses the issue at hand. The execution of public policy is critically important, as it translates theoretical plans into practical, real-world actions. Effective implementation requires not only developing clear and actionable policies but also ensuring that they are executed in a way that achieves the desired impact. This involves mobilizing resources, engaging stakeholders, and monitoring progress to make necessary adjustments. The successful implementation of public policy can lead to significant improvements in social welfare, economic

development, and overall community well-being, underscoring its importance in addressing complex societal challenges.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Like many poor countries, Kenya faces particular difficulties in successfully putting public policies into practice. The socioeconomic circumstances that exist in particular places have a significant impact on how well policies are implemented. Kenya's recent political, economic, and social changes have brought about a number of new and modified policies targeted at resolving a wide range of problems, from healthcare and education to poverty reduction and economic development. Nonetheless, how well these policies adapt to and mesh with the socioeconomic dynamics at the county level frequently determines how successful they are.

Effective implementation of public policies in Kenya has been hindered by various social and economic determinants. Despite the government's efforts to address socio-economic challenges through policy interventions, the successful execution of these policies has been impeded by several obstacles. One significant factor is the prevalent poverty levels in the country. According to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), approximately 36.1% of Kenyans lived below the national poverty line in 2015/16 (KNBS, 2018). Poverty hinders access to essential services, such as education and healthcare, which are crucial for human capital development and effective policy implementation (Omiti & Nair, 2006). Another critical factor is the high rate of income inequality in Kenya. The country has a Gini coefficient of 0.49, which indicates a significant disparity in wealth distribution (World Bank, 2021). Income inequality exacerbates social tensions and undermines the government's ability to implement policies aimed at promoting inclusive growth and development (Kiringai, 2006). Low

levels of literacy and education attainment pose significant challenges to policy implementation. Low literacy levels impede the dissemination of information and public awareness, which are essential for effective policy implementation (Muyanga et al., 2008). Meru County, located in Kenya, exhibits relatively lower poverty rates compared to the national average. According to the 2015/16 Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey, Meru's poverty rate stands at 22.3%, notably lower than the national rate of 36.1% (KNBS, 2018). Despite this, significant regional disparities persist within the county, with some sub-counties experiencing higher levels of poverty.

Infrastructural challenges remain a major concern in Meru County, particularly regarding road networks, water supply, and electricity connectivity, especially in remote rural areas. These infrastructural inadequacies can impede the effective implementation of development policies and programs, making it difficult to achieve desired outcomes (County Government of Meru, 2018). Agriculture is the cornerstone of Meru's economy, with over 70% of the population reliant on this sector for their livelihoods (County Government of Meru, 2018). However, several factors affect agricultural productivity, including climate change, limited access to modern farming techniques, and inadequate storage facilities. These challenges pose significant hurdles to food security policies and overall agricultural development. Given these conditions, this study aims to investigate how social-economic determinants impact the successful implementation of public policy in Meru County. The county's unique mix of urban and rural settings reflects Kenya's broader socioeconomic diversity, making it an ideal case for examining these dynamics. The primary research question is: To what extent do social-economic factors influence the successful implementation of public policy in Meru County? This study seeks to provide insights into how various social and economic factors affect policy

execution and to identify potential areas for improvement in achieving effective policy outcomes.

### **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

The primary objective of this research study is to analyze and understand the impact of various socio-economic determinants such as income levels, education, and employment status on the effective implementation of public policies in Meru County.

### **1.4 Specific Objectives**

This study will be guided by the following objectives:

- i. To assess the influence of resource allocation on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya
- ii. To investigate the influence of public participation on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya
- iii. To evaluate the influence of stakeholder's literacy on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya
- iv. To evaluate the influence of community income levels on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya

### **1.5 Research questions**

- i. To what extent does resource allocation influence the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya?
- ii. What is the influence of public participation on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya?
- iii. How does stakeholder's literacy influence the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya?

- iv. What is the influence of community income levels on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya?

### **1.6 Significance of the study**

This study examines the social and economic determinants that influence the implementation of public policies in Meru County, Kenya. The findings are significant as they can inform the development of more targeted and effective public policies that address the unique socio-economic dynamics of the region. Additionally, the study can guide the allocation of resources and prioritization of interventions, ensuring that limited funds are directed towards addressing the most pressing barriers to successful policy implementation.

Practically, the study's findings are valuable for government agencies, NGOs, and development partners as they can use them to adapt their programs and strategies to the local context, enhance community engagement, and foster stakeholder collaboration. This is crucial for effective policy execution.

Methodologically, the study contributes to the refinement of research approaches for investigating the interplay between social, economic, and policy implementation determinants in specific regional settings. By employing a mixed-methods approach, it demonstrates the value of combining quantitative and qualitative techniques to capture the multidimensional nature of policy implementation challenges. Additionally, the study can inform the development of contextualized research instruments and data collection techniques tailored to the socio-economic and cultural dynamics of Meru County. This can serve as a reference for future research in similar contexts, promoting the replication and validation of findings across different regions.

### **1.7 Scope of the study**

The scope of this study is limited to investigating the influence of socioeconomic determinants on the implementation of public policies within Meru County, Kenya. Specifically, the study aims to assess the role of resource allocation, public participation, stakeholder literacy, and community income levels in shaping policy implementation processes. The geographical scope of the study is confined to Meru County, which comprises 45 wards within the county's boundaries. The period scope covers the current administration's term, from the year 2022 to the present day (2024), allowing for an examination of policy implementation dynamics during this timeframe. Additionally, the study's time scope and timeline will specifically focus on the period between May and July 2024.

### **1.8 Study limitations**

While this study aims to contribute valuable insights into the influence of social economic determinants on public policy implementation in Meru County, it is important to acknowledge certain limitations that do not undermine the overall necessity or significance of the research. Firstly, as the study is confined to Meru County, the findings may have limited generalizability to other counties or regions within Kenya that possess distinct socio-economic characteristics such as Arid and semi-arid lands. The researcher will make use of secondary data in order to triangulate the findings so as to make sure that they can be generalized. Additionally, the cross-sectional nature of the study's design, collecting data at a single point in time, may not fully capture the dynamic and evolving nature of policy implementation processes over an extended period. The reliance on self-reported data from various stakeholders introduces the potential for subjectivity, personal perceptions, and response biases, which could affect the accuracy

of the findings. Resource constraints, such as limited time, finances, and personnel, may restrict the study's ability to conduct a more comprehensive investigation across the selected sub-counties or employ resource-intensive data collection methods. Finally, while the study considers four specific socio-economic determinants, there may be other relevant determinants not included that could also influence policy implementation in Meru County.

### **1.9 Delimitations**

The scope of this study is delimited in several ways to ensure a focused and manageable research endeavor. Geographically, the investigation is confined to Meru County, Kenya, excluding other counties or regions within the country. Contextually, the study's attention is directed solely towards examining the influence of social economic determinants on public policy implementation, disregarding other potential determinants such as political dynamics, legal frameworks, or administrative structures. Theoretically, the research is grounded within the resource dependence theory and the resource-based view theory, delimiting the theoretical lenses employed for analysis and interpretation. The study's participant is delimited to specific groups, including members of the public, county assembly representatives, government administrators, project managers, and civil society organization leaders from three sub-counties in Meru County, excluding other potential stakeholders. The variables under consideration are also delimited, with the study focusing on four specific socio-economic determinants including resource allocation, public participation, stakeholder literacy, and community income levels, while omitting other potential determinants. Methodologically, the research employs a mixed-methods approach utilizing a descriptive cross-sectional survey design that combines quantitative and qualitative data collection techniques.

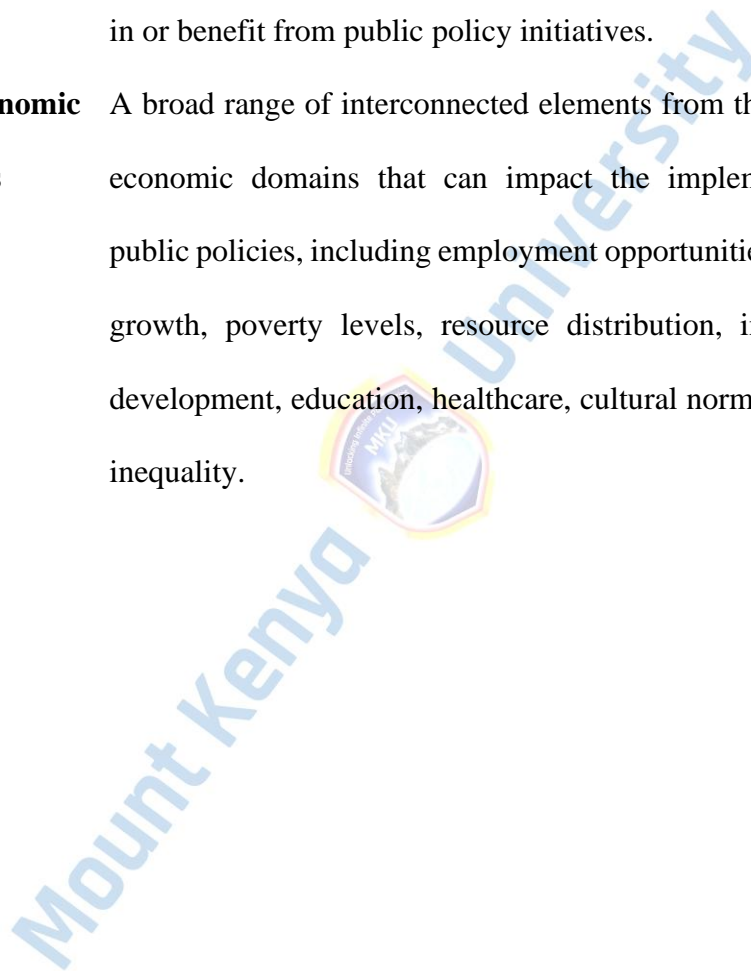
### 1.10 Assumptions of the study

The research proposal makes several implicit assumptions that underpin the study's design and objectives. Firstly, it assumes that the resource dependence theory and resource-based view theory provide appropriate theoretical lenses for examining the interplay between socio-economic determinants and policy implementation in Meru County. Additionally, the study assumes that the selected socio-economic determinants, namely resource allocation, public participation, stakeholder literacy, and community income levels, are indeed the most significant determinants of policy implementation success in the local context. Another assumption is that the target population can offer reliable and accurate information into the influence of these socio-economic determinants. The study also assumes that the selected sub-counties in Meru County are representative of the broader socio-economic dynamics within the county, allowing for generalization of findings. The researchers assume that participants will respond honestly and without bias to the survey instruments and interview questions, and that the data collection process will not be significantly disrupted by external determinants such as political instability or natural disasters.

### 1.11 Operational definition of key terms

<b>Public Policy Implementation</b>	The process of putting into action and executing a government's stated intentions, plans, and objectives as outlined in policy documents, through specific programs, projects, and actions.
<b>Public Participation</b>	The active involvement and engagement of citizens, communities, and stakeholders in the decision-making processes, implementation, and monitoring of public policies that affect them.

<b>Stakeholder Literacy</b>	The level of knowledge, awareness, and understanding among stakeholders regarding the objectives, rationale, and implications of specific public policies.
<b>Community Income Levels</b>	The collective earnings or financial resources available to households or individuals within a particular geographic area or community, which can influence their ability to participate in or benefit from public policy initiatives.
<b>Social Economic Determinants</b>	A broad range of interconnected elements from the social and economic domains that can impact the implementation of public policies, including employment opportunities, economic growth, poverty levels, resource distribution, infrastructure development, education, healthcare, cultural norms, and social inequality.



## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Introduction

This section contains the literature review. The process of literature review involves examining educational resources such as books, journals, electronic libraries, national policy papers, previous research investigations, and other scholarly works. This chapter will additionally focus on conceptualization so as to identify the nature, subject, aim, and broad content of the research challenge.

#### 2.2 Theoretical Framework

This study will make use of two theories: resource dependency theory and resource-based view theory.

##### 2.2.1 Resource Dependence Theory

Pfeffer and Salancik introduced the Resource Dependence Theory (RDT) in 1978. According to the theory, businesses that rely on outside resources like suppliers or customers are more likely to adopt cutting-edge technology, like policy systems, to manage those resources. According to RDT, organizations that rely heavily on their environment for resources are more apt to adopt new technology to efficiently manage their resources. Resource Dependence Theory contends that organizations that rely heavily on outside resources are more likely to implement policy systems to manage those resources in the context of public policy. The theory, according to some critics, places groups in a passive position and implies that they are merely recipients of outside assistance. This fails to consider the reality that businesses can actively look for new technologies while managing their resources. This theory is relevant to this study in that it explains how organizations can plan themselves resource wise by acquiring adequate

internal or external resources to ensure a smooth implementation of public policy in the organization.

### **2.2.2 Resource Based View (RBV)**

The Resource-Based View (RBV) theory was initially introduced by Jay Barney in 1991. It is a strategic management concept that posits an organization's success is contingent upon its distinctive and valuable resources and capabilities. According to the Resource-Based View (RBV), an organization's resources and capabilities, including technical expertise and IT infrastructure, play a critical role in shaping its competitive advantage. According to RBV, businesses are more likely to embrace new technologies, like policy systems, to strengthen their competitive edge if they have more technical savvy resources and great IT Infrastructure to support public policy implementation.

This theory of RBV also suggests that the effective deployment of these resources and capabilities is crucial for organisational success. The Resource-Based View (RBV) has been instrumental in explaining how an organization's internal resources and capabilities—such as its resource capacity, IT infrastructure, and technical expertise—affect its ability to adopt and implement public policies. By focusing on these internal factors, RBV provides valuable insights into how an organization can leverage its strengths to enhance policy execution and overall effectiveness.

RBV has faced criticism for its limited scope, particularly its failure to adequately account for external variables like institutional norms and expectations. These external factors can also significantly influence how public policies are implemented. Institutional norms, which include the unwritten rules and expectations within a community or sector, can shape the adoption process and impact the success of policy initiatives. For instance, societal attitudes, regulatory environments, and cultural practices often play a crucial role in determining whether and how policies are accepted and executed. In the context of

public policy implementation, incorporating both internal resource capabilities and external institutional factors offers a more comprehensive approach. While RBV focuses on optimizing internal resources to support policy goals, understanding external influences ensures that policies are aligned with the broader institutional and social context. By integrating these perspectives, organizations can improve their strategies for policy adoption and enhance their chances of successful implementation.

### **2.3 Empirical Review**

The implementation of public policies is influenced by various social and economic determinants, which can either facilitate or hinder the successful execution of these policies. Social determinants, such as cultural norms, values, and beliefs, can shape the acceptance and adoption of policies by the target population (Howlett et al., 2020). For instance, policies that align with prevailing social norms and values are more likely to be embraced, while those that contradict deeply-rooted beliefs may face resistance (Sabatier & Weible, 2014). Economic determinants, such as the availability of resources, funding, and economic conditions, play a crucial role in the implementation of public policies. Policies that require substantial financial resources or funding may face challenges in implementation, particularly in resource-constrained environments (Knill & Tosun, 2020). Additionally, economic determinants like income inequality, poverty, and unemployment can impact the effectiveness of policies aimed at addressing social issues (Copeland & Wexler, 1995). Matland (1995) proposed a theoretical framework for understanding public policy implementation that focuses on the interplay between conflict and ambiguity. According to Matland, the success of policy implementation can vary significantly depending on the degree of conflict and ambiguity associated with the policy. Conflict refers to disagreements among stakeholders about policy goals or methods, while ambiguity pertains to the clarity of the policy's objectives and procedures.

Matland's framework suggests that social and economic determinants can influence the implementation process differently based on these dimensions. For example, in high-conflict situations where stakeholders have divergent interests, effective implementation may require negotiation and compromise. Conversely, in high-ambiguity scenarios where policies lack clear guidelines, successful implementation might depend on the flexibility and adaptability of the implementing organizations. Building on this, Sabatier and Weible (2014) introduced the Advocacy Coalition Framework (ACF), which offers another perspective on how social and economic determinants shape public policy. The ACF emphasizes the role of advocacy coalitions groups of individuals and organizations with shared beliefs and interests in influencing policy development and implementation. According to the ACF, these coalitions work to advance their policy agendas by leveraging their collective resources, expertise, and networks. Social and economic determinants, such as economic interests, cultural values, and social networks, play a crucial role in forming and sustaining these coalitions. The dynamics within and between coalitions, as well as their ability to influence policymakers, are key factors in determining how effectively policies are implemented.

Both Matland's framework and the ACF highlight the importance of understanding the broader social and economic context in which policies are developed and implemented. While Matland focuses on the internal challenges of conflict and ambiguity, the ACF provides insights into how external factors and coalition dynamics impact policy processes. Integrating these perspectives allows for a more nuanced understanding of the complex factors influencing public policy implementation and underscores the need to consider both internal and external determinants in policy analysis and practice.

Social determinants, such as cultural norms, values, and beliefs, play a crucial role in the implementation of public policies. A study by Ting and Byrnes (2021) examined the impact of cultural values on the implementation of environmental policies in China. The researchers found that the traditional values of harmony and respect for authority facilitated the implementation of these policies, while the value of individualism hindered their implementation. Similarly, Kalu and Remilekun (2019) investigated the influence of social norms on the implementation of maternal and child health policies in Nigeria. Their findings revealed that social norms, such as gender roles and beliefs about childbirth, significantly affected the uptake of these policies. In addition to cultural determinants, public attitudes and perceptions also influence policy implementation. A study by Yañez-Arancibia and Dávila (2018) examined the impact of public perceptions on the implementation of coastal management policies in Mexico. The researchers found that negative public perceptions of these policies, stemming from a lack of trust in government agencies and concerns about economic impacts, hindered their implementation.

Economic determinants, such as resource availability, economic incentives, and market conditions, also play a crucial role in the implementation of public policies. A study by Ngo et al. (2022) investigated the impact of economic incentives on the implementation of energy efficiency policies in Vietnam. The researchers found that economic incentives, such as subsidies and tax credits, were effective in promoting the adoption of energy-efficient technologies and practices. Furthermore, the availability of resources, such as funding, infrastructure, and human capital, can significantly affect policy implementation. A study by Alhamad and Dhumal (2020) examined the implementation of e-government policies in developing countries. The researchers found that limited financial resources, inadequate infrastructure, and a lack of skilled personnel hindered

the implementation of these policies. In addition to resource availability, market conditions also influence policy implementation. A study by Zhao et al. (2020) investigated the impact of market conditions on the implementation of renewable energy policies in China. The researchers found that market determinants, such as energy prices and technology costs, affected the adoption of renewable energy technologies and the effectiveness of related policies.

### **2.3.1 Resource Allocation on the Implementation of Public Policy**

Resource allocation and implementation are critical aspects of public policy that directly impact the effectiveness and success of policy initiatives (Mobinizadeh & Fakoofard, 2021). This literature review aims to examine the existing research on resource allocation and implementation in the context of public policy. Resource Allocation in Public Policy Resource allocation in public policy refers to the process of distributing limited resources, such as funding, personnel, and materials, among competing policy initiatives to maximize their impact and achieve desired outcomes. One of the key challenges in resource allocation is ensuring equitable distribution and efficient utilization of resources (Mubarok et al., 2020). Several studies have explored various dimensions of resource allocation in public policy.

Pressman and Wildavsky's (1984) exploration of resource allocation challenges in policy implementation is a cornerstone in understanding why many public policies fail to achieve their intended outcomes. Their book, "Implementation," delves into the intricate processes involved in translating policy decisions into actionable programs. One of their central arguments is that even well-designed policies can falter if the necessary resources are not adequately provided.

They highlight that resources are not just limited to financial inputs but also include human capital, such as skilled personnel, and material resources, such as infrastructure and technology. These elements are critical to the successful execution of policies. For example, without sufficient funding, programs may lack the necessary tools, facilities, or manpower to carry out their objectives. Similarly, if there is a shortage of skilled workers or inadequate training, the implementation process may suffer, leading to delays, inefficiencies, or even complete failure. Pressman and Wildavsky (1984) also discuss the complexities of intergovernmental relations in resource allocation. In many cases, multiple levels of government are involved in the implementation of a single policy, each with its own set of priorities and constraints. This can lead to misalignment in resource distribution, where some areas receive more attention and resources than others, creating disparities in policy outcomes. They argue that this fragmentation in resource allocation can undermine the effectiveness of public policies, as it often leads to uneven implementation and varying degrees of success across different regions.

Pressman and Wildavsky (1984) emphasize the dynamic nature of resource allocation. As policies are implemented, unforeseen challenges often arise, requiring additional resources or reallocating existing ones. If the system is inflexible or lacks the capacity to adapt to these new demands, the implementation process can be severely disrupted. This highlights the importance of not only planning for adequate resources at the outset but also ensuring there is a mechanism for ongoing assessment and adjustment of resources as needed. Their analysis extends to the political dimension of resource allocation, noting that political will and support are crucial for securing the necessary resources. Policies that lack strong political backing may struggle to obtain the funding and other resources required for successful implementation. Conversely, policies that are politically favored

may receive disproportionate resources, sometimes at the expense of other important initiatives.

Pressman and Wildavsky's (1984) work underscores that resource allocation is a critical factor in the success or failure of public policy implementation. Their insights reveal that without careful consideration and management of resources—both in quantity and quality—policies are likely to encounter significant obstacles that can compromise their effectiveness and lead to unsatisfactory outcomes. This perspective is essential for policymakers and administrators who aim to implement policies that achieve their intended goals and have a meaningful impact on society. Similarly, Meter and Horn (1975) conducted a comprehensive analysis of policy implementation across various countries, emphasizing the critical role of resources in the process. Their research underscores the necessity of having sufficient human and financial resources to effectively carry out policy initiatives. Meter and Horn argue that the lack of adequate resources can create bottlenecks and impede the progress of policy implementation, resulting in suboptimal outcomes. Khan and Khandaker (2016) focused on the implementation of education policies in developing countries, revealing that limited financial resources are a significant obstacle to effective policy execution. Their study found that inadequate funding can restrict the capacity of educational institutions to deliver quality services, implement necessary reforms, and achieve desired educational outcomes. This limitation is particularly pronounced in developing countries, where financial constraints often exacerbate existing challenges and hinder the successful implementation of educational policies.

Together, these studies highlight the critical importance of resource allocation in the implementation of public policies. They demonstrate that without sufficient resources whether financial, human, or material the effectiveness of policy implementation can be

compromised. Addressing resource limitations is essential for ensuring that policies are not only designed effectively but also executed in a manner that achieves their intended goals. Africa has not been left out and scholars like Grindle (1980) have studied resource allocation challenges in policy implementation across various sectors. Grindle highlighted the need for adequate resources, particularly in the context of limited capacity and resources in African countries. More recently, Brinkerhoff and Crosby (2002) analyzed the implementation of decentralization policies in Africa and emphasized the importance of appropriate resource allocation for effective policy implementation at the local level.

In Kenya, research has extensively explored the role of resource allocation in public policy implementation. Omolo (2011) focused on the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) policy and underscored the necessity for enhanced resource allocation mechanisms to achieve equitable distribution across different constituencies. This study highlighted how inefficient allocation can lead to disparities in resource distribution and affect the overall effectiveness of the policy.

Similarly, Oyugi (2008) and Kanyinga and Long (2012) examined the challenges associated with resource allocation in the context of devolution policies. Their research emphasized the importance of adequate and equitable resource allocation to county governments to support effective service delivery and successful policy implementation at the local level. They found that insufficient or imbalanced resource distribution could undermine the intended benefits of devolution, leading to inefficiencies and disparities in service provision. These studies collectively illustrate the critical role of effective resource allocation in ensuring that public policies are implemented successfully and that resources are distributed fairly to meet the needs of various communities. While these studies provide valuable information in regard to resource allocation, there are limitations

and their findings may not be generalizable to other settings. Additionally, some studies focus primarily on financial resources, while others neglect other critical resources like human resources, physical infrastructure, and information resources. There is a need for more comprehensive that analyze resource allocation holistically across different policy domains.

### **2.3.2 Stakeholder's Literacy on the Implementation of Public Policy**

Literacy represents an important factor for driving the holistic development of communities and the broader economy. Communities that boast higher levels of literacy among their constituents tend to experience enhanced growth and prosperity. The acquisition of proficient literacy skills unlocks avenues for expanded employment opportunities and educational attainment, thereby fostering an environment conducive to alleviating poverty (Morgan, 2016). In today's rapidly evolving and globalized economic landscape, it is imperative for community members to actively pursue the acquisition of new knowledge and skills to remain aligned with these dynamic shifts. At an individual level, a sufficient command of literacy is a prerequisite for meaningful engagement with public policy discourse within the community setting. In Canada, for instance, proficiency in the English language is critical for newcomers to facilitate social integration and coexistence (Putri-Anggini & Siti Rodliyah, 2020). Adequate literacy skills empower individuals to interpret and comprehend information pertaining to governance and public policy at the community level, a fundamental aspect of civic engagement. Literate individuals are better equipped to communicate effectively with policymakers and project managers, thereby holding them accountable for their actions (Arko & Addison, 2009).

Elevating literacy levels within a community can significantly enhance the effectiveness of public policy implementation by promoting democratic principles and fostering civic

engagement through the dissemination of information. Literacy strengthens individuals' abilities to understand and interpret policy-related information, which, in turn, boosts their political participation and supports the advancement of democratic values. According to Jones (2018), literate individuals are more likely to engage actively in civic duties, such as voting, and advocate for democratic principles and ideals. This active participation is crucial for a robust democratic process and the effective implementation of public policies.

Particularly important is the role of literacy for people with disabilities (PWDs). As highlighted by Queiruga-Dios et al. (2020), literacy can act as an equalizer, enabling PWDs to participate more equitably in community activities and policy discussions. Enhanced literacy allows PWDs to engage on the same level as their non-disabled counterparts, contributing to a more inclusive and participatory environment within the community.

The literature suggests that individuals with higher literacy levels have a better understanding of democratic institutions and are more likely to engage in governance matters at the community level. Literacy not only facilitates informed participation but also plays a critical role in reconciliation and peacebuilding efforts, especially in post-conflict scenarios. By improving literacy rates, communities can foster greater civic engagement, contribute to the development of democratic values, and support peacebuilding initiatives, thereby enhancing the overall effectiveness of public policy implementation. One of the most formidable challenges confronting community members in the realm of public policy implementation is identifying and effectively utilizing critical knowledge. Literacy has been recognized as a chief catalyst for transformation and a driving force behind community public policy initiatives. However, developing economies often grapple with the obstacle of low literacy and educational

attainment levels, which impedes progress. Consequently, actively engaging communities in public policy discourse emerges as a crucial strategy for improving literacy rates in these developing contexts. Enhancing literacy empowers individuals to actualize the community's vision and positions them as effective agents of change at the local level. Furthermore, higher levels of literacy expand opportunities for sustainable livelihoods while augmenting an individual's earning potential (Sang, Liu, Zhang, Zheng, Yao & Wang, 2018).

Hartley and Horne (2006) conducted an empirical investigation into the economic and social benefits of adult literacy in Australia using an exploratory design. Their study focused on two primary dimensions of literacy: financial literacy and health literacy, and also explored the role of social capital in conjunction with these dimensions. The findings indicated that higher levels of literacy were positively correlated with enhanced social capital and increased participation in community and social activities. This suggests that improving literacy can lead to broader societal benefits, including greater engagement and connectivity within communities. In a related study, Arko and Addison (2009) examined the relationship between functional literacy and socio-economic well-being in Ghana. Their research targeted 100 individuals participating in a functional literacy program. The study revealed that beneficiaries of the program were able to achieve basic competencies in reading, writing, and numerical calculations. This finding underscores the role of functional literacy in improving individuals' ability to perform essential tasks, thereby contributing to their overall socio-economic well-being. Both studies highlight the significant impact that literacy can have on individuals' economic opportunities and social engagement.

Mwangi and Minja's (2024) study focuses on Murang'a County, a significant contributor to Kenya's food security through its commitment to commercial farming. Enhancing

regional food production can positively impact national food security, supply, GDP, and development. The authors emphasize simplifying policy frameworks for economic independence and increased agricultural output. They highlight governments' growing awareness of translating intentions into action through effective implementation strategies to avoid policy failure. Holovatyi (2015) underscores the state's regulatory role and public-private partnerships, and stakeholder engagement in consolidating society. Successful strategies in Murang'a included promoting avocado, macadamia nuts, and cooperative creameries. The study reveals relationships between effective policy implementation, governance, public-private partnerships, stakeholder's engagement and national-county coordination.

### **2.3.3 Income Level on implementation of public policy in Kenya**

The income levels prevalent within a community play a pivotal role in determining the extent of participation in public policy initiatives. Communities with higher rates of employment are better positioned to mobilize financial resources essential for the implementation of public policy programs. Fundraising activities emerge as a crucial source of financing for such endeavors. Burlingame (1994) highlighted the increasing significance of fundraising practices in America, evidenced by a burgeoning workforce of professionals dedicated to this field. The cornerstone of fundraising efforts within project organizations is the establishment of funds, which provide donors with the opportunity to sponsor specific activities.

The income levels of intended beneficiaries are pivotal in shaping the financial sustainability of public policy initiatives. Financial sustainability is essential for the successful implementation of public policy programs, particularly because these programs frequently depend on donor funding, which can be inconsistent and unreliable. When donor support diminishes, a community's ability to maintain and advance local

initiatives hinges on its own financial resources. If a community has low financial sustainability, it faces increased vulnerability and may struggle to actively participate in public policy efforts. This lack of financial resilience can hinder the effectiveness and progress of these initiatives, underscoring the need for communities to diversify their funding sources and bolster their economic stability to support long-term policy success. As Viravaidya and Hayssen (2021) point out, even organizations supported by multiple donors may face increased vulnerabilities, especially if a large portion of their budget relies on these sources. To address these risks and improve resilience, community public policy programs should aim to secure at least 60% of their budget from diverse sources, including local contributions. This approach reduces overreliance on donor funding and helps ensure that initiatives can continue effectively even if external financial support fluctuates. Based on empirical evidence, it is clear that the income levels of beneficiaries play a significant role in funding public policy initiatives, directly impacting their financial sustainability. This conclusion is supported by a study conducted by Busienei (2017), which examined income generation strategies and their correlation with the financial sustainability of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Nairobi. The study defined financial sustainability as the organization's ability to build diverse resource bases, allowing it to continue operations even without donor support. It emphasized the importance of NGOs actively exploring strategies to improve their financial sustainability. While previous studies have consistently emphasized the crucial role of income levels in public policy implementation, most of the focus has been on contexts outside of Kenya, indicating the need for further research specific to the Kenyan context.

#### **2.3.4 Public Participation on the Implementation of Public Policy**

The role of public participation in the effective implementation of public policies has been a subject of extensive scholarly discourse. Pioneering works by scholars like

Arnstein (1969) and Innes and Booher (2004) laid the theoretical foundations, highlighting the varying degrees of citizen involvement and the importance of inclusive, deliberative processes. Rowe and Frewer (2005) conducted a comprehensive review, finding that while public participation can enhance decision-making and implementation, the effectiveness of different methods depends on the context and objectives.

The United Nations and various international organizations have strongly advocated for public participation as a cornerstone of good governance and sustainable development. The Aarhus Convention (1998) represents a landmark legal framework that institutionalized public participation in environmental decision-making across Europe and Central Asia. This convention emphasized the crucial role that public engagement plays in environmental governance, reinforcing the idea that involving citizens in policy processes is essential for transparency, accountability, and the successful implementation of policies. The Aarhus Convention's influence has contributed to a broader international consensus on the importance of public involvement in shaping policies, particularly those related to environmental sustainability.

In the African context, Akintan (2019) explored the role of public participation within the framework of decentralization and local governance. Akintan's research indicated that although decentralization policies are designed to enhance public engagement, their effectiveness is often compromised by various factors such as limited resources, inadequate capacity, and complex power dynamics. These challenges hinder the successful implementation of policies that are intended to involve the public more effectively. Similarly, Animashaun (2009) examined the implementation of environmental policies in Nigeria and found that barriers such as insufficient legal frameworks, lack of public awareness, and low levels of engagement significantly obstructed effective policy execution. Both studies underscore that while the principles

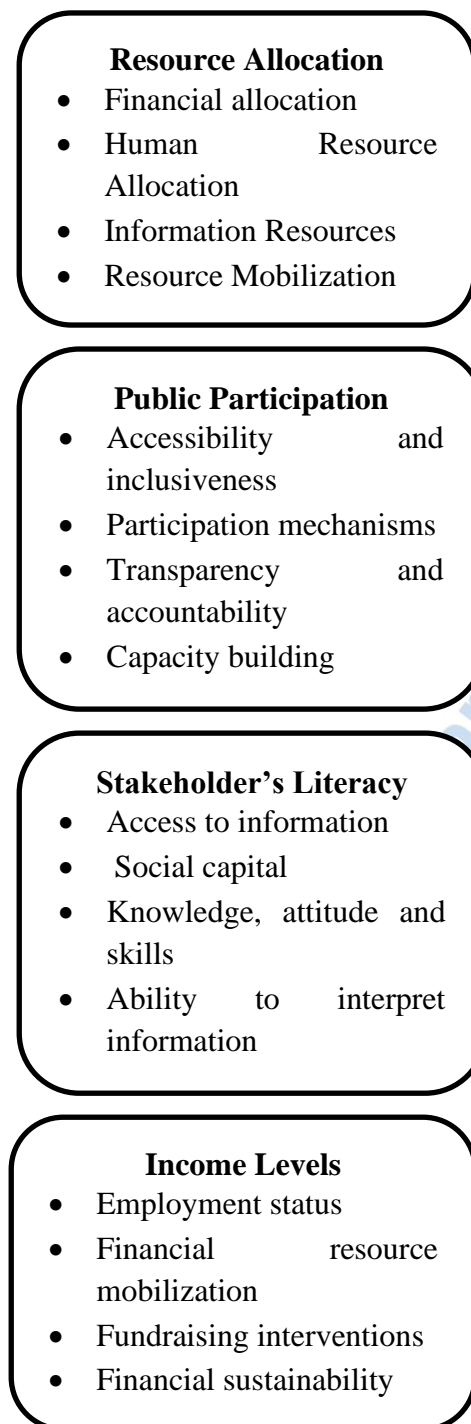
of public participation are well-recognized, their practical application often encounters significant obstacles that need to be addressed to achieve meaningful engagement and successful policy outcomes. In Kenya, the implementation of devolution policies has been a focal point for examining public participation. Oyugi (2008) and Kanyinga and Long (2012) stressed the importance of establishing effective public participation mechanisms to ensure that local needs are addressed and that there is accountability and responsiveness in service delivery and policy implementation at the county level. They argued that without genuine public involvement, the success of these policies could be compromised. In a related study, Omolo (2011) examined the implementation of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) policy in Kenya. Omolo found that although public participation was officially required, its execution was often superficial and lacked meaningful engagement with local communities, leading to gaps in the policy's effectiveness and its ability to truly reflect the needs of the people.

Mwenda and Kiendrebeogo (2021) conducted a detailed analysis of public participation in the implementation of environmental policies in Kenya, revealing significant challenges such as inadequate legal frameworks, limited resources, and capacity constraints. Their study emphasized the importance of developing more inclusive and deliberative public participation processes to effectively address these challenges. Similarly, in their research in Kilifi, Kenya, Safari and Mbirithi (2022) identified that stakeholder engagement, public participation, the robustness of the implementation framework, and a comprehensive policy evaluation plan have a positive and significant impact on service delivery. Their findings highlight the critical need for improvements in the public policy implementation process, as these enhancements are crucial for enhancing county performance and, consequently, delivering better services to the public.

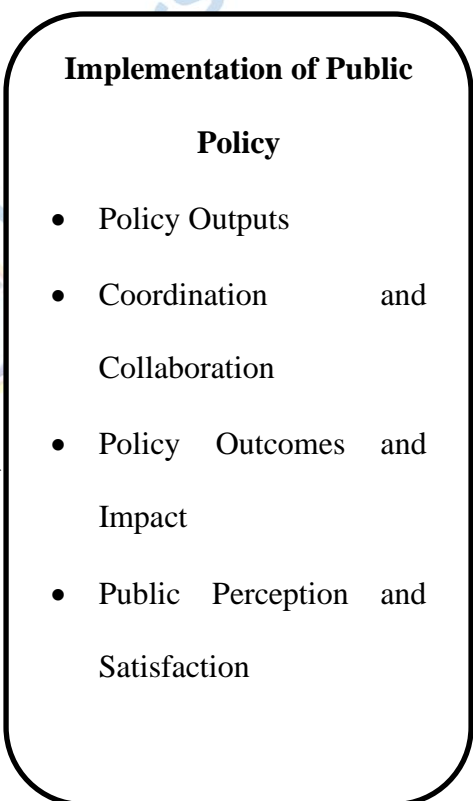
While these studies offer valuable insights into public participation and policy implementation, they also have limitations and challenges that must be acknowledged. Many of the studies are context-specific, focusing on particular regions or policy domains, which may limit their applicability to other areas or broader contexts. This specificity can reduce the generalizability of the findings and may not account for varying conditions or unique circumstances in different settings. Some of these studies rely on limited data sources or methodologies, which can affect the reliability and validity of their results. For instance, the use of small sample sizes or specific case studies might not provide a comprehensive view of the broader issue or may introduce biases that skew the findings. Power dynamics and the unequal representation of diverse stakeholder groups can significantly impact the effectiveness and inclusivity of public participation processes. When certain groups are marginalized or excluded, it can lead to incomplete or skewed outcomes, undermining the goal of equitable and meaningful engagement. Addressing these limitations and ensuring more inclusive and representative participation remains a crucial challenge for enhancing the overall effectiveness of public policy implementation.

## 2.4 Conceptual framework

### Independent Variable



### Dependent Variable



## **Figure 1: Conceptual Framework**

**Source:** Researcher (2024)

### **CHAPTER THREE**

#### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

##### **3.1 Introduction**

The chapter outlines the approach and procedures for conducting the study. It begins by describing the research design, followed by explaining the target population and the methods used to determine the sample size. The chapter then details the data collection tools and procedures that will be employed. Additionally, the data analysis procedures are outlined to facilitate an effective analysis process to address the research objectives.

##### **3.2 Research design**

This study will employ a descriptive cross-sectional survey design using a mixed-mode approach, combining qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis. Additionally, a correlational design will be incorporated to examine the relationships between variables. The descriptive cross-sectional design enables characterizing constructs through statistical measures and determining the nature of interactions between research variables. The correlational design will investigate the associations among the study variables and the implementation of public policy. This mixed-method approach, combining descriptive, correlational, and cross-sectional elements, provides a comprehensive understanding of the phenomena under study.

##### **3.3 Location of the study**

The study will be conducted in Meru County, located in the eastern part of Kenya. The county is bordered by Isiolo County to the north, Tharaka Nithi County to the south,

Nyeri County to the west, and Laikipia County to the northwest. Covering an area of approximately 7,006 square kilometers, Meru County features a diverse topography ranging from the slopes of Mount Kenya to the expansive savannah. The study will focus on the sub-counties of Imenti North, Imenti South, Imenti Central, Buuri, Tigania West, Tigania East, Igembe Central, Igembe South, and Igembe North. Each sub-county contributes uniquely to the socio-economic landscape, providing a comprehensive view of the varied challenges and opportunities in public policy implementation. This selection ensures a holistic analysis of the socio-economic determinants, capturing the nuances of urban and rural dynamics, agricultural productivity, infrastructural development, and cultural influences across the region.

### 3.4 Target Population

The research will cover all 45 wards in Meru County. This study will focus on MCAs and ward administrators as key respondents, while county executives and assembly heads will serve as key informants. Each of the 45 wards is represented by one MCA and one ward administrator, resulting in 90 primary respondents. Additionally, the study will target 10 County Executive Committee (CEC) members and 2 County Assembly speakers/clerk as key informants. Thus, the total target population for the study will be 102 individuals.

**Table 1: Target Population**

Category	Number
MCAs	45
Administrators	45
CECs	10
County Assembly speakers/clerk	2

**Source:** Meru County (2024)

### **3.5 Sampling procedures and techniques**

Orodho (2003) defines sampling as coming up with smaller proportion of the larger population target. This study will adopt the census sampling method. Hence all the respondents will be used for the analysis, making a total sample of 102 respondents. Lewis (2015) supports a census sampling method where the target population is below 200. According to him, a census provides an in-depth analysis and doesn't have sampling bias. For these reasons, this study will adopt a census approach.

### **3.6 Construction of research instruments**

The study will adopt self-administered questionnaires for the MCAs and ward administrators and key informants interview guide for the County executive committee members (CECs) and the County Assembly speakers/clerk. The data questionnaires will be developed and administered by the researcher. The tools for the collection of the data will depend on the variables and the objectives of the study. The questionnaires will be divided to two sections. One section will seek to collect respondent profile data while section two will focus on each of the research questions. The study will consider use of questionnaire for they are easy to administer, analyse and economically friendly in relation to cost and time. The study will use structured and unstructured interviews to collect data. Interviews will also be used to complement the study responses made from the questionnaires to lower answer ambiguity and enable the scholar to clarify the listed responses (Cresswell, 2013). Interview schedules enhances collection of information that forms part of the primary data.

### **3.7 Testing for validity and reliability/trustworthiness**

#### **3.7.1 Piloting**

As Mugenda & Mugenda (2009) assert, pilot testing is essential in the research process because it serves as a trial run for the procedures and instruments that the researcher plans to use. Piloting helps the researcher avoid costly mistakes by clarifying ambiguities, identifying poorly phrased items, and addressing issues such as insufficient space for responses and clustered questions. A pilot study will be conducted with 10% of the target population, represented by 10 respondents drawn from Tigania County, which neighbors Meru County. Tigania County was selected due to its similar demographic and socio-economic characteristics to Meru County, ensuring the pilot study's relevance and effectiveness.

#### **3.7.2 Validity of instrument**

Data collecting instruments must yield the type of data that can appropriately answer the questions of the researcher. Mugenda and Mugenda (2009) emphasize that data obtained must be pertinent to the research questions by maximizing reliability and validity. A valid instrument accurately measures the concept in question. By adhering to the characteristics of self-evident measures, the validity of questionnaire will be observed. These measures show the extent to which the instruments measure what they are meant to measure, which is classified as validity of face and content. The validity of instruments will be ascertained by discussing the questionnaire with the researcher supervisor and other education experts who are highly knowledgeable about the study.

#### **3.7.3 Reliability of instrument**

Reliability measures the degree of a research instrument producing constant outcomes after repetitive tests (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2009). A tool is reliable if it is able to

quantify a variable precisely and attain comparable outcomes over duration of period. Reliability refers to inside reliability of research tools; it is the capability of research tools to give comparable outcomes all the time under similar conditions.

Cronbach's Alpha, a measure of reliability, will be used to assess the reliability of the questionnaire. A test retest procedure will be used in establishing the reliability of the questionnaire. Re-administering a questionnaire to the same group of people after some time will be necessary for this experiment. Cronbach's alpha will be used to assess the reliability of the research instrument in this study. Cronbach's alpha is a measure of the correlation between the averages of measured elements. According to Zinbarg et, al. (2006), a dependability co-efficient (Alpha value) of higher than 0.7 was considered satisfactory in this investigation.

### **3.8 Data collection methods and procedures**

The study will use a questionnaire to collect primary data that allows for uniformity of responses to questions. The research instrument will be self-administered to the respondents by the researcher. The manner of questionnaire administration will be by drop and pick method whereby the respondents will be given the questionnaire. The researcher will also use emails as a form of questionnaire administration for those respondents who are in faraway centers to help fasten the process of data collection and also reduce the cost involved. The respondents will be given one week to respond to the questions after which they will be picked. The time allowed for the respondents to fill out the questionnaire will enhance the response rate. Prior to administration of the questionnaire, letter of authorization will be acquired from the University and National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). One on one interview approach will be conducted mostly to key informants. All the respondents will be assured

of their confidentiality and anonymity of information. Thereafter, consent will be sought from the participants.

### **3.9 Proposed data analysis techniques and procedures**

Descriptive analysis to examine the collected data and define the proportions and frequency of variables will be used by the researcher. The data collected will be coded and organized into manageable and understandable numerical values and errors checked. After cleaning and coding data, it will be entered into the SPSS software version 25.0 for analysis in which means and standard deviation will be generated. The researcher will establish patterns, trends and relationships in the information gathered, and draw up useful conclusion and recommendations. The researcher will use descriptive statistical measurements for the breakdown of the demographic information. Descriptive analysis will be used for analysis of opinions and other data captured during interviews. The interview data will be transcribed and analyzed by conducting semi-structured qualitative interviews; Presentation will be done through tables as per the objective, efficiency analysis (Leavy, 2017). Correlation, multiple regression analysis, using Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and model summary ( $r^2$ ) will be generated as inferential statistics to establish relationship among the study variables. The following model will be used to establish the influence of independent variables to the dependent variable:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \varepsilon$$

Where:

**Y**= Implementation of Public Policy

**X<sub>1</sub>**= Resource Allocation

**X<sub>2</sub>**= Public Participation

**X<sub>3</sub>**= Stakeholder's Literacy

$X_4$  = Community Income

$\varepsilon$  = Error term

### **3.10 Ethical considerations**

The principles of research will be adhered to before during and after the data collection exercise. The subjects will be assigned personal codes to hide their identities (Mitchell & Wellings, 2013). The researcher will keep the participant records secure by the use of passwords (Marshall & Rossman, 2016).

To start with, the situations that would risk the health of the study participants, physically or psychologically harm the study participants through embarrassing questions will be avoided. While distributing the questionnaires, all the respondents will be explained the nature, timelines and purpose of the study. Further to this, the entire respondent's consent will be sought and will not be asked to write their names. All respondents will be notified that their participation will be voluntary. The respondents will also be informed that the data collected will be purposely for the academic study and will not be shared and if need be, consent shall be sought. Finally, all the cited literature has been acknowledged and university requirement on plagiarisms policy has been adhered to. The researcher will seek introduction letter from the university for the purposes of introduction. The letter will also be used to apply for a research permit from NACOSTI. All these documents will be used to seek permission from various heads of institution where the respondents will be sampled.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the research findings and discussions on the factors influencing the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya. The analysis is structured around four key objectives: assessing the influence of resource allocation, investigating the impact of public participation, evaluating the role of stakeholders' literacy and examining the effect of community income levels on public policy implementation.

#### **4.2 Response Rate**

Out of a sample size of 102, a total of 101 respondents participated in the study, resulting in a response rate of approximately 99.02%. This high response rate indicates a strong level of engagement from the participants, providing a reliable dataset for analyzing the factors influencing the implementation of public policy in Meru County.

#### **4.3 Demographic Study**

##### **4.3.1 Gender**

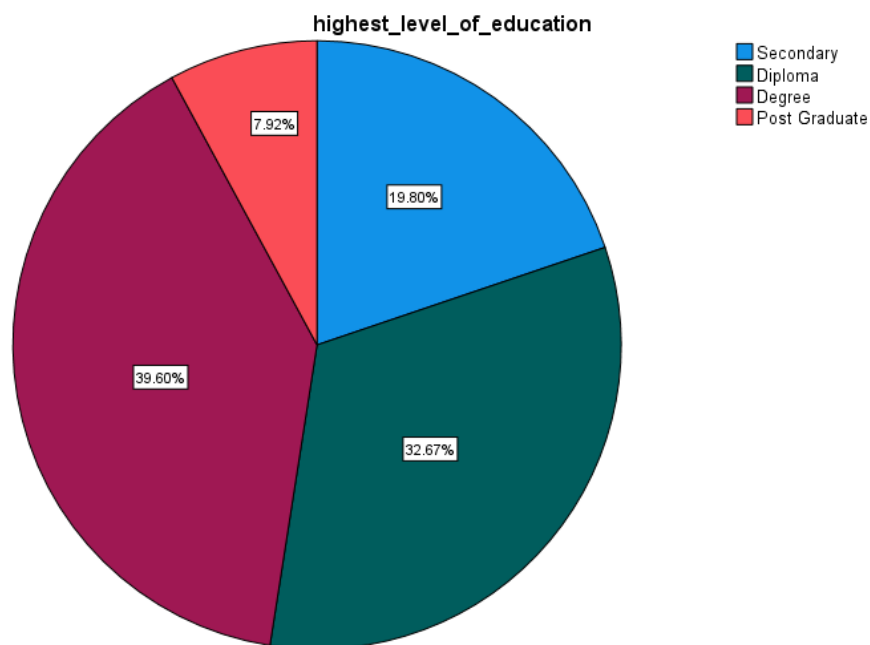
Of the respondents, 61 (60.4%) of the respondents were male, while 40 (39.6%) of the respondents were female. This distribution highlights a gender imbalance in the sample, with a greater proportion of male participants.

**Table 2: Gender**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	61	60.4	60.4	60.4
	Female	40	39.6	39.6	100.0
	Total	101	100.0	100.0	

#### 4.3.2 highest level of education

The study found out that 20 (19.8%) of the respondents had attained secondary education, 33 (32.7%) held a diploma, 40 (39.6%) had a degree, and 8 (7.9%) had completed post-graduate studies. The majority of respondents, therefore, held a degree as their highest level of education.



**Figure 2: highest level of Education**

#### 4.3.3 Number of years which you have been living in Meru County

The study found out that 61 (60.4%) of the respondents have been living in Meru County for less than 5 years, while 40 (39.6%) have resided in the county for between 5 and 10

years. This distribution indicated that a majority of the respondents are relatively recent residents of Meru County, which may influence their familiarity with local public policies and community issues.

**Table 3: Please indicate the number of years which you have been living in Meru County**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Under 5 years	61	60.4	60.4	60.4
	5 - 10 years	40	39.6	39.6	100.0
	Total	101	100.0	100.0	

#### 4.4 resource allocation

The study sought to assess the influence of resource allocation on the implementation of public policy in Meru County and identified several challenges. Respondents reported that the financial resources allocated by the county government are generally insufficient, with a mean score of 2.2970 and a standard deviation of 1.17085. There is also a perceived shortage of human resources dedicated to policy implementation, reflected in a mean score of 2.6733 and a standard deviation of 1.51069. Access to relevant information resources was rated moderately, with a mean score of 2.9406 and a standard deviation of 1.56730, indicating that while some resources are available, they may not be fully adequate. The mechanisms for mobilizing necessary resources were rated with a mean score of 2.5050 and a standard deviation of 1.26983, suggesting that while some mechanisms are in place, their effectiveness could be improved, the low mean scores and varying standard deviations across these indicators suggest that resource allocation remains a significant challenge impacting the effective implementation of public policies in Meru County.

**Table 4: Resource Allocation**

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
The county government allocates sufficient financial resources for the implementation of public policies under my jurisdiction.	101	1.00	5.00	2.2970	1.17085
My office/department has adequate human resources dedicated to the implementation of public policies.	101	1.00	5.00	2.6733	1.51069
I have access to relevant information resources necessary for effective policy implementation.	101	1.00	5.00	2.9406	1.56730
The county government has effective mechanisms in place for mobilizing resources required for policy implementation.	101	1.00	5.00	2.5050	1.26983
Valid N (listwise)	101				

#### 4.5 public participation

The study sought to investigate the influence of public participation on the implementation of public policy in Meru County and found a mixed perception among respondents. The accessibility and inclusiveness of public participation processes initiated by the county government were rated relatively high, with a mean score of 4.0693 and a standard deviation of 1.32859, indicating that these processes are generally viewed as accessible and inclusive. The effectiveness of mechanisms for facilitating public participation

received a lower mean score of 2.5842 and a standard deviation of 1.35844, suggesting that there may be limitations in how these mechanisms are implemented. Transparency and accountability in public participation processes were also rated low, with a mean score of 2.1881 and a standard deviation of 1.41218, pointing to concerns about the openness and reliability of these processes. The provision of capacity-building opportunities for stakeholders was rated with a mean score of 2.3168 and a standard deviation of 1.37063, indicating that respondents feel there are insufficient opportunities for stakeholders to effectively participate. These findings suggested that while some aspects of public participation are perceived positively, there are significant areas for improvement in terms of effectiveness, transparency, and capacity building.

**Table 5: public participation**

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
The public participation processes initiated by the county government are accessible and inclusive to all stakeholders.	101	1.00	5.00	4.0693	1.32859
The county government has put in place effective mechanisms for facilitating public participation in policy implementation	101	1.00	5.00	2.5842	1.35844
The public participation processes initiated by the county government are transparent and accountable.	101	1.00	5.00	2.1881	1.41218
The county government provides capacity building opportunities to stakeholders for effective public participation.	101	1.00	5.00	2.3168	1.37063

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Valid N (listwise)	101
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#### 4.6 stakeholder’s literacy

The study sought to evaluate the influence of stakeholders' literacy on public policy implementation in Meru County. The findings revealed that while stakeholders have some access to information necessary for engaging in policy implementation, with a mean score of 3.3168 and a standard deviation of 1.73742. The social capital of stakeholders, which includes their networks and relationships for effective participation, was rated lower, with a mean score of 2.3861 and a standard deviation of 1.35625. The stakeholders' knowledge, attitudes, and skills for effective policy participation were rated even lower, with a mean score of 2.0693 and a standard deviation of 1.38027. The ability of stakeholders to interpret and understand policy information effectively received a mean score of 2.3267 and a standard deviation of 1.49070, indicating significant challenges in comprehending and applying policy details. These results suggest that while access to information is somewhat adequate, there are substantial deficiencies in stakeholders' social capital, knowledge, and interpretive abilities, which could hinder effective public policy implementation.

**Table 6: stakeholder’s literacy**

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Stakeholders have access to information necessary for understanding and engaging in the implementation of public policies.	101	1.00	5.00	3.3168	1.73742
Stakeholders possess the social capital (networks,	101	1.00	5.00	2.3861	1.35625

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relationships) to effectively participate in the implementation of public policies.					
Stakeholders have the necessary knowledge, attitudes, and skills for effective participation in policy implementation.	101	1.00	5.00	2.0693	1.38027
Stakeholders have the ability to interpret and understand policy information effectively for implementation purposes.	101	1.00	5.00	2.3267	1.49070
Valid N (listwise)	101				

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#### 4.7 Community Income Levels

The study evaluated the influence of community income levels on the implementation of public policy in Meru County. The findings indicate that the employment status of community members is perceived to significantly influence their ability to participate in policy implementation, with a mean score of 4.1683 and a standard deviation of 1.22531. This suggests that higher employment levels positively impact community participation. The community's effectiveness in mobilizing financial resources for policy implementation was rated with a mean score of 3.7327 and a standard deviation of 1.29531, indicating that while mechanisms are somewhat effective, there is room for improvement. Fundraising interventions by the community to support policy implementation received a mean score of 3.6436 and a standard deviation of 1.53352, reflecting a moderate level of engagement in such activities. Finally, the community's achievement of financial sustainability to support policy implementation was rated with a mean score of 3.8317 and a standard deviation of 1.34959, suggesting that financial

stability is somewhat achieved but may still require further development. These results highlight that while there are positive aspects in community income levels related to policy implementation, there are areas where improvements can enhance overall effectiveness.

**Table 7: Community Income Levels**

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
The employment status of community members influences their ability to participate in the implementation of public policies.	101	1.00	5.00	4.1683	1.22531
The community has effective mechanisms in place for mobilizing financial resources required for policy implementation.	101	2.00	5.00	3.7327	1.29531
The community engages in fundraising interventions to support the implementation of public policies.	101	1.00	5.00	3.6436	1.53352
The community has achieved financial sustainability to support the implementation of public policies.	101	1.00	5.00	3.8317	1.34959
Valid N (listwise)	101				

#### 4.8 performance

The study evaluated the performance of policy implementation efforts in Meru County with several key indicators. Respondents reported that the policy implementation efforts under their jurisdiction have resulted in tangible outputs, with a mean score of 3.3861 and a standard deviation of 1.58095. This suggests a moderate perception of success in producing concrete results. Effective coordination and collaboration among stakeholders during policy implementation were rated with a mean score of 3.2970 and a standard deviation of 1.56553, indicating that while there is some level of coordination, it may not be fully effective. The achievement of desired outcomes and impact from policy implementation efforts was rated with a mean score of 3.0792 and a standard deviation of 1.71279, reflecting a lower level of perceived success in meeting goals. Public satisfaction with policy implementation efforts was slightly higher, with a mean score of 3.4752 and a standard deviation of 1.70055, suggesting that the public generally feels positive but not overwhelmingly so. These results indicate that while there are some positive aspects of policy implementation performance, there are also areas that need improvement to enhance effectiveness and public satisfaction.

**Table 8: performance**

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
The policy implementation efforts under my jurisdiction have resulted in tangible outputs.	101	1.00	5.00	3.3861	1.58095
There is effective coordination and collaboration among stakeholders during the implementation of public policies.	101	1.00	5.00	3.2970	1.56553

The policy implementation efforts under my jurisdiction have achieved the desired outcomes and impact.	101	1.00	5.00	3.0792	1.71279
The public is satisfied with the policy implementation efforts under my jurisdiction.	101	1.00	5.00	3.4752	1.70055
Valid N (listwise)	101				

## 4.9 Inferential Statistics

### 4.9.1 Reliability

The reliability statistics for the study are reported in Table 10. The Cronbach's Alpha value is 0.781, indicating a good level of internal consistency among the items measured. When based on standardized items, the Cronbach's Alpha is slightly lower at 0.740. Both values suggest that the items used in the study are reliably measuring the constructs of interest, with the Cronbach's Alpha values exceeding the commonly accepted threshold of 0.70 for acceptable reliability.

**Table 9: Reliability Statistics**

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items	N of Items
.781	.740	4

### 4.9.2 ANOVA with Friedman's Test

The ANOVA results using Friedman's Test are summarized in Table 11. The analysis shows that the Friedman's Chi-Square statistic is 131.246 with a significance level (Sig) of 0.000. This result indicates that there are statistically significant differences among the items being compared. The Kendall's coefficient of concordance W is 0.298,

suggesting a moderate level of agreement among the different items. The significant Friedman's Chi-Square value confirms that the variations observed among the items are unlikely to be due to chance, indicating that the items differ significantly in their measured responses. The analysis breaks down the variability into "Between Items" and "Residual" categories. The "Between Items" sum of squares is 2564.703, with a mean square of 854.901, which highlights the significant differences among the items. The "Residual" sum of squares is 3356.297, with a mean square of 11.188, which accounts for the variability within the items.

**Table 10: ANOVA with Friedman's Test**

		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	Friedman's Chi-Square	Sig
Between People		2672.772	100	26.728		
Within People	Between Items	2564.703 <sup>a</sup>	3	854.901	131.246	.000
	Residual	3356.297	300	11.188		
	Total	5921.000	303	19.541		
Total		8593.772	403	21.324		
Grand Mean = 11.0743						
a. Kendall's coefficient of concordance W = .298.						

### 4.9.3 Correlations

The correlations among the factors influencing public policy implementation in Meru County reveal several key relationships. Resource Allocation is strongly positively correlated with Public Participation ( $r = 0.655$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ), indicating that as resource allocation improves, public participation tends to increase as well. This relationship underscores the importance of adequate resources in fostering active community engagement. However, the correlation between Resource Allocation and Stakeholder

Literacy is weaker ( $r = 0.234, p < 0.05$ ), suggesting a modest connection where better resource allocation is somewhat associated with improved stakeholder literacy. Public Participation also shows a significant positive correlation with Stakeholder Literacy ( $r = 0.246, p < 0.05$ ), reflecting that higher levels of public engagement are linked to some improvement in stakeholders' understanding and skills. In contrast, Income Levels do not show significant correlations with Resource Allocation, Public Participation, or Stakeholder Literacy, indicating that community income may not have a direct impact on these factors. Additionally, the Implementation of Public Policy shows weak and generally non-significant correlations with Resource Allocation ( $r = -0.154, p = 0.124$ ), Public Participation ( $r = -0.085, p = 0.397$ ), and Stakeholder Literacy ( $r = 0.172, p = 0.086$ ), suggesting that these variables do not have a strong direct effect on policy implementation in the context of this study. These findings highlight the significant relationships between resource allocation and public participation, while indicating less clear connections with stakeholder literacy and income levels.

**Table 11: Correlations**

		Resource Allocation	Public Participation	Stakeholder Literacy
Resource Allocation	Pearson Correlation	1	.655**	.234*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.018
	N	101	101	101
Public Participation	Pearson Correlation	.655**	1	.246*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.013
	N	101	101	101
Stakeholder Literacy	Pearson Correlation	.234*	.246*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.018	.013	
	N	101	101	101

Income Levels	Pearson	.067	.118	.041
	Correlation			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.507	.239	.686
	N	101	101	101
Implementation of Public Policy1	Pearson	-.154	-.085	.172
	Correlation			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.124	.397	.086
	N	101	101	101
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).				
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).				

#### 4.9.4 Regression

Table 13 provides the model summary for the regression analysis examining the influence of Income Levels, Stakeholder Literacy, Resource Allocation, and Public Participation on the implementation of public policy. The model's R value is 0.268, indicating a modest correlation between the predictors and the outcome variable. The R Square value of 0.072 suggests that approximately 7.2% of the variance in policy implementation can be explained by the combined effect of Income Levels, Stakeholder Literacy, Resource Allocation, and Public Participation. The Adjusted R Square, which adjusts for the number of predictors in the model, is 0.033, indicating a slight reduction in the explanatory power when accounting for the number of variables. The standard error of the estimate is 3.01803, reflecting the average distance between the observed values and the values predicted by the model. The change statistics show an R Square Change of 0.072 and an F Change of 1.863 with 4 degrees of freedom, suggesting that the model's predictors contribute only a small and statistically marginal improvement in explaining the variation in policy implementation. The model indicates some correlation between the predictors and policy implementation, the low R Square value suggests that these factors explain only a small portion of the variance in the outcome. This implies

that other variables not included in the model may also significantly influence the implementation of public policy.

**Table 12: Model Summary**

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics R Square Change	F Change	df1
1	.268 <sup>a</sup>	.072	.033	3.01803	.072	1.863	4

a. Predictors: (Constant), Income Levels, Stakeholder Literacy, Resource Allocation, Public Participation

#### 4.9.5 ANOVAa

Table 14 presents the ANOVA results for the regression analysis, which examines the impact of Income Levels, Stakeholder Literacy, Resource Allocation, and Public Participation on the implementation of public policy. The ANOVA table shows that the regression model has a Sum of Squares of 67.879 with 4 degrees of freedom, and the Mean Square is 16.970. The F-statistic for the model is 1.863, with a significance level (Sig.) of 0.123. This F-value indicates that the overall regression model is not statistically significant at the conventional 0.05 level, suggesting that the predictors (Income Levels, Stakeholder Literacy, Resource Allocation, and Public Participation) do not significantly explain the variance in the dependent variable, which is the implementation of public policy. The Residual Sum of Squares is 874.418 with 96 degrees of freedom, and the Total Sum of Squares is 942.297, reflecting the total variability in the dependent variable. The non-significant F-test implies that, despite the correlations observed in the earlier analyses, the combined effect of these predictors does not significantly improve the model's ability to predict the implementation of public policy.

**Table 13: ANOVAa**

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	67.879	4	16.970	1.863	.123 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	874.418	96	9.109		
	Total	942.297	100			

a. Dependent Variable: Implementation of Public Policy1

b. Predictors: (Constant), Income Levels, Stakeholder Literacy, Resource Allocation, Public Participation

#### 4.9.6 Coefficientsa

The regression analysis in Table 15 highlights the individual contributions of Resource Allocation, Public Participation, Stakeholder Literacy, and Income Levels on the implementation of public policy. The constant term is significantly positive, suggesting that the baseline level of policy implementation is 11.233 when all predictors are set to zero. Among the predictors, Stakeholder Literacy has a significant positive effect on policy implementation with a coefficient of 0.240 ( $p = 0.033$ ), indicating that increased stakeholder literacy is associated with improved implementation outcomes. In contrast, Resource Allocation, Public Participation, and Income Levels do not show significant impacts on policy implementation. Resource Allocation has a coefficient of -0.124 ( $p = 0.131$ ), Public Participation has a coefficient of -0.010 ( $p = 0.910$ ), and Income Levels has a coefficient of 0.052 ( $p = 0.610$ ), all of which are not statistically significant. These results suggest that while Stakeholder Literacy plays a crucial role in enhancing policy implementation, the other factors do not have a substantial effect.

**Table 14: Coefficients**

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	11.233	1.906		5.893	.000
Resource Allocation	-.124	.082	-.199	-1.522	.131
Public Participation	-.010	.092	-.015	-.114	.910
Stakeholder Literacy	.240	.111	.220	2.159	.033
Income Levels	.052	.102	.051	.512	.610

#### 4.10 Discussion of findings

##### 4.10.1 Resource Allocation on the Implementation of Public Policy

The literature on resource allocation and its impact on public policy implementation underscores the critical role that sufficient and well-distributed resources play in achieving policy effectiveness. Scholars like Pressman and Wildavsky (1984) and Meter and Horn (1975) have long highlighted the necessity of adequate financial and human resources for successful policy implementation, noting that resource constraints can lead to significant implementation deficits. This is echoed by Khan and Khandaker (2016), who found that limited financial resources in developing countries often hinder the effective implementation of education policies. Grindle's (1980) research on resource allocation challenges in Africa and Brinkerhoff and Crosby's (2002) analysis of decentralization policies further emphasize the importance of proper resource distribution, particularly in contexts with limited capacities.

In the Kenyan context, studies such as those by Omolo (2011) and Oyugi (2008) have revealed similar challenges. Omolo highlighted issues with the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) and the need for better resource allocation mechanisms to

ensure equitable distribution. Similarly, Oyugi and Kanyinga and Long (2012) have examined resource allocation in the context of devolution policies, stressing that adequate resources are crucial for effective local governance and service delivery.

The findings of the current study in Meru County resonate with this body of literature. Respondents reported that the financial resources allocated by the county government are insufficient, as reflected in a mean score of 2.2970 and a standard deviation of 1.17085. This aligns with the concerns highlighted by previous scholars about the impact of inadequate financial resources on policy implementation. The perceived shortage of human resources, with a mean score of 2.6733 and a standard deviation of 1.51069, also corroborates earlier findings that human resources are often insufficient for effective policy execution. Similarly, the moderate rating for access to relevant information resources (mean score of 2.9406, standard deviation of 1.56730) indicates that while some resources are available, they may not be fully adequate, reflecting the challenges noted by Grindle (1980) and Brinkerhoff and Crosby (2002) regarding resource sufficiency. Lastly, the low rating for the effectiveness of resource mobilization mechanisms (mean score of 2.5050, standard deviation of 1.26983) suggests that the mechanisms in place may need improvement, aligning with the literature's emphasis on the need for effective resource mobilization strategies.

The study's findings confirm that resource allocation remains a significant challenge in Meru County, consistent with the broader literature that underscores the critical importance of adequate and effectively distributed resources for successful policy implementation.

#### **4.10.2 Stakeholder's Literacy on the Implementation of Public Policy**

The literature on literacy highlights its profound impact on community development and public policy effectiveness. Literacy not only enhances individual opportunities and economic potential but also significantly boosts civic engagement and democratic participation (Morgan, 2016). In developed nations like Canada, literacy is crucial for social integration and effective participation in governance (Putri-Anggini & Siti Rodliyah, 2020). Proficient literacy skills enable individuals to engage meaningfully with public policy discussions, hold policymakers accountable, and contribute to community development (Arko & Addison, 2009).

This relationship is further supported by the role of literacy in elevating democratic values and political participation, as literate individuals are more likely to engage in civic duties and advocate for democratic principles (Jones, 2018). Literacy also plays a significant role in integrating marginalized groups, such as people with disabilities, into community activities and governance (Queiruga-Dios et al., 2020). The importance of literacy in enhancing community participation and achieving sustainable development is emphasized by research demonstrating that increased literacy levels correlate with better economic outcomes and social capital (Hartley & Horne, 2006; Arko & Addison, 2009). However, challenges persist, particularly in developing economies where low literacy levels impede progress (Sang et al., 2018). Studies by Mwangi and Minja (2024) and Holovatyi (2015) illustrate how improving literacy and stakeholder engagement can drive effective policy implementation and regional development. These findings highlight the need for comprehensive strategies to enhance literacy and its integration into public policy processes.

In Meru County, the study's findings align with these broader insights into literacy's role in policy implementation. While stakeholders in Meru County have some access to

necessary information (mean score of 3.3168), their social capital, knowledge, attitudes, and interpretive skills are notably insufficient, with mean scores of 2.3861, 2.0693, and 2.3267, respectively. These lower ratings indicate significant gaps in stakeholders' ability to effectively engage with and apply policy information. Despite some access to information, the deficiencies in social capital, knowledge, and interpretive capabilities suggest substantial barriers to effective public policy implementation. This situation mirrors the challenges highlighted in the literature, emphasizing the critical need to address these literacy gaps to enhance policy effectiveness and community development.

#### **4 10.3 Income Level on implementation of public policy in Kenya**

The literature underscores the crucial role of income levels in the success of public policy initiatives, particularly in terms of financial sustainability and resource mobilization. Communities with higher employment rates and income levels are better equipped to secure financial resources necessary for implementing public policies. Burlingame (1994) emphasizes the growing importance of fundraising as a primary source of financing for public policy programs, noting that establishing dedicated funds and engaging donors are essential for sustaining these initiatives. Financial sustainability is a key factor, as public policy programs often rely on donor funding, which can be unpredictable. Viravaidya and Hayssen (2021) highlight that even organizations with substantial donor support can face vulnerabilities if they do not diversify their funding sources. Thus, achieving at least 60% of budgetary resources from alternative streams, including local contributions, is critical to mitigating risks associated with fluctuating donor funds.

Busienei's (2017) research supports this notion by demonstrating the significant impact of income generation strategies on the financial sustainability of NGOs in Nairobi. The study points out that NGOs must build diverse resource bases to maintain operations

independently of donor support, emphasizing the need for organizations to develop strategies that enhance financial sustainability.

The findings from the study on Meru County align with these insights. The high mean score of 4.1683 for the influence of employment status on community participation reflects that higher employment levels positively impact the community's ability to engage in policy implementation. This is consistent with the literature's assertion that increased income levels facilitate better participation in public policy initiatives. The community's effectiveness in mobilizing financial resources and engaging in fundraising activities received moderate scores (3.7327 and 3.6436, respectively), suggesting that while some mechanisms are in place, there is room for improvement. The mean score of 3.8317 for financial sustainability indicates that the community is somewhat achieving financial stability but still needs to further develop strategies to ensure long-term sustainability. These results highlight that while Meru County shows positive aspects related to income levels and policy implementation, there are areas where enhancements are necessary to improve overall effectiveness and financial stability in supporting public policy initiatives.

#### **4.10.4 Public Participation on the Implementation of Public Policy**

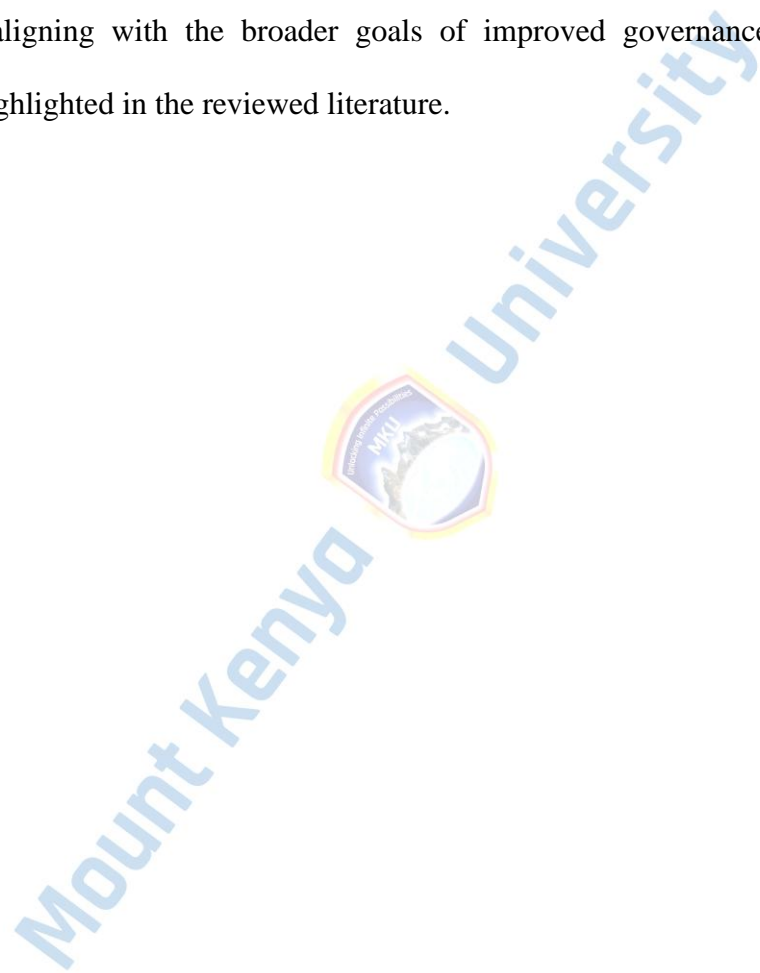
The literature on public participation highlights its crucial role in effective public policy implementation, emphasizing the importance of inclusive and deliberative processes. Arnstein (1969) and Innes and Booher (2004) laid the groundwork by discussing varying degrees of citizen involvement and the necessity for inclusive decision-making. Rowe and Frewer (2005) expanded on these ideas, noting that the success of public participation methods varies depending on context and objectives. The Aarhus Convention (1998) further institutionalized public participation as a principle of good governance and sustainable development, particularly in environmental decision-making

across Europe and Central Asia. In the African context, Akintan (2019) and Animashaun (2009) explored challenges such as limited resources and inadequate legal frameworks that impede effective public participation, particularly in decentralization and environmental policy.

In Kenya, the focus has been on improving public participation in devolution and policy implementation. Oyugi (2008) and Kanyinga and Long (2012) have emphasized the need for effective mechanisms to ensure responsiveness and accountability at the county level. Omolo (2011) observed that despite mandates for public participation in the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) policy, actual engagement often fell short. Similarly, Mwenda and Kiendrebeogo (2021) identified inadequate legal frameworks and capacity constraints as barriers to effective public participation in environmental policies. Safari and Mbirithi (2022) found that stakeholder engagement and public participation significantly influence service delivery, underscoring the importance of improving participation processes for better outcomes.

The findings from the study in Meru County reflect these insights but also reveal specific areas needing attention. The high mean score of 4.0693 for the accessibility and inclusiveness of public participation processes suggests that these aspects are generally well-received, aligning with the literature's emphasis on the importance of inclusive processes. However, the lower scores for the effectiveness of mechanisms (mean score of 2.5842), transparency and accountability (mean score of 2.1881), and capacity-building opportunities (mean score of 2.3168) highlight significant deficiencies. These results echo concerns raised in the literature about the practical challenges of implementing effective public participation mechanisms and ensuring genuine engagement.

While accessibility and inclusiveness are positively perceived, the lower scores indicate that Meru County's public participation processes may struggle with implementation effectiveness, transparency, and capacity building. This mirrors the literature's critique of tokenistic participation and the need for robust mechanisms and genuine stakeholder engagement to enhance policy implementation and service delivery. The study's findings suggest that addressing these gaps could lead to more effective and meaningful public participation, aligning with the broader goals of improved governance and policy outcomes as highlighted in the reviewed literature.



## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Introduction

This chapter wraps up the research by summarizing what was found, drawing conclusions, and making recommendations. This chapter brings together the main points from the study, relates them to existing knowledge, and suggests practical steps to improve public policy implementation. The goal is to offer clear advice for policymakers, community leaders, and researchers on how to overcome challenges and build on successes.

#### 5.2 Summary of Findings

##### 5.2.1 Resource Allocation on the Implementation of Public Policy

The study revealed that resource allocation was a critical factor affecting the implementation of public policies in Meru County. Financial resources, which are essential for the execution of public policies, were rated poorly with a mean score of 2.2970. This low rating indicated that the funds available for policy implementation were insufficient, which likely caused delays or hindered the progress of various policy initiatives. The shortage of financial resources could impact the ability of implementing agencies to achieve their objectives effectively, potentially leading to incomplete or suboptimal execution of policies.

Human resources, including both the number and expertise of personnel involved in policy implementation, were also rated inadequately, with a mean score of 2.6733. This finding suggested that there were not enough qualified personnel available to carry out the necessary tasks for effective policy execution. The lack of skilled individuals could lead to inefficiencies, errors, and reduced overall effectiveness in the implementation process.

Access to information resources was rated at 2.9406, reflecting a moderate level of information availability. While some level of information was accessible, it was not sufficient to fully support the implementation needs of the policies. Adequate information resources are crucial for making informed decisions, coordinating activities, and ensuring that policies are implemented according to their design.

The effectiveness of mechanisms for mobilizing and distributing resources was rated at 2.5050, indicating significant challenges in how resources were mobilized and utilized. This suggests that existing mechanisms were not fully effective, possibly due to inefficiencies or lack of coordination. The difficulties in mobilizing and distributing resources effectively could lead to delays, resource wastage, and overall poor policy implementation. These findings highlighted those improvements in financial and human resource allocation, as well as better mechanisms for resource mobilization, were necessary to enhance the effectiveness of public policy implementation in Meru County.

### **5.2.2 Stakeholder's Literacy on the Implementation of Public Policy**

The study demonstrated that stakeholders' literacy had a notable impact on the effectiveness of public policy implementation. Access to information, which is a key aspect of literacy, was rated with a mean score of 3.3168. This rating indicated that stakeholders generally had access to the necessary information for engaging in policy implementation, though there was room for improvement to ensure that all relevant information was easily accessible.

The social capital of stakeholders comprising their networks, relationships, and community connections was rated lower, with a mean score of 2.3861. This finding highlighted that stakeholders' ability to leverage their social networks for effective policy engagement was limited. Social capital is crucial for collaboration, coordination, and mobilizing support for policy initiatives, and its deficiency could impede effective policy

implementation. Stakeholders' knowledge, attitudes, and skills required for effective policy participation were rated even lower, with a mean score of 2.0693. This rating pointed to significant gaps in stakeholders' understanding of policy issues, their attitudes towards policy involvement, and their skills necessary for meaningful participation. The lack of adequate knowledge and skills could limit stakeholders' ability to contribute effectively to policy processes and decision-making.

The ability of stakeholders to interpret and understand policy information was rated at 2.3267, indicating substantial difficulties in comprehending policy details. Effective interpretation of policy information is essential for stakeholders to engage meaningfully in policy discussions and implementation. The challenges in understanding policy information likely hindered stakeholders' ability to make informed contributions to policy processes. These findings underscored the need for enhanced literacy programs, including better access to information, improved social capital, and capacity-building efforts to equip stakeholders with the knowledge and skills needed for effective policy engagement.

### **5.2.3 Income Level on implementation of public policy in Kenya**

The study found that income levels significantly influenced public policy implementation in Meru County. The employment status of community members, reflecting their economic activity, was rated highly, with a mean score of 4.1683. This indicated that higher employment levels positively affected the community's ability to participate in policy initiatives. Employed individuals are more likely to be involved in policy processes and contribute financially, which can enhance the effectiveness of policy implementation.

The effectiveness of the community in mobilizing financial resources for policy implementation was rated moderately, with a mean score of 3.7327. This finding suggested that while there were some effective mechanisms for resource mobilization, there was still potential for improvement. Enhancing these mechanisms could lead to more efficient use of financial resources and better support for policy implementation.

Fundraising activities, which are crucial for generating financial support for policy initiatives, received a mean score of 3.6436. This reflected a moderate level of engagement in fundraising efforts. Although there was some involvement in fundraising, there was an opportunity to increase efforts to secure additional funds and ensure sustainable support for policy initiatives.

The community's achievement of financial sustainability for supporting policy implementation was rated at 3.8317. This rating indicated that while some level of financial stability was achieved, further development was needed. Financial sustainability is essential for the long-term success of policy initiatives, as it reduces dependency on external funding sources and ensures that policies can be effectively implemented over time.

These findings demonstrated that while income levels had a positive impact on public policy implementation, there were areas, such as resource mobilization and financial sustainability, where improvements could enhance overall effectiveness.

#### **5.2.4 Public Participation on the Implementation of Public Policy**

The study revealed mixed perceptions regarding the influence of public participation on public policy implementation in Meru County. The accessibility and inclusiveness of public participation processes were rated relatively high, with a mean score of 4.0693. This indicated that the processes were generally accessible and inclusive, allowing community members to participate in policy discussions and decision-making.

The effectiveness of the mechanisms used to facilitate public participation received a lower mean score of 2.5842. This suggested that the methods employed to engage stakeholders were not fully effective, possibly due to limitations in their design or implementation. Improving these mechanisms could enhance the quality of public participation and its impact on policy implementation.

Transparency and accountability in the public participation processes were rated poorly, with a mean score of 2.1881. This rating reflected concerns about the openness and reliability of the participation processes, suggesting that stakeholders felt these processes lacked sufficient transparency and accountability. Addressing these concerns could improve trust and engagement among stakeholders. The provision of capacity-building opportunities for stakeholders was rated at 2.3168, indicating that there were inadequate opportunities for stakeholders to develop their skills and knowledge necessary for effective participation. Enhancing capacity-building efforts could empower stakeholders to engage more effectively in policy processes and contribute to better policy implementation while some aspects of public participation were perceived positively, significant improvements were needed in the effectiveness, transparency, and capacity-building elements to enhance the overall impact of public participation on public policy implementation.

### **5.3 conclusions**

The study concluded that inadequate resource allocation significantly impedes the effective implementation of public policies in Meru County. The insufficient financial and human resources, coupled with ineffective mechanisms for mobilizing and distributing resources, hindered the execution of policy initiatives. To improve policy implementation, there is a critical need for better allocation of financial and human resources and more efficient resource mobilization strategies.

The study concluded that stakeholders' literacy substantially affects the effectiveness of public policy implementation. Gaps in access to information, social capital, knowledge, and skills among stakeholders limit their ability to engage meaningfully in policy processes. Addressing these literacy gaps through improved information access, social network development, and capacity-building efforts is essential for enhancing stakeholders' participation and thereby improving policy implementation outcomes.

The study concluded that income levels have a notable impact on public policy implementation in Meru County. Higher employment levels and financial contributions positively influence the community's ability to support and participate in policy initiatives. However, there is a need for improved mechanisms for resource mobilization and achieving financial sustainability to ensure continued and effective policy implementation. Enhancing these areas will strengthen the overall impact of income levels on policy execution.

The study concluded that while public participation processes in Meru County are generally accessible and inclusive, there are significant shortcomings in their effectiveness, transparency, and capacity-building. The mixed perceptions of public participation indicate that while community members can engage in policy processes, improvements are needed to enhance the effectiveness of participation mechanisms, ensure transparency, and provide better capacity-building opportunities. Addressing these issues will be crucial for improving the overall influence of public participation on policy implementation.

#### **5.4 Recommendations of The Study**

- i. The study recommended that Meru County should develop and implement a comprehensive resource allocation framework. This framework should aim to ensure an equitable distribution of both financial and human resources across

various policy initiatives. It should also focus on enhancing the effectiveness of resource mobilization strategies to improve overall policy implementation efficiency.

- ii. The study recommended that targeted literacy and capacity-building programs be established for stakeholders in Meru County. These programs should aim to improve access to information, enhance social capital, and build knowledge and skills related to public policy processes. By addressing the identified literacy gaps, stakeholders will be better prepared to contribute effectively to policy implementation.
- iii. The study recommended that Meru County should strengthen its mechanisms for mobilizing financial resources and ensuring the financial sustainability of policy initiatives. This could be achieved by diversifying funding sources beyond donor contributions, increasing local financial contributions, and improving fundraising strategies to support the long-term implementation of public policies.
- iv. The study recommended that the county government of Meru enhance public participation mechanisms by improving transparency, accountability, and capacity-building efforts. This includes adopting clearer and more open processes for public engagement, providing more opportunities for stakeholders to participate, and ensuring that capacity-building initiatives are available to enhance effective stakeholder involvement in policy implementation.

### **5.5 Recommendations for Further Study**

The study recommended that future research should explore the impact of specific resource allocation strategies and public participation mechanisms on policy implementation effectiveness in different regional contexts. This could involve

conducting comparative studies across various counties or regions to identify best practices and assess the adaptability of findings.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix I: Consent Form

#### CONSENT FORM

##### *Socio-Economic Determinants influencing Implementation of public policy*

My name is.....a student at Mount Kenya University taking .....You are invited to participate in a research study examining how socio-economic determinants impact the successful implementation of public policies. This study aims to identify key socio-economic variables that facilitate or hinder policy implementation processes across different contexts. Your participation is voluntary, and you can withdraw at any time.

If you agree to participate, you will be asked to complete a survey and potentially participate in a follow-up interview. The survey will collect information about your background, role, and opinion on public policy implementation in your area. If selected for a follow-up interview, you will be asked to discuss specific examples and challenges related to policy implementation.

There are no direct risks or benefits to you for participating in this study. However, the findings may contribute to better understanding the socio-economic dynamics involved in policy implementation, potentially informing more effective strategies.

All information collected will remain confidential. Your name and any identifying details will be removed, and data will be stored securely. Only aggregate data will be reported. Your participation is completely voluntary, and you can withdraw at any time without penalty. You may skip any questions you are not comfortable answering.

#### Consent

I have read and understood the information provided above. I voluntarily agree to participate in the research study on " *Socio-Economic Determinants influencing Implementation of public policy.*"

Participant's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix II: Research Questionnaire

### Section A: Demographic information

Please indicate your gender

Male ( )

Female ( )

Please indicate your highest level of education

Secondary ( )

Diploma ( )

Degree ( )

Post Graduate ( )

How many people are employed by your organization? .....

Please indicate the number of years which you have been living in Meru County:

Under 5 years ( )

5- 10 years ( )

10 -20 years ( )

20 – 30 years ( )

over 30 years ( )

### Section B

#### A) Resource Allocation

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
The county government allocates sufficient financial resources for the implementation of public policies under my jurisdiction.					
My office/department has adequate human resources dedicated to the implementation of public policies.					
I have access to relevant information resources necessary for effective policy implementation.					
The county government has effective mechanisms in place for mobilizing resources required for policy implementation.					

### B) Public Participation

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
The public participation processes initiated by the county government are accessible and inclusive to all stakeholders.					
The county government has put in place effective mechanisms for facilitating public participation in policy implementation					
The public participation processes initiated by the county government are transparent and accountable.					
The county government provides capacity building opportunities to stakeholders for effective public participation.					

### C) Stakeholder's Literacy

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Stakeholders have access to information necessary for understanding and engaging in the implementation of public policies.					
Stakeholders possess the social capital (networks, relationships) to effectively participate in the implementation of public policies.					
Stakeholders have the necessary knowledge, attitudes, and skills for effective participation in policy implementation.					
Stakeholders have the ability to interpret and understand policy information effectively for implementation purposes.					

### D) Income Levels

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
The employment status of community members influences their ability to participate in the implementation of public policies.					
The community has effective mechanisms in place for mobilizing financial resources required for policy implementation.					
The community engages in fundraising interventions to support the implementation of public policies.					

The community has achieved financial sustainability to support the implementation of public policies.					
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**E) Implementation of Public Policy**

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
The policy implementation efforts under my jurisdiction have resulted in tangible outputs.					
There is effective coordination and collaboration among stakeholders during the implementation of public policies.					
The policy implementation efforts under my jurisdiction have achieved the desired outcomes and impact.					
The public is satisfied with the policy implementation efforts under my jurisdiction.					

THANK YOU

## **Appendix III: Key Informant Interview Guide**

**(FOR CECs and Assembly speaker and clerk)**

**Objective 1: To assess the influence of resource allocation on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya.**

1. What mechanisms are in place to ensure adequate resource allocation (financial, human, and information resources) for the effective implementation of public policies in the county?
2. How does the county government mobilize and allocate resources to support the implementation of various public policies?

**Objective 2: To investigate the influence of public participation on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya.**

1. What measures have been taken to ensure inclusive and accessible public participation processes during policy implementation?
2. How does the county government facilitate and encourage public participation in the implementation of public policies?

**Objective 3: To evaluate the influence of stakeholder's literacy on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya.**

1. In your opinion, how does the level of stakeholder literacy (knowledge, attitudes, skills, and ability to interpret information) influence the implementation of public policies in the county?
2. What initiatives or programs are in place to enhance stakeholder literacy and promote effective participation in policy implementation?

**Objective 4: To evaluate the influence of community income levels on the implementation of public policy in Meru County, Kenya.**

1. How do community income levels impact the implementation of public policies in the county?
2. What measures have been taken to address financial barriers and ensure community participation in policy implementation, regardless of income levels?


### **Additional questions**

1. What are the key challenges faced during the implementation of public policies in the county, and how are these challenges addressed?
2. How does the county government ensure effective coordination and collaboration among various stakeholders during policy implementation?

3. What mechanisms are in place to monitor and evaluate the outcomes and impact of policy implementation efforts in the county?
4. What role do public-private partnerships play in supporting the implementation of public policies in the county?



## Appendix IV: ERC Letter

  
**Mount Kenya University**

REF: MKU/ISERC/4189      Date: 10 August 2024  
TO: WILLIAM NDERITU  
REG: MPAM/2023/56114

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC POLICY IN KENYA: A CASE OF MERU COUNTY**

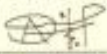
This is to inform you that **Mount Kenya University** has reviewed and approved your above research proposal. Your application approval number is **3001**. The approval period is **10/08/2024 - 09/08/2025**.

This approval is subject to compliance with the following requirements:

- i. Only approved documents including informed consents, study instruments, MTA will be used
- ii. All changes including amendments, deviations and violations are submitted for review and approval by **Mount Kenya University**
- iii. Death and life-threatening problems and serious adverse events or unexpected adverse events whether related or unrelated to the study must be reported to **Mount Kenya University** within 72 hours of notification
- iv. Any changes, anticipated or otherwise that may increase the risks or affect the safety or welfare of study participants and others or affect the integrity of the research must be reported to **Mount Kenya University** within 72 hours
- v. Clearance for export of biological specimens must be obtained from relevant institutions
- vi. Submission of a request for renewal of approval at least 60 days prior to expiry of the approval period. Attach a comprehensive progress report to support the renewal
- vii. Submission of an executive summary report within 90 days upon completion of the study to **Mount Kenya University**

Prior to commencing your study, you will be expected to obtain a research license from National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) <https://research-portal.nacosti.go.ke> and also obtain other clearances needed.

Yours sincerely,

  
**Dr. Alfred Owino, PhD**  
Chairman, Mount Kenya University ISERC

**MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY**  
**ETHICS REVIEW COMMITTEE**  
P.O. Box 342-01000,  
THIKA

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Main Campus, General Kago Road, P.O. Box 342-01000 Thika.  
Cell: +254 709 153 000 | +254 709 153 200  
Email: [info@mku.ac.ke](mailto:info@mku.ac.ke), Web: [www.mku.ac.ke](http://www.mku.ac.ke)

## Appendix V: Introduction Letter



## DIRECTORATE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

MPAM/2023/56114

13<sup>th</sup> August, 2024

*National Commission for Science Technology & Innovation (NACOSTI)*  
*Off Waiyaki Way, Upper Kabete,*  
*P.O Box 30623- 00100*  
**NAIROBI, KENYA**

Dear Sir/Madam,


**RE: WILLIAM NDERITU - REGISTRATION NO. MPAM/2023/56114**

The purpose of this letter is to introduce the above named student who is pursuing Master of Arts in Public Administration and Management in the department of Management in the school of Business and Economics

The title of the research is "Influence of Social Economic Determinants on Implementation of Public Policy in Kenya: A Case of Meru County." It has been cleared by the University's Ethics Review Committee (Certificate attached) and now has to proceed to the field to collect data between August, 2024 and October, 2024.

Any assistance accorded to the student will be highly appreciated.

Thank you

  
Dr. Samuel M. Karuga,  
Director, Graduate Studies  
Enc.

Mount Kenya University  
P. O. Box 342 - 01000, THIKA  
Office of the Director  
Graduate Studies

Main Campus, General Kago Road, P.O. Box 342-01000 Thika.  
Tel: 020-2878 000, Cell: +254 709 153 000  
Email: info@mku.ac.ke, Web: www.mku.ac.ke  
Chartered and ISO 9001 : 2015 Certified Institution.  
Unlocking Infinite Possibilities

**Appendix VI: NACOSTI Authorization**




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

**Date of Issue: 21/August/2024**

**RESEARCH LICENSE**



**This is to Certify that Mr. WILLIAM WAWERU NDERITU of Mount Kenya University, has been licensed to conduct research as per the provision of the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 (Rev.2014) in Meru on the topic: INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC POLICY IN KENYA: A CASE OF MERU COUNTY for the period ending : 21/August/2025.**

**License No: NACOSTI/P/24/39259**

**222371**

**Applicant Identification Number**

**Director General**  
**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR  
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY &  
INNOVATION**

**Verification QR Code**



**NOTE: This is a computer generated License. To verify the authenticity of this document, Scan the QR Code using QR scanner application.**

**See overleaf for conditions**

## Appendix VII: Field Authorization



**COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MERU**  
Ministry of Education  
State Department of Basic Education



Email: merucounty@meru.go.ke  
Website: meru.go.ke  
When replying please quote:

County Director of Education  
P. O. Box 120-60200  
Meru

REF: MERU/CTY/EDU/RESEARCH/GEN/64/VOL.IV/56

24<sup>th</sup> August, 2024

WILLIAM NDERITU  
MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY  
MPAM/2023/56114

### RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION

The county director of education is in receipt of your letter dated **23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2024** and a copy of your research license from NACOSTI Ref: **222371** of License Number **NACOSTI/P/24/39259** dated **21/August/2024** requesting for authority to carry out research on **“INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC POLICY IN KENYA: A CASE OF MERU COUNTY”**.

Permission is hereby granted to carry out the research for the period ending **21/August/2025** as requested.

You are kindly advised to deposit a copy of the final research report to this office.




COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MERU  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION  
24<sup>th</sup> AUG 2024  
P.O. BOX 120-60200  
MERU

KARIMI ALEX W.  
County Director  
Meru

## Appendix VIII: Similarity Index

**WILLIAM NDERITU**

**INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS ON  
IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC POLICY IN KENYA: A CASE OF...**

 PROJECT  
 MASTERS  
 Mount Kenya University

### Document Details

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