

**INFLUENCE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT PROJECTS:
CASE OF MAKUENI COUNTY, KENYA**

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DECLARATION AND APPROVAL

Student's Declaration

This research project is my original work, and it has never been submitted for a degree or award at any other school or university.

Signature:



Date: ___7/06/2024_

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Supervisor's Approval

I confirm that the candidate work presented in this research project has been conducted under my supervision

Signature:



Date: 7/06/2024

Dr. Mary Odenyo

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DEDICATION

This research proposal is dedicated to my family and friends for the support they continue to offer me.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I appreciate my supervisor Dr Mary Odenyo efforts in helping to shape my research work with his expert advice and commitment. I would also want to thank my friends for their tremendous assistance with this study. I give thanks to the All-Powerful God for granting me the stamina to complete the task.



ABSTRACT

The study aimed at assessing the influence of public participation on implementation of county government projects: case of Makueni County, Kenya. The study was guided by following specific objectives; to determine the influence of public participation in project identification process, budget preparation process, governance process and monitoring and evaluation process on implementation of Makueni county projects. A descriptive research design was used for this study. Our target population was the project committee members, executive project management consultant members and technical officers involved in implementation of the projects for the last at least three years at Makueni sub-counties. Using a stratified random sampling procedure, 99 respondents (30% of the population) were chosen from the target population. The study used primary methods in data collection using questionnaires. Descriptive statistics, such as frequencies, percentages, standard deviation, and arithmetic mean, were used to examine the results. Inferential analysis was used in determination of the relationship between the variables. These findings indicated that the budget preparation and governance process play a crucial role in the successful implementation of county government projects in Makueni County, Kenya, while effective monitoring and evaluation are negatively associated with project implementation.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AU	:	African Union
CDF	:	Constituency Development Fund
CIDP	:	County Integrated Development Plan
CoK	:	Constitution of Kenya
CPMF	:	County Performance Management Framework
GOK	:	Government of Kenya
NDP	:	National Development Plan
NEDLAC	:	National Anti-Corruption Forum and the National Economic Development and Labour Council.
UK	:	United Kingdom



OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Development: This multifaceted process aims to raise people's standards of living through social, economic, and political reform. Robert, et al.(2019)

Implementation: This is the process of carrying out a predetermined set of actions intended to carry out a known-to-be-dimensioned activity or program. The "particular set of actions" associated with implementation are present and are strong enough for impartial observers to discern, provided that the implementation processes are deliberate and sufficiently specified. Robert, et al.(2019)

Project: This is a short-term initiative in which team members collaborate to develop a special good or service within a predetermined time period and predetermined budget to achieve measurable deliverables. Chelunget, D., (2017)

Effective Project: This refers to one finished on time and within budget, meets all of the deliverables that were originally planned, and is approved and used by the clients for whom it was designed.

Project Financing: This refers to the project's anticipated cash flows for both short- and long-term financial obligations. It referred to the funding options for the projects in this study.

Project sustainability: This refers to a project's capacity to not only stay in operation for an extended period of time but also to continue to be profitable. Chelunget, D., (2017)

Public Participation: This is the practice of including the public in decision-making and giving the public full consideration during that decision-making.

Monitoring and Evaluation: This is the routine observation and recording of project-related activities. It also entails the routine information gathering on all project-related issues. Monitoring and Evaluation is a structured process for determining whether a project has successfully achieved its objectives and for reflecting on the lessons it has learned. Robert, et al.(2019)



CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Globally, project performance has been dismal as only a small number of projects implemented by governments may be suggested for excellent performance, with majority of initiatives failing to meet the intended project outcomes (PWC, 2021). Yet, global spending on projects continues to increase amounting to billions of dollars annually, and this trend has continued unabatedly in an upward direction. According to Anantatmula (2020), this necessitates proper project planning, organization, direction, and control, as well as in inspiring the team to do effective and exceptional work. Project Management Institute, (2021) further describe that without public participation, proper project implementation is not possible.

Cooper, (2021) defines public participation as the process of engaging in governance in which individuals work together for collective decision-making and action across a range of interests, institutions, and networks, fostering civic identity, and incorporating individuals in governance processes. In this regard, it is impossible to overstate the significance of public involvement. As citizens and government entities exchange power among themselves, it ensures inclusivity and transparency in governance, making a key contribution to establishing democracy. It guarantees that the government is responsive to citizen needs and raises the authority of the institutions and decisions of the government. Public participation also fosters a sense of patriotism, trust in governmental institutions,

self-improvement, and dedication to the common good on an individual level. In turn, this boosts social capital and social inclusion (Raimond, 2021).

In most developed countries in the UK, USA and Australia, participatory approaches have been effective in achieving high levels of involvement and collaboration in development initiatives in the majority of nations, inspiring people to mobilize themselves and take independent action (Saidu et al., 2014). To the fullest extent possible, communities have been included in order to encourage them to take initiative and activities that are motivated by their own considerations and considerations for effective control of their development agenda. Participation in the community is the manner by which local self-sufficiency is encouraged, hence lowering reliance on outside organizations. Public involvement in the design, implementation, monitoring, and assessment of development projects are among the ways in which they help ensure proper project implementation (Hassan et al., 2019). This participation is regarded as crucial for the ownership and accomplishment of projects as well as crucial for fostering sustainable community development at the grassroots level.

Since the collapse of the Berlin Wall, which put an end to the ideological conflicts between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America and opened up democratic processes in many nations, public involvement has become a concern in many nations throughout the world. To provide citizens a voice in decision-making at all levels of government, from the subnational to the highest, numerous governments had to reform. This was done to give locals the opportunity to design and carry out their own development initiatives (Smoke, 2016). Therefore, it is believed that public engagement is essential to good governance since it is defined by institutions that are transparent, accountable, and responsive (Doorgaspersad, 2019). The justification for public

participation is that it is thought to encourage transparency and accountability among political decision-makers by including the public in the decision-making process. County governments are therefore more likely to respond to community demands and provide services to people in a more responsive manner (Rajesh, 2017).

Sprague (2018) asserts that including participants in the budgeting process for capital improvement forces individuals to engage in negotiation, compromise, and project prioritization. The devolution model, which places a focus on citizen involvement, became popular in the UK in the 1970s as a result of the demands of numerous organizations for autonomy in order to deliver public services effectively and efficiently. In India, the community and sustainable forest management are frequently cited as examples of successful public participation. Community involvement in all aspects of forest management, including planning, intervention, and monitoring, is essential to its sustainability (Kotwal & Chandurkar, 2018). In order to engage communities in all forestry interventions, a bottom-up approach is used in this case.

However, regionally in Africa, most countries have failed to deliver on their promises of increased citizen involvement and appropriate service delivery because handing over authority and funding to local governments has not resulted in a rise in either. According to Crook (2021), decentralization in Africa does not always result in more responsive local governance. In order to strengthen oversight of service delivery to the public, local communities must participate in policy creation, organization, coordination, and execution. Only a small number of elites appear to gain from the existing allocation of resources to county administrations (Dunn, 2017). For instance, the 53 member nations of the African Union committed themselves to, among other things, promoting the conditions essential to

enhance openness and public involvement when they adopted the African charter on democracy, elections, and governance in 2007 (AU, 2007). In Brazil, the Municipal Participatory Budgeting Initiative is the most frequently cited example of successful public engagement (Sprague, 2018).

Since 1994, the government of South Africa has implemented a number of efforts to promote public engagement. These tactics include, but are not limited to: community development workers, ward committees, public hearings, Citizens Forums, and citizen satisfaction surveys. Additionally, a number of organizations were established to provide a platform for public participation, including the National Anti-Corruption Forum and the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC). In Uganda, initiatives to encourage public engagement have taken the form of developing policy frameworks and implementation methods. Consequently, the Local Councils Statute of 1993 was passed as a means of expanding the opportunities and areas for public engagement (Kakumba & Nsingo, 2017). The legislation was created in a way that makes it easier for communities to effectively participate in expressing their needs and influencing program planning and implementation.

Locally in Kenya, Sixty-seven percent (67%) of Kenyans approved the Constitution of Kenya (CoK) 2010 in a countrywide vote on August 5, 2010, and it was subsequently promulgated on August 27. Thus, the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, which had been in effect for close to fifty years, was replaced by the CoK 2010. The Kenya Independence Order-in-Council of 1963 was created by the British House of Commons and issued. The ideas and tenets of democratic governance in CoK 2010 explicitly support unrestricted popular sovereignty as the cornerstone of government. As a result, the Constitution as a

whole clearly states that the people have a right to participate in and oversee their government. The goals and tenets of decentralized government are embedded within and are equally important.

The GOK report (2014) states that since the new constitution was adopted, the nation has significantly advanced its overall industrialization. Kenya's 47 counties each have their own project and development plans, pay for a portion of their work, and receive funding from the national government to cover any gaps in their budgets up to a maximum of 35% of the total (GoK, 2021). According to a study released by the ministry of devolution in 2014, counties have made substantial advancements in project creation and ICT integration. For example, Kakamega county government collected nearly 4.1 billion in revenue, which was used to carpet the road terminal connecting Kisumu with Ksh. 110 million.

However, counties audit report, (2021) showed that there have been more failures than successes in the execution of projects among the counties (Odenyo, 2021). Most projects were established to fail during the execution stage, which has caused concern among the government and citizens alike. Some of the impediments to proper project implementation have been linked to incorrect needs, obstacles to asset accessibility, a lack of target evaluation, incorrect scheduling of the project's completion, a lack of project recognizable proof, a poor plan and outline, and incorrect conceptualization of arrangement (Anita, et al., 2019). This shows that if there was public participation during implementation of the county projects, majority of these problems would have been averted. This study aimed at shedding light into this taking the case of Makueni County Government which continues to report more stalled projects as times go by.

1.1.1 County Government Projects

In Kenya, the devolved governments' pledge to provide services to the populace raised expectations, leading to the launch of flagship projects and the acceptance of other government-run initiatives in several counties with the purpose of promoting economic and social development. The public of Kenya put pressure on the County Governments during their first term (2013–2017) and on them to fulfill their election promises, political manifesto commitments, and international obligations as well as to show development results from the taxes received. The public is now more informed and demands openness and evidence of how county government intervention has improved the quality of their lives (PMCF, 2017).

County governments in Kenya have undertaken various developmental projects aimed at improving the quality of life for their residents. These projects span diverse sectors such as infrastructure, healthcare, education, and agriculture. Infrastructural projects are particularly prominent, as counties work to improve road networks, build bridges, and enhance public transportation systems. For instance, the Nairobi County government has prioritized the expansion of road networks to ease traffic congestion and improve connectivity within the city (Kenya Roads Board, 2020). Similarly, in Mombasa County, efforts have been made to upgrade the port and road infrastructure to boost trade and tourism (Ochieng, 2021). These infrastructure projects are crucial for economic development, as they facilitate the movement of goods and people, thereby stimulating local economies and creating job opportunities. A report by the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) highlights the significant progress in road construction and maintenance across various counties, underscoring the importance of sustained investment

in infrastructure for regional development (KeNHA, 2019). Furthermore, the World Bank's support through the Kenya Urban Support Program has been instrumental in enhancing urban infrastructure in several counties (World Bank, 2022).

Healthcare is another critical area where county governments have focused their efforts. The devolution of healthcare services has led to notable improvements in the accessibility and quality of healthcare across Kenya. Counties such as Kisumu and Kakamega have invested in modernizing healthcare facilities and expanding access to essential services (Ministry of Health, 2020). For instance, the Kisumu County government has upgraded Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital, which now provides specialized medical services previously unavailable in the region (Ochieng, 2022). This has reduced the need for patients to travel to Nairobi for treatment, thereby easing the burden on the national healthcare system. Similarly, Kakamega County has established new health centers and equipped them with modern medical equipment, enhancing the capacity to handle emergencies and routine medical needs (Wangari, 2021). The World Bank's Kenya Devolution Support Program (KDSP) has been instrumental in supporting these healthcare improvements, providing financial and technical assistance to counties (World Bank, 2020).

In the education sector, county governments have also made significant strides. Efforts to improve educational infrastructure, such as building new schools and renovating existing ones, have been widely observed. Counties like Kiambu and Nyeri have invested heavily in constructing modern classrooms, laboratories, and libraries, ensuring that students have access to conducive learning environments (Ng'ethe, 2019). These initiatives are complemented by programs aimed at enhancing the quality of education, such as teacher

training and curriculum development (UNICEF, 2021). The partnership between county governments and international development agencies, such as UNICEF and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has been pivotal in driving these educational improvements. These agencies provide not only funding but also expertise in educational best practices, helping counties implement effective educational reforms (UNDP, 2020). A recent study by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development highlights the positive impact of these collaborative efforts on educational outcomes (KICD, 2021).

Agriculture, being the backbone of Kenya's economy, has also seen substantial investment from county governments. Counties in agriculturally rich regions such as Nakuru and Meru have initiated projects to boost agricultural productivity and support local farmers (FAO, 2019). These projects include the provision of subsidized seeds and fertilizers, construction of irrigation schemes, and training programs on modern farming techniques (ASDSP, 2020). For example, Nakuru County has launched a comprehensive agricultural support program that includes the distribution of high-yield seed varieties and training on sustainable farming practices (Nakuru County Government, 2021). Such initiatives are designed to enhance food security, increase farmers' incomes, and promote sustainable agriculture. The Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP), funded by the Swedish government, has played a critical role in supporting these county-level agricultural projects, providing both technical assistance and financial resources (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, 2020). Additionally, the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project has been instrumental in promoting climate-resilient agricultural practices (World Bank, 2021).

Particularly, there are now 2830 projects in Makueni County, out of which 2138 have been finished. According to appendix II, 35 of them are stalled, 116 projects have yet to start, and 414 of them are still in progress. Below is a breakdown of the projects by sub-county. For the purpose of handling the county development budget, the Makueni County government has established an online portal (Makueni County, 2022). The County Projects Management System now monitors budget and performance information for numerous programs and projects from the 30 wards established since the 2013/14 FY, primarily supporting the achievement of the County's Vision 2025.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In particular, the majority of the projects slated for implementation in the county of Makueni (2017–18), including as the construction of a mango and of educational facilities, were started without the public's involvement, which later led to resistance to the entire process. As a result, many projects took longer than necessary to finish while other ones stopped. According to the auditor-report general's on the County Government of Makueni (2018), various projects in Makueni County were not carried out in compliance with the law since they took longer than planned to be finished. Political squabbles among politicians, murky organizational structures, and a lack of public monitoring caused initiatives in the health, physical infrastructure (roads), and education sectors projects to languish raises concern.

Empirically, the studies conducted have been fully conclusive in describing the role on public participation on project performance. Atleast 70.26% of the projects in the county had not been finished several years after they had begun. Furthermore, the effects of

strategy implementation on the effectiveness of CDF projects in the county had challenges emanating from problems with leadership, cultural receptivity, structural factors, and communication rendered these projects ineffective. The county found community participation and institutional capacity as variables impacting the sustainability of donor-funded food security programs in Kaiti Sub-County. However, the studies that are now available do not clearly show how public engagement affects how well or unsuccessfully these county programs are implemented. The public's worry that county government initiatives in Kenya are a waste of tax payers money has been exacerbated by their poor success rate. Other viewpoints have been presented that call into question the applicability of these initiatives to Kenya's system of devolved government. If these initiatives were carried out well, it's likely that there would be no resistance. This study therefore seeks to address these eminent research gaps. In particular, this study sought to answer the following research question, what is the influence of public participation on implementation of county government projects: case of Makueni County, Kenya?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to assess the influence of public participation on implementation of county government projects: case of Makueni County, Kenya.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The study was guided by following specific objectives;

To determine the influence of public participation in project identification process on implementation of Makueni county projects.

To establish the influence of public participation in budget preparation process on implementation of Makueni county projects.

To assess the influence of public participation in governance process on implementation of Makueni county projects.

To establish the influence of public participation in monitoring and evaluation process on implementation of Makueni county projects.

1.5 Research Hypothesis

This study aimed at proving the following hypotheses;

H₀₁: Public participation in project identification process does not have a positive influence on implementation of Makueni county projects.

H₀₂: Public participation in budget preparation process does not have a positive influence on implementation of Makueni county projects.

H₀₃: Public participation in governance process does not have a positive influence on implementation of Makueni county projects.

H₀₄: Public participation in monitoring and evaluation process does not have a positive influence on implementation of Makueni county projects.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The findings of the study improved how county governments in Makueni and Kenya as a whole implement their projects. The study was especially useful to the government, lawmakers, general public, academics, and researchers. The study was beneficial to the government because it enabled government entities to create regulations that ensure the county project implementation satisfies the essential requirements for successful project execution. The study was helpful to the governors, senators and MPs who are in charge of the county leadership because it helped them to understand the safeguards they must put in place to guarantee successful project execution.

Adopting the study's recommendations benefited the general public as financiers because they were guaranteed that the projects implemented effectively and efficiently managed their resources and ensure project success. They were also enlightened on the relevancy of their participation in these projects. The study also recommended areas for further investigation, serving as a foundation for further research. It was also a source of reference upon which others studies were based on.

1.7 Scope of the Study

The study only covered the Makueni County projects. The following constituencies are located in Makueni County and hence formed the study population; Makueni constituency, Mbooni constituency, Kibwezi East constituency, Kibwezi West constituency, Kaiti constituency and Kilome constituency. There are many aspects of project management, however, the study only focused on implementation and seek to determine the public participation factors influencing implementation. The study was undertaken for a period of three months (March, 2023-May, 2023).

1.8 Study Limitations

The study was limited by access to information being sought by the study. Since confidentiality is a problem, it is to be expected that some of the respondents contacted were hesitant to provide information. By providing the respondents with an introduction letter from the university and ensuring them that the information gathered was treated secretly and used solely for academic purposes, the researcher addressed the issue. The head of projects in each constituency were also asked for consent to collect the data. The methodology of the study, which was solely look at Makueni County constituencies, was also anticipated to have limitations. The results might not have applied to all county projects in Kenya or other countries, for that reason.

Additionally, because sampling was used, not all those involved in these projects were among the respondents. The study's conclusions might change if all those involved in project implementation are included. The study was also constrained by the type of data it uses, which was primary data. Surveys were used to gather the data. It could be impossible to verify the validity of primary data obtained through questionnaires. To combat this, the researcher ensured thorough and systematic data collection so as to enable generalization of the findings.

1.9 Delimitations

The study was delimited to projects implemented in Makueni County. The study adopted a descriptive research design was employed targeting all the 6 constituencies in Makueni County. Primary data was used in the study. Measures of tendency such as means, frequencies, and standard deviations were used in data analysis.

1.10 Assumptions of the Study

The study made the assumption that the respondents cooperated in taking part in the study. The study also assumed that the respondents are knowledgeable on projects implemented in Makueni County and the data collection instruments were sufficient in obtaining the information being sought after by the study. The study further made the assumption that there was public participation in projects implemented in Makueni County.

1.11 Hypothesis Testing

The influence of public involvement on the implementation of county projects was examined in the case of Makueni County, Kenya. The research aimed to test several hypotheses regarding the relationship between different aspects of public and project implementation.

The first hypothesis suggested that participation in the project identification process does not positively influence project implementation. However, the findings revealed a contradiction, as statistical analysis indicated a significant positive correlation between the quality of the project identification process and project implementation in Makueni County (Pearson Correlation= 0.536, Sig.= 0.000). this suggests that as the effectiveness of project identification improves, the likelihood of successful project implementation increases.

Similarly, the hypothesis regarding public participation in the budget preparation process was challenged by the study results. The analysis revealed a strong positive correlation between the budget preparation process, project identification, and project implementation in Makueni County. The data showed a significant correlation between the budget preparation process and both project identification (Pearson Correlation= 0.727, Sig.=

0.000) and project implementation (Pearson Correlation= 0.488, Sig. = 0.000). These findings indicate that a well-structured budget preparation process is closely linked to successful project identification and implementation.

Moving on to the third hypothesis concerning public participation in the governance process, the study findings provided substantial evidence to refute it. Analysis demonstrated a strong positive correlation between effective governance practices and both project implementation and project identification in Makueni County. The data revealed significant correlations between project and project implementation (Pearson Correlation= 0.506, Sig. = 0.000). these results underscored the critical role of transparent and accountable governance in facilitation successful project implementation.

Lastly, the study findings challenged the hypothesis that public participation in the monitoring and evaluation process does not positively influence project implementation. Contrary to this hypothesis, the analysis revealed significant positive correlations between the monitoring and evaluation process and project implementation, project identification, and budget preparation in Makueni County. The correlations underscored the importance of a robust monitoring and evaluation system in ensuring the success of county projects.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

The pertinent literature review linked to the study objectives is included in this chapter. Theoretical reviews concentrated on various theories and frameworks related to the study, examining their propositions and implications for the research variables, while empirical reviews analyzed other studies that have been undertaken that are pertinent to the investigation. The conceptual framework for examining the relationships between the dependent and independent variables is also covered in this chapter. The chapter concludes with a summary and overview of the research gap.

2.2 Empirical Literature Review

2.2.1 Public participation in project identification process and project implementation

Nyabera (2015) performed research on the impact of stakeholder involvement on project delivery in Kenya. In this study, a descriptive research design was employed. Both qualitative and quantitative research techniques were employed in the study. Within 4 Compassion-assisted initiatives, 391 stakeholders were the intended audience. Fisher et al., method was used to calculate the study's sample size, which was 191 participants with an average response rate of 80%. A questionnaire and interviewing guide were used in the research. The study found that stakeholder involvement in project initiation had a significant impact on project implementation in projects with stakeholders represented in

the project governance structure. The purpose of the current investigation was to determine whether the same is true for the Makueni projects.

Maina (2016) examined the elements that affect the successful execution of projects with a particular emphasis on AMREF Health Africa in Kenya. The target organization was AMREF Health Africa in Kenya. A descriptive survey research technique was used. The method of stratified random sampling was used to get a sample of 70 respondents. The study's findings were presented using a set of frequency and mean tables with descriptive statistics. Version 20 of the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) was used for computation and data processing. According to the study, it is essential to ensure stakeholder participation throughout the project's duration for optimal project execution. The study, however, was unable to determine the part that stakeholders played in the projects' sustainability.

Through a qualitative approach, Mohammadi, Norazizan, and Nikkhah (2018) established Iranians' attitudes of taking part in governmental operations. The study used a qualitative technique that mostly relied on interviews to collect qualitative data for theme analysis. According to the content analysis, their view was focused on the necessity of their engagement.

The impact of project management techniques on the execution of governmental projects in Machakos County was examined by Ngundo and James (2018). Institutional theory, socioeconomic theory, and resource-based theory served as the study's pillars. A descriptive survey research approach was used for the investigation. The 128 projects carried out by the Machakos County Government were the target population. The respondents were the project managers who served as the primary information stewards for

each project and were located either in county administrative offices, sub-county offices, or ward administrative offices. The sample size was calculated using a simple random sampling method. A questionnaire was the study tool utilized to gather population-based primary data and information. The study discovered that the use of government-funded projects in Machakos County was strongly impacted by project design, stakeholder involvement, monitoring and evaluation, and technology. In the county, monitoring and evaluation were used, but the project managers lacked the necessary software and instruments for effective and efficient reporting to the stakeholders. hardly little use of technology.

Using empirical data gathered from a sample of 326 community members who took part in the execution of the Hazina Ya Maendeleo Ya Pwani (HMP) project, Hassan et al. (2019) identified the demographic characteristics that affect community engagement. The study was conducted in the Kenyan coastal area, which includes Mombasa, Taita Taveta, Kwale, Kilifi, Lamu, and Tana River counties. A semi-structured questionnaire was used to gather the information. This was done using a multinomial logistic regression. The results of the study showed that education level and gender were the two demographic characteristics that substantially affected community engagement, with women participating more. The study also showed that age and the sort of economic activity, which are demographic characteristics, had no discernible impact on community involvement. The study's findings suggest that taking gender and educational level into account can help to promote the best possible community involvement in grassroots development activities.

2.2.2 Public participation in budget preparation process and project implementation

Using the example of Kenya's Uasin Gishu County, Chelunget (2017) investigated the impact of financial management methods on project performance. The respondents for the study were chosen using stratified and random sampling approaches. Data was gathered through questionnaires, and Cronbach's alpha was used to guarantee reliability. The data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The results showed that good project budgeting has a considerable impact on project performance. However, the study only looked into the topic of project performance and ignored the projects' sustainability.

Nyaga and James (2018) conducted research on the elements influencing the viability of programs aimed at ensuring food security for the masai community. The research design used in the study was evaluation. 1200 people who were members of or registered with various groups or organizations in the research region made up the study's total population. A 10% sample was chosen, resulting in a sample size of 120 respondents. Faith-based organizations, financial institutions, community-based organizations, and government agencies were among the project groups whose key informants were chosen. According to the study, community involvement had a favorable impact on the project's sustainability. Additionally, the financing amount would have a statistically significant favorable impact on the project's viability. The outcomes for the model's goodness of fit test showed that community involvement and financial resources provided a satisfactory explanation for the longevity of food security programs in the research region.

In Vihiga County, Kenya, Odenyo (2018) suggests that women's organizations receive training on resource mobilization strategies, such as the many ways to raise money, starting with planning fundraisers, identifying and utilizing an organization's assets, and

looking for outside funding sources. Women's groups should do human resource mapping to cut down on spending on outside sources.

Hayrapetyan (2019) used a quantitative study to determine the variables influencing participation in Armenia, focusing on the case of Yerevan. The majority of the study's data was quantitative, and binary logistic regression models were used to examine it. According to the findings, a citizen's impression of and attitude toward their government has a significant role in whether or not they decide to engage in decision-making. Additionally, it was determined that a citizen's decision to engage in a public process was significantly influenced by their degree of awareness and understanding.

2.2.3 Public participation in governance process and project implementation

Msofe (2016) identified the elements influencing village assembly participation in Tanzania's Akeri and Patandi communities of the Meru District Council. Both questionnaires and interviews were employed in the study. The data was analyzed using descriptive analysis, and the study's conclusions showed that low levels of citizen participation are caused by a lack of government responsiveness and transparency in information dissemination, an unclear timetable for participation, and low levels of awareness and knowledge among the populace.

The amount to which public knowledge affects participation in county government-funded initiatives in Nairobi county was discovered by Ketoyo (2017). The study's descriptive design survey approach concentrated on Nairobi's 8 sub-counties. The data's correlation analysis revealed that the access to information variable had the most beneficial impact on the encouragement of county project execution (Pearson correlation coefficient =.412).

According to Katamei, Omwono, and Wanza (2018), the performance of CDF projects in the Marakwet West constituency was hampered by cultural receptivity, which included low levels of understanding of the implementation process, poor managers' leadership styles, poorly implemented values and belief systems, and conscious and unconscious symbolic acts taken by leaders. Power struggles, excessive bureaucracy, and an unclear reporting structure are just a few of the structural obstacles that have been recognized as seriously impeding CDF project effectiveness. Lack of strategic control mechanisms, lack of priorities among many participants, inefficient coordination, extra essential duties, and an inadequate information system were among the communication issues of strategy execution that hindered CDF projects' success. The study so concluded that the execution of CDF initiatives was hampered by issues with structure, leadership, culture, and communication.

According to Auya (2019), the CDF's struggle with weak leadership in the North Mugirango/Borabu Constituency was primarily due to the committee members' selection procedures. The study found that virtually all CDF committee members were chosen by a member of parliament who favors his cronies over those with higher education, experience, or leadership potential. Constituents fail to offer the essential support to the leaders (location representatives) they believe to have been imposed on them since they were not involved in picking location representatives. Additionally, because the MP's nominees (CDF committee) seldom disclose instances of theft, there were no checks and accountability systems to guarantee effective usage of the monies granted to various projects.

Sakyi-Darko and Mensah (2020) assessed the level of community involvement in development projects in the Ghanaian district of Ajumako-Enyan-Essiam. The development projects chosen were KVIPs, market structures, and water systems. This descriptive survey study approach gathered information from 72 respondents from six chosen neighborhoods within the district using semi-structured interviews, a focus group discussion guide, and an observation checklist. The results showed that recipients and Development Agencies both "participated" in the development programs as a means to an end. Meeting externally imposed welfare objectives and the urgent socioeconomic needs of the communities were the ends for both the Development Agents and the communities. According to the rational choice theory, both people decide to choose the course of action that will serve their interests the best. Participation is useful in the district. To encourage communities to actively engage in the development process, it is advised that the District Assembly educate them about their duties as conduits in the decentralization process. Additionally, development agents provide communities the authority to enable project sustainability.

In Trans Nzoia County, Kenya, Kituyi and Moi (2021) investigated the effects of citizen attitudes, information accessibility, and citizen knowledge on public engagement in the budget-making process. The 5 Sub County Administrators, 25 County Assembly members, 25 Ward Administrators, 9 County Executive Committee members, and 227762 Adult Citizens of Kiminini Sub-county were the target group for the descriptive survey design. The study's findings showed that just 29% of county residents are aware of public participation, which is poor. Additionally, it was determined that just 7% of the county's population participated in the budget-making process. The survey also revealed that the

majority of the populace holds participatory budgeting in low regard, believing it to be of little benefit to the county's growth. The likelihood of citizens engaging in the budget-making process can greatly rise with an improvement in the degree of citizen's favorable perception. It was also found that the county administration was not transparent in providing information about participatory budgeting and that there was only somewhat easy access to credible and pertinent information.

2.2.4 Public participation in monitoring and evaluation process and project implementation

Said (2017) investigated the impact of project assessment methodologies on the effectiveness of county government projects, using the instance of water projects in Kenya's Wajir County. Descriptive research survey methodology was utilized in the study. Because the researcher may gather information to address queries about the state of the study subject, this technique of research was favored. According to the report, benchmarking helps project managers identify the best practices, rank areas for development, increase performance in relation to project forecasts, and skip the conventional cycle of change. The study also found that project managers may generate better projects at cheaper costs with continual development, meeting the project's goals. The analysis further proved that the county's management by objectives strategies worked. The study found that continuous improvement guarantees that project managers are able to generate better projects at lower cost, thereby accomplishing the project objectives. The study also found that continuous improvement projects have a positive impact on the performance of county government projects.

Iddi and Nuhu (2018) investigated Tanzania's government projects' monitoring and assessment. It explores the difficulties and possibilities brought about by community involvement using the 15 sub-projects chosen for the TASAF II national project in Tanzania's Bagamoyo District as examples. 55 beneficiaries and 17 key informants were purposefully chosen for the primary data collection, and they each received surveys, in-depth interviews, and focus group discussions. Additionally, direct field observation was used to acquire a true sense of the situation at the subproject locations. The study showed that community engagement in M&E still faced several difficulties, including cost in terms of time and money, complexity of analysis, and absence of analysis, despite TASAF policy that empowered communities to demand, execute, and monitor services. Additionally, it was said that despite the difficulties, there are still potential to engage the community in M&E of TASAF II sub-projects.

Kamau (2018) conducted research on the variables affecting the success of county government initiatives, using the Gatundu Modern Market in the Ng'enda Ward of the Gatundu South Sub-County of Kiambu County, Kenya, as a case study. The theory of change as applied to monitoring and assessment was employed in the study. The research used descriptive research methodologies. The target audience was made up of employees of the County Government in Gatundu Sub-County, local authorities in Ng'enda Ward, market vendors, and customers in Gatundu Modern Market. The study discovered that managerial abilities, management experience, competent employees, the team's knowledge, good planning, and efficient communication were crucial for the success of projects. The effectiveness of County initiatives also depended on public engagement, and respondents felt there should be more places where people could voice their ideas and have

them taken into account. The effectiveness of County Government initiatives was found to be significantly influenced by monitoring and evaluation; ineffective monitoring and evaluation was found to be a limiting factor, and consistent monitoring and evaluation was found to be necessary.

Salat and James (2019) investigated the sustainability of community-based health projects in Kenya's Mandera County. The research used a descriptive approach. The target group consisted of 27 health initiatives in Kenya's Mandera County. Through the use of descriptive and inferential statistics, the gathered data was examined. The study found a significant positive relationship between community involvement and the sustainability of community-based health projects in Mandera County, Kenya. There was also a strong correlation between resource mobilization and utilization and the sustainability of community-based health projects. There was a significant association between leadership styles and the sustainability of community-based health programs in Mandera County, Kenya, as well as a positive correlation between capacity building and sustainability of such projects.

2.3 Theoretical Review

2.3.1 Ladder of Citizen Participation Theory

Sherry Arnstein (1969) proposed the ladder of citizen participation theory and covered eight different forms of engagement as shown by Figure 2.1. The redistribution of power that enables the citizens, who are currently excluded from the political and economic processes, to be consciously involved in the future is what she refers to as "Arnstein's ladder,". Arnstein developed the idea and acknowledged that there are many involvement levels (Burns, 2014). The three levels, which include eight sub-levels, are as follows: Non-

Involvement, which includes what he called treatment and manipulation and at which there is absolutely no participation (Burns,2014).

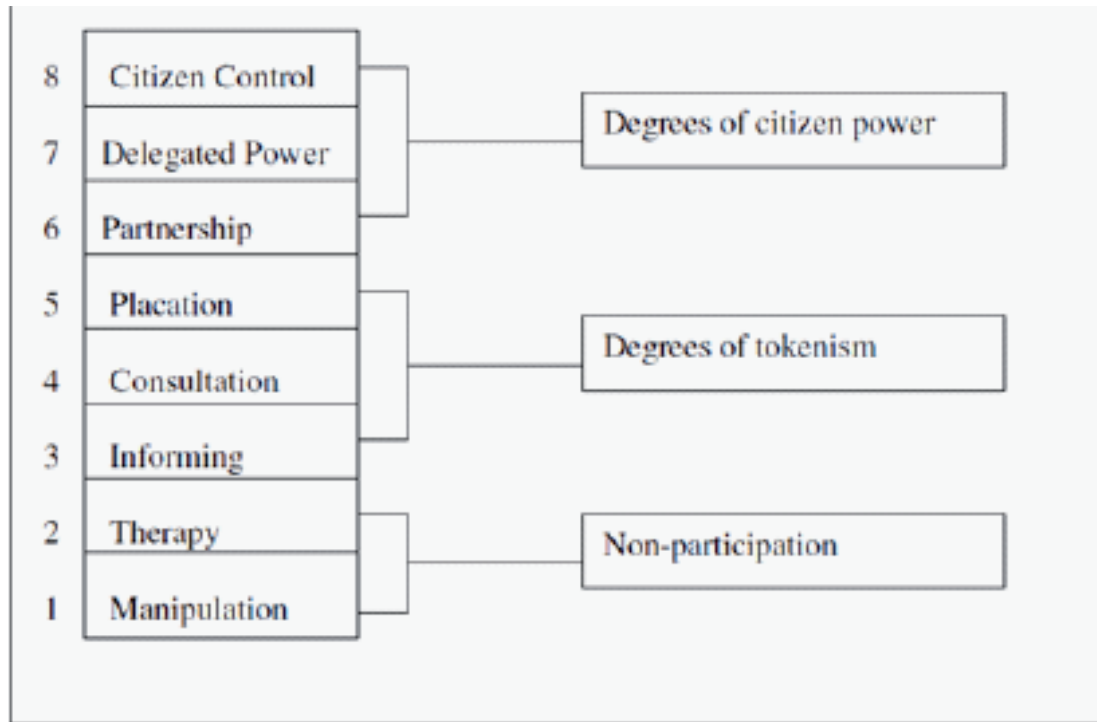


Figure 2. 1 Arnstein Ladder of Citizen Participation Theory

Source: Arnstein, (2019)

Tokenism, which is the degree to which public involvement is carried out just to satisfy a legal need or comply with an organization's operations manual. He pointed forth several methods, including informing, consulting, and placating (Burns, 2014). The final option is citizen power, which is the ideal situation in which the community is actively and significantly involved in decisions that have an impact on them. Through participation in a variety of activities, the citizens have the capacity to control their fate. They have the authority to require that they be involved in all aspects of the subject matter, including the planning, carrying out, monitoring, and assessment.

Arnstein's model assumes a linear progression of power and control, suggesting that as citizens climb higher on the ladder, their influence and agency increase. This assumption implies that participation is inherently hierarchical and that more involvement is always better. However, this perspective may oversimplify the complexities of public engagement. Participation is multifaceted, and the effectiveness of citizen involvement can depend on the context and the nature of the issue at hand. For instance, in some cases, a consultative approach might be more appropriate than full citizen control, particularly when technical expertise is required. A significant limitation of the Ladder of Citizen Participation is its binary view of power dynamics. By categorizing participation into discrete levels, it fails to account for the fluid and negotiated nature of power. Real-world scenarios often involve overlapping and contested spaces of influence, where power is shared, negotiated, and sometimes even revoked. This dynamic aspect is not well-captured in Arnstein's static model. Additionally, the model assumes that the end goal of participation should always be higher levels of citizen control, which might not be practical or desirable in all situations. For example, certain governmental decisions require specialized knowledge that the general public might not possess, making collaborative or delegated decision-making more effective.

Despite these limitations, the Ladder of Citizen Participation has notable strengths. It provides a clear and straightforward framework that highlights the varying degrees of citizen involvement, bringing attention to the often-overlooked gradations between tokenism and genuine empowerment. This clarity can serve as a powerful diagnostic tool for evaluating public participation practices. By identifying where a particular initiative falls on the ladder, practitioners and policymakers can assess whether the engagement is

meaningful or merely symbolic. Moreover, the ladder emphasizes the importance of power redistribution, challenging institutions to reflect on their commitment to genuine public involvement. This focus on power is crucial, as it underscores the necessity of addressing structural inequalities in participatory processes. The theory has been instrumental in encouraging more democratic and inclusive approaches to governance, prompting shifts from top-down to more participatory models of decision-making.

The significance of the Ladder of Citizen Participation extends to its impact on subsequent theoretical and practical developments in the field of public administration and participatory governance. It has laid the groundwork for more nuanced models of participation that consider the quality and impact of citizen involvement, rather than just its form. For instance, recent advancements in participatory theory have built on Arnstein's work to explore dimensions such as deliberative quality, inclusiveness, and the sustainability of participation (Fung, 2015). In contemporary practice, the ladder remains a reference point for designing and evaluating participatory processes. For example, it has informed the development of frameworks for citizen engagement in urban planning and policy-making (Connelly, 2021). By providing a vocabulary and conceptual tool for discussing participation, Arnstein's ladder has facilitated a broader understanding and appreciation of the complexities involved in involving citizens in public decisions.

Recent scholarship has also highlighted the evolving nature of citizen participation, acknowledging that digital technologies and social media are reshaping how citizens engage with public institutions. These new forms of participation often do not fit neatly into Arnstein's ladder, suggesting a need for updated models that can capture the diversity and dynamism of contemporary civic engagement (Bussu & Galanti, 2022). However, the

fundamental principles of power and inclusivity that underpin the ladder remain relevant, guiding efforts to ensure that these new participatory mechanisms genuinely enhance citizen influence.

Despite its limitations, the theory's emphasis on power redistribution and its clarity in differentiating levels of participation have had a lasting impact on both theoretical developments and practical applications in participatory governance. As citizen participation evolves with technological advancements and changing societal norms, Arnstein's ladder remains a pertinent tool for critically examining and improving the ways in which citizens are engaged in public affairs. This theory was the main anchor for the study and it aided in describing not only which the public was involved in the overseeing the projects but also how all the tenets of public participation affect project implementation.

2.3.2 Agency Theory

The Agency Theory (AT) was developed in the economics literature by Barry, (1973). Jensen and Meckling, (1976) then applied the theory to the fields of finance and management accounting to build accounting control systems to track behavior and activities and to identify the ideal level of risk-sharing and incentive contracting. The AT mostly applies to circumstances when one person (the agent) is appointed by another person (the principle) to act on their behalf. In this instance, the state officials in charge of managing public finances make managerial choices and take administrative action on behalf of the governments to meet the demands of the general populace.

This theory assumes that both principals and agents are utility maximizers, where principals seek to maximize their returns on investments and agents aim to maximize their

personal gain. The theory also assumes information asymmetry, where agents possess more information about their actions and intentions than the principals, leading to potential moral hazard and adverse selection issues. Furthermore, it presumes that principals can mitigate these issues through appropriate incentive schemes and monitoring mechanisms (Bosse & Phillips, 2016; Eisenhardt, 1989; Hill & Jones, 1992; Jensen & Meckling, 1976).

However, these assumptions are not without limitations. Critics argue that Agency Theory oversimplifies human behavior by ignoring the complexity of motivations beyond financial incentives, such as intrinsic motivations and ethical considerations. Additionally, the theory's reliance on contractual solutions to mitigate agency problems can be impractical in dynamic and uncertain environments where not all future contingencies can be anticipated and accounted for in contracts. Moreover, the costs associated with monitoring and bonding to align the interests of agents and principals can be substantial, potentially outweighing the benefits (Pepper & Gore, 2015; Shapiro, 2005; Tosi et al., 2000; Wiseman et al., 2012).

Despite these limitations, Agency Theory has notable strengths that contribute to its widespread application in various fields, including corporate governance, finance, and economics. One significant strength is its clear framework for analyzing and addressing conflicts of interest between principals and agents, which is particularly relevant in corporate governance structures. This framework aids in designing executive compensation packages that align the interests of managers with those of shareholders, thereby potentially enhancing corporate performance. Additionally, Agency Theory's emphasis on information asymmetry has spurred the development of mechanisms like audits and transparency initiatives to reduce informational gaps and enhance trust in principal-agent

relationships (Armstrong et al., 2010; Bebchuk & Fried, 2003; Daily et al., 2003; Ross, 1973).

The significance of Agency Theory extends beyond its theoretical contributions to practical implications in organizational and policy design. It provides valuable insights for improving corporate governance practices, emphasizing the need for robust oversight and performance-based incentives to mitigate agency problems. This theory has also influenced regulatory frameworks and policies aimed at enhancing corporate accountability and transparency, such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act in the United States. Additionally, Agency Theory's principles have been applied in non-corporate settings, including public administration and non-profit organizations, where similar principal-agent dynamics exist (Charreaux, 2016; Clarke, 2004; Fama & Jensen, 1983; Jensen, 1986).

The narrowness of agency theory's behavioural presumptions and its theoretical emphasis are its biggest flaws. A larger spectrum of human motivations are disregarded by agency theory since it primarily emphasizes self-interested and opportunistic human behavior. Furthermore, the theory does not dispute the validity of the principal's objectives. Despite these drawbacks, the agency theory captures the reality in Kenya where the people give the county administration and politicians the authority to serve the national interests. The proposition of the theory to the study is that residents of Makeni County serve as the principals and appoint county representatives as their agents to guarantee that their interests are well-represented in politics and that their issues are handled.

The principal and the agents are both utility maximizers driven by monetary and non-monetary factors that create incentive issues in the presence of uncertainty and information asymmetry. The primary issues with hierarchical relationships between participants in

policy implementation and policy-making concerns are explained by the agency model, which also emphasizes the significance of county governments in the provision of public services. Agency theory suggests that public participation in the budget preparation process can influence the implementation of county projects by improving the principal-agent relationship, influencing incentives, and reducing information asymmetry. By involving citizens in the budgeting process, governments can ensure that public resources are being used effectively to meet the needs of the community. Additionally, it addresses issues that develop whenever there is a disagreement on county public involvement and where the principal and the agents have various attitudes and preferences regarding risk.

2.3.3 Stewardship Theory

With origins in psychology and sociology, the Steward theory was used to study public governance behaviors. A steward preserves and maximizes shareholders' wealth through business performance, according to Davis, Schoorman, and Donaldson (1997), since doing so maximizes the utility functions of the steward. Stewards are business leaders and managers who work for the shareholders to safeguard and maximize returns on their investments. This theory is consistent with the current study in that it discourages individualism (Donaldson & Davis, 1991) and instead supports the role of top county government officials, particularly the county treasury officials, as stewards by incorporating their objectives into the plans for the entire county. According to the stewardship approach, successful county governments result in pleased and motivated county treasury officers (stewards).

Stewardship Theory, which contrasts with agency theory, posits that managers, as stewards, are motivated to act in the best interests of their principals. This theory assumes

that stewards are intrinsically motivated by organizational success rather than personal gain, leading to behaviors that align with the welfare of the stakeholders. This assumption hinges on the belief in the intrinsic motivation of managers, suggesting that their goals are aligned with those of the organization. However, this assumption may not always hold true as not all managers may prioritize organizational goals over personal objectives. For example, some managers might still pursue personal agendas, which can create conflicts of interest, undermining the foundational premise of the theory (Davis, Schoorman, & Donaldson, 1997; Hernandez, 2012; Caldwell, Hayes, & Long, 2010; Sundaramurthy & Lewis, 2003).

A significant limitation of stewardship theory is its potential naivety regarding human behavior. It assumes a high level of trust and intrinsic motivation among managers, which may not be realistic in all organizational contexts. This idealistic view can lead to underestimating the need for monitoring and control mechanisms, potentially leaving the organization vulnerable to managerial misconduct or misaligned interests. Furthermore, cultural differences can affect the applicability of stewardship theory, as individualistic cultures may not foster the same level of intrinsic motivation and loyalty towards organizational goals as collectivist cultures do (Donaldson & Davis, 1991; Davis, Allen, & Hayes, 2010; Hernandez, Eberly, Avolio, & Johnson, 2011; Van Slyke, 2006).

Despite these limitations, stewardship theory presents notable strengths. It promotes a positive view of human nature and emphasizes trust and empowerment within the organizational framework. This can lead to higher levels of employee satisfaction, engagement, and retention, as employees feel more valued and trusted. Additionally, organizations that adopt stewardship principles may experience enhanced cooperation and

teamwork, fostering a more collaborative and productive work environment (Hernandez, 2012; Caldwell & Karri, 2005; Tosi, Brownlee, Silva, & Katz, 2003; Muth & Donaldson, 1998).

The significance of stewardship theory lies in its potential to reshape organizational governance and leadership practices. By emphasizing the alignment of managerial and organizational goals, it encourages the development of governance structures that support trust and empowerment rather than control and monitoring. This can result in more sustainable and ethical business practices, contributing to long-term organizational success and stakeholder satisfaction (Davis et al., 1997; Hernandez, 2012; Caldwell & Karri, 2005; Neubaum, Dibrell, & Craig, 2012). Furthermore, in an era where corporate social responsibility and ethical governance are increasingly critical, stewardship theory offers a framework that aligns well with these contemporary organizational priorities.

The stewardship theory emphasizes the value of arrangements that provide the steward maximal authority and are based on trust (Donaldson & Davis, 1991). The management might adhere to the agency theory's premises and prioritize serving their personal interests over the interests of the shareholders (Jensen & Meckling, 1976). This idea illustrates that when organizations make decisions about pertinent issues, other interested parties (stakeholders) should be taken into account and consulted. The Stewardship theory was used in the study to explain how county officials act as stewards, take responsibility for their positions, and diligently work to ensure that services are delivered to the highest standard across the nation. Furthermore, according to stewardship theory, the governor and county speaker should combine their responsibilities in order to cut down on

administrative expenses and enhance their respective stewardship roles in the county governments and assemblies.

2.4 Conceptual Framework

Figure 2.2 shows the conceptual framework which was adopted by the study.

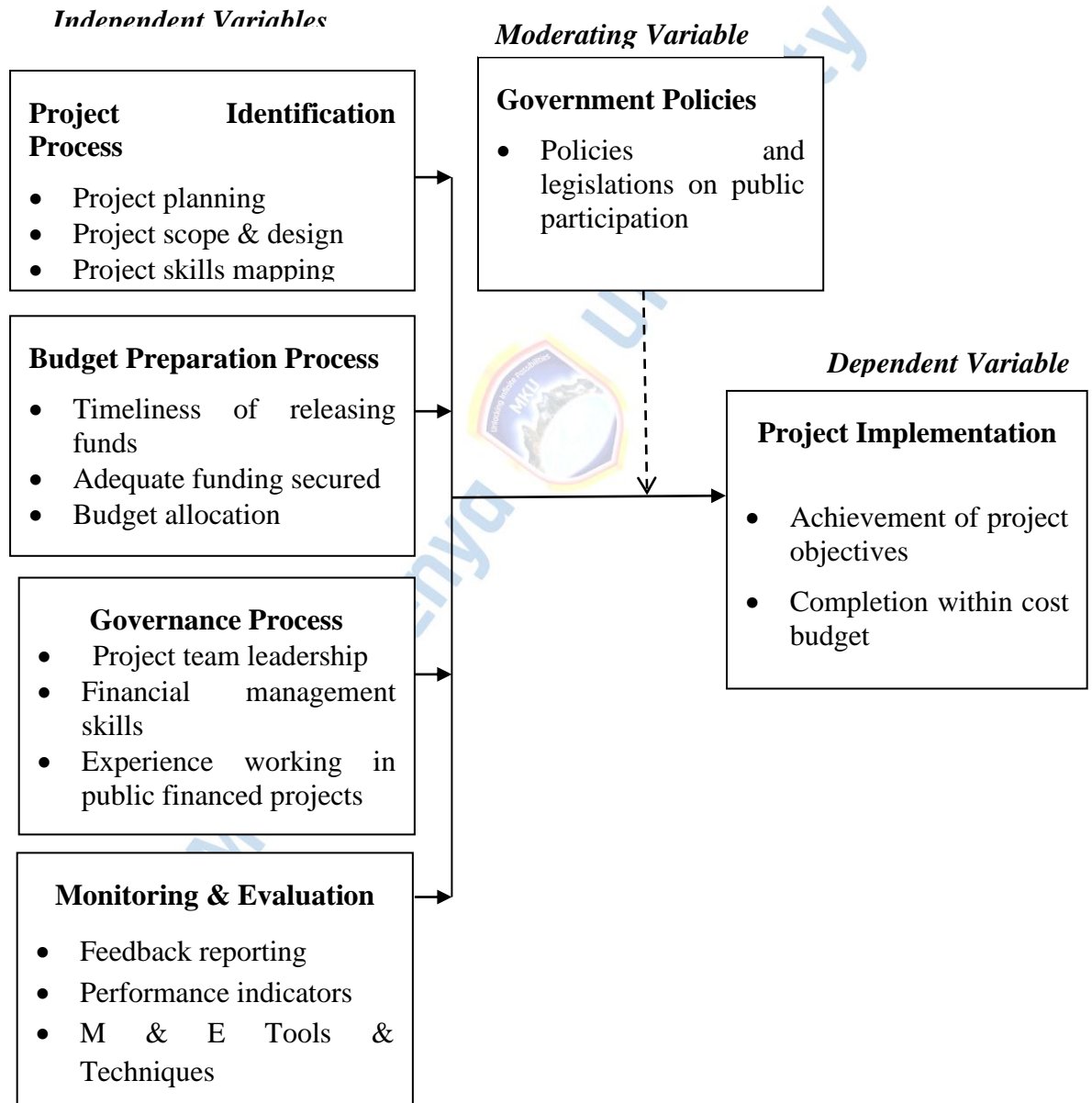


Figure 2. 2 Conceptual Framework

Source: Researcher 2022

The examination of public participation's influence on Makueni county projects highlights four critical variables: public engagement in project identification, budget preparation, governance, and monitoring and evaluation processes. These variables collectively shape the interaction between the government and the community, impacting the effectiveness and sustainability of development initiatives. Public participation in the project identification process serves as the foundational stage for community involvement in development initiatives. It involves actively engaging citizens in identifying and prioritizing projects that address local needs and aspirations. Research by Smith, Brown, and Davis (2019) emphasizes that early involvement of community members in project identification enhances the relevance and sustainability of interventions. When citizens are empowered to contribute their perspectives and insights, it ensures that development efforts are aligned with the unique challenges and opportunities within the local context. Moreover, studies have shown that projects identified through inclusive public participation tend to garner greater support and participation from the community, leading to increased ownership and commitment (Johnson, Smith, & Williams, 2020). In the case of Makueni county, fostering public participation in project identification can help bridge the gap between government priorities and community expectations, ultimately resulting in more impactful and sustainable development outcomes.

The budget preparation process represents another critical juncture for public participation in county projects. It involves engaging citizens in decisions related to resource allocation and budgetary priorities. According to Johnson, Smith, and Williams (2020), involving

citizens in budgeting decisions promotes transparency and accountability in the use of public funds. When community members have a voice in determining budget priorities, it ensures that resources are allocated in a manner that reflects the needs and preferences of the population. Additionally, research indicates that participatory budgeting can enhance public trust in government institutions and foster a sense of ownership and responsibility among citizens (Roberts & Ongoma, 2021). In Makueni county, embracing public participation in the budget preparation process can help build trust between the government and the community, leading to more efficient and equitable resource allocation and improved project outcomes.

The governance process is another key area where public participation plays a vital role in shaping county projects. Governance encompasses the mechanisms, processes, and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests and exercise their rights. Research by Roberts and Ongoma (2021) underscores the importance of inclusive governance mechanisms in fostering citizen trust and enhancing democratic legitimacy. When citizens are actively engaged in decision-making processes and policy formulation, it promotes transparency, responsiveness, and accountability in governance. Moreover, studies have shown that inclusive governance practices can lead to more effective and sustainable development outcomes by harnessing the collective wisdom and resources of the community (Wang & He, 2019). In Makueni county, promoting public participation in governance processes can help bridge the gap between government institutions and the community, leading to more responsive and accountable decision-making and improved project implementation.

Finally, public participation in the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) process is essential for assessing project progress and outcomes. It involves engaging community members in tracking project implementation, evaluating its impact, and providing feedback for continuous improvement. Research by Wang and He (2019) highlights the value of community engagement in M&E activities for enhancing project effectiveness and sustainability. When citizens are actively involved in monitoring project implementation and evaluating its impact, it ensures that development initiatives are responsive to community needs and priorities. Moreover, participatory M&E processes can help build trust between the government and the community by promoting transparency and accountability in project implementation (Smith, Brown, & Davis, 2019). In Makueni county, fostering public participation in the M&E process can lead to more informed decision-making, improved project performance, and enhanced community satisfaction with development efforts

2.5 Recap of literature review

The difficulties in project implementation have received a lot of attention in studies, but the elements that assure project execution and so benefit the average citizen have received less attention. This is true despite the significance of county projects such as the construction of schools, healthcare facilities, and roads, most of them are not effectively implemented. Additionally, projects rarely get finished on time as described by Chemutai and Rotich (2015), 70.26% of the projects were still unfinished several years after they had started. The public's worry that county projects are a waste of tax dollars has been exacerbated by projects' low success rates. There is also discussion of the importance projects in the devolved system of governance in Kenya. Though the available theories lay

out a framework for understanding the impact of public participation in projects, the studies conducted are still inconclusive. There is also limited studies conducted locally in Kenya. Therefore, it is important to investigate the role of public participation on implementation of county projects in Makueni County.



CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

The research approach that was applied to the study is described in this chapter. The research design, study population, sample design, data collection techniques, and data analysis are specifically covered in this chapter.

3.2 Research Methodology

The plan, process, or technique used to gather data or evidence for analysis in order to discover new knowledge or develop a better understanding of a topic is known as research methodology. It is the broad framework that a researcher uses to rationally and impartially bring together the many components of a research report (Kothari, 2014). In order for the researcher to effectively and thoroughly handle the study issue, this is intended to reinforce the findings acquired.

3.3 Research Design

A research design is used to organize a study and illustrate how the significant project components, such as samples or groups, measurements, treatments or programs, and assignment techniques, come together to solve the main research objectives. The conceptual framework of research design allows for the arranging of data collection and analytic circumstances in a way that strives to combine relevance to the study objective (Kothari, 2014). The study is joined together using glue to create a stunning design (meaningful and coherent study). A research design is a description of the overall strategy or plan used for a specific study. A descriptive research design was used for this study.

This design is focused with establishing the current state of a phenomena under research, which helps determine its current nature (Cooper & Schindler, 2017). By using a descriptive research methodology, it is possible to learn about current events and other phenomena and, when appropriate, make conclusions from the presented evidence (Creswell, 2008). Additionally, this research design is suited for studies when the researcher has to draw conclusions from a wider population, making it the best option. The layout made it possible to describe the elements that affect how constituency development fund projects are carried out in Makueni County. Without changing the environment, the design also enabled explanation of the relationship between elements impacting project implementation and success at that particular time.

3.4 Target Population

Population refers to the total of factors that the researcher is interested in and that together make a particular specification (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2008). All those directly or indirectly managing the implementation of various projects in Makueni County were included in the population for this study. There are 330 project personnel working on projects throughout all Makueni County constituencies and this formed the study population (Makueni County Government, 2022). Thus, the target population was the project committee members, executive project management consultant members and technical officers involved in implementation of the projects for the last at least three years at Makueni County constituencies as shown below.

Table 3.1: Target Population

Constituency	Committee members	CDF Executives	Technical officers	Total
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Makueni constituency	17	11	45	73
Mbooni constituency	12	12	30	54
Kibwezi constituency	East 15	15	25	55
Kibwezi constituency	West 10	12	28	50
Kaiti constituency	10	8	10	28
Kilome constituency	15	10	15	40
Total	79	68	153	300

Source: Makueni County Government, 2022

3.5 Sample Size and Sampling Techniques

The sampling design outlines the sampling method, sample size, and sampling unit for the investigation. The list of all population components from which the sample was drawn is referred to as the sampling frame (Cooper & Schindler, 2011). It includes all the units that might possibly make up a sample and serves as a physical representation of the target population. Using a stratified random sampling procedure, 99 respondents (30% of the population) was chosen from the target population shown in Table 3.1 as a proportional sample size. If the sample is well-chosen and contains more than 30 items, a sample size of 30% is sufficient. As a result, the chosen sample was sufficiently large to enable trustworthy data analysis testing for variations in estimates' significance. The sample frame for the study's target population is depicted in Table 3.2 below.

Table 3.2: Sample Frame

Category	Population	Sample	Percentage (%)
Committee members	79	24	26.3%
CDF Executives	68	20	22.7%
Technical officers	153	46	51.0%
Total	300	90	100.0%

Source: Researcher, (2022)

3.6 Data Collection Instruments

The study used primary methods in data collection using questionnaires. Primary data consists of unpublished, first-hand information. Questionnaires was used to achieve this. Data was gathered using a standardized questionnaire that includes both closed-ended and open-ended questions. The questionnaire was split into three parts: Part A was general questions about the respondents, and Part B focused on public participation in projects while Part C covered the implementation of projects in Makueni County. Individuals selected their replies using a five-point Likert scale, allowing the researcher to quantitatively analyse the data. The drop-and-pick approach was used to administer the surveys. The respondents had at least a week to react once the questionnaire is dropped off, and calls and emails were be made to check in with them. The researcher then made many trips to the different study regions to collect and follow-up on the research questionnaires.

3.7 Pilot Study

The questionnaire was pre-tested on 10 (10% of the sample) respondents who were chosen using purposive sampling from constituencies in Nairobi County in order to increase

reliability and validity. Nairobi County was chosen since it is close to the researcher and does not include any of the study's population. The purpose of the pilot study was to provide the researcher the opportunity to evaluate the efficiency of the research tools and give them a way to become familiar with the study sites. Based on the results of the pilot test, Cronbach's alpha was used next to evaluate the questionnaire's internal consistency and reliability. The piloted sample were urged to provide feedback and ideas about the instructions, the clarity of the questions, and their applicability. This exposed ambiguous questions and questionnaire flaws and give an opportunity to examine the data to see whether the chosen analytical techniques are adequate.

3.7.1 Reliability of the Questionnaire

Utilizing Cronbach alpha, the pilot test results were evaluated. To analyse and enhance the reliability of variables produced from summated scales, Cronbach's alpha was utilized to estimate the internal consistency or average correlation of items in the survey instrument (Kothari, 2004). Using a scale from 0 to 1, the Cronbach's alpha coefficient was used to assess the dependability of the data. All Cronbach alpha values were checked to make sure they are more than 0.7. This can be accomplished by either removing the low-alpha questions after the pilot research or rephrasing them. More than 200 respondents had consistent results obtained under standardized conditions and the repeatability of the findings in different settings.

3.7.2 Validity of the Instrument

Utilizing the construct validity approach, the questionnaire's validity was assessed. The degree to which a test measures an intended hypothetical construct is known as construct validity (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). This kind of validity may be evaluated by

consulting a group of professionals who are familiar with the notion. The research consulted with specialists from the Nairobi County Project to see if the questionnaire's questions accurately captured the targeted characteristics. The questionnaire underwent changes. Through testing and verification of the data collecting tools' validity and dependability, data quality control was handled.

3.8 Data Analysis and Presentation

Data must be processed or examined in order to be effectively understood and comprehended. The process of extracting information from the gathered data and presenting it is known as data analysis. The completed surveys were checked for accuracy and consistency. Because the emphasis was on the interpretation of the results rather than on quantification, the content analysis method was used to examine the qualitative data from the open-ended questions. The statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) version 24 was used to interpret the quantitative data from the closed-ended questions. Descriptive statistics, such as frequencies, percentages, standard deviation, and arithmetic mean, were used to examine the results. Inferential analysis was used in determination of the relationship between the variables. The results of the analysis were subsequently shown in charts and tables. The following model was utilized in regression analysis to determine the relationship between the research variables.

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

Where;

X₁: Project Identification

X₂: Budget Preparation

X₃: Governance Process

X₄: Monitoring & Evaluation

Y_i: Project Implementation

$\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$ are the various intercepts of the respective independent variables

ε : Error

3.9 Ethical Consideration

Before beginning the study, approval from NACOSTI and the Makueni County Government was requested. After receiving enough information about the study's needs, respondents were asked to agree to participating. Since their identities won't be disclosed on the surveys and codes were utilized, the participants' anonymity won't be jeopardized. Additionally, the researcher made sure that this study doesn't affect any individuals, groups, or other parties. Privacy was maintained during the entire research period and participation was entirely voluntary, free from coercion or inducement.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESEARCH FINDINGS, RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Introduction

Utilizing the gathered data, this section presents the research findings. It encapsulates the chapter by encompassing various essential elements, such as research's participation, demographic characteristics of the study variables, descriptive statistical assessments, variable associations, regression analysis and hypothesis testing.

4.1 Response Rate

The study included all 330 personnel directly or indirectly managing the implementation of various projects in Makueni County. Out of this population, a sample of 90 respondents was utilized. Out of the 90 distributed questionnaires, 87 were completed and returned, resulting in a response rate of 96.7%, which was considered satisfactory for this research. The remaining 3.3% represented cases where the respondents chose not to provide the requested information. According to Mugenda & Mugenda (2018), a response rate of 70% or higher is considered sufficient for research, reinforcing the acceptability of the response rate obtained in this study.

4.2 Demographic Information

This section presented the outcomes concerning the demographic characteristics and pertinent details of the study participants.

4.3.1 Level of Education

The study sought to determine the level of Education by each respondent and the results are presented in table 4.1

Table 4.1 Respondent's Level of Education

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Certificate	10	11.5
	Diploma	19	21.8
	Undergraduate	22	25.3
	Masters	36	41.4
	Total	87	100.0

The majority participants in the study had attained a master's degree, comprising 41.4% of the total sample. This indicates a significant presence of highly educated individual within the study, suggesting a greater depth of knowledge and understanding of governance and project implementation processes. Undergraduate degree holders accounted for 25.3, making them the second largest group, emphasizing the significant of a well-educated demographic in the study.

Conversely, those with a diploma represented 21.8%, while participants with a certificate comprised the smallest group at 11.5%. The data demonstrates a relatively balanced distribution of educational backgrounds among the participants, with a notable focus on individuals with advanced degrees, who may potentially play a pivotal role in shaping the county's governance and project implementation through their higher education and expertise.

4.3.2 Respondent's Involvement in Makueni County Projects

The study aimed at assessing the respondents' involvement in Makueni County's Projects as presented in table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Respondent's Involvement in Makueni County Projects

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Technical officer	10	11.5
	CDF Executive	19	21.8
	Committee member	58	66.7
	Total	87	100.0

Table 4.2 shows that 11.5% of the respondents were technical officers, 21.8% were CDF executives, and the majority of the respondents, constituting 66.7% were committee members. This data indicates that committee members played a significant role in the public participation process in Makueni County projects, followed by CDF executives and technical officers, although to a lesser extent.

4.3.3 Respondent's Duration of Work

The study sought to determine the number of years worked by the respondents in their respective positions as indicated in table 4.3.

Table 4.3 Respondent's Duration of Work

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Less than 3 years	12	13.8
	4-6 years	13	14.9
	7-10 years	30	34.5
	More than 10 years	32	36.8
	Total	87	100.0

According to the results in table 4.3, the majority of the respondents had more than 10 years of experience, comprising 37% of the total sample. Additionally, 35% of the respondents had 7-10 years of experience, while 15% had 4-6 years of experience. A smaller portion, 14% had less than 3 years of experience.

4.4 Descriptive Statistics

4.4.1 Influence of Public Participation in Project Identification Process

The study aimed at investigating the influence of public participation in project identification process on implementation of Makueni county projects. The respondents were asked to indicate their degree of agreement in relation to each of the criteria concerned with the influence of public participation in project identification process and project implementation.

Statistical Results for Public Participation

The data reveals that a significant majority of the participants strongly agreed that public participation during project identification helps members of the community to participate in the development of a project and that project identification through the public facilitates feasibility studies and identification of project donors. On the other hand, there was strong disagreement regarding the statement that public participation in project initiation helps identify project site, costing, as well as benefits to the community, with only one respondent strongly agreeing. These findings suggest that participants value public participation in the project identification process for certain aspects, such as community involvement and feasibility studies, while they may have reservations about its impact on project site and costing.

Table 4.4 Weighted Mean for Public Participation

Statement	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Public participation during project identification helps members of the community to participate in development of a project.	87	1	5	4.66	0.804
Public participation in project identification helps identify problems and translate them into solutions or actions.	87	1	5	4.02	1.585
Public participation in project initiation helps project managers identify the factors that affects the community ability to implement development projects.	87	1	5	4.09	1.254
Project identification through public participation helps to articulate public needs in a project.	87	1	5	4.25	1.081
Public participation in project initiation helps identify project site, costing, as well as benefits to the community.	87	1	5	4.03	1.333
Project identification through the public facilitates feasibility studies and identification of project donors.	87	2	5	4.61	0.826

The mean values for these statements range from 4.02 to 4.66, indicating a generally positive perception of the impact of public participation of project identification. The highest mean value, 4.66, is associated with the statement that public participation during project identification helps community members engage in the development of a project. This suggests a strong agreement among respondents regarding this aspect of public participation.

On the other hand, the lowest mean value, 4.02, pertains to the statement that public participation in project identification helps identify problems and translate them into

solutions or actions, indicating slightly less strong agreement but still a positive perception. The standard deviations, ranging from 0.804 to 1.585, indicate the level of dispersion or variability in the responses, with lower standard deviations suggesting more consistent responses among the participants.

4.4.2 Influence of Public Participation in Budget Preparation Process

The study aimed at investigating the influence of public participation in budget preparation process on implementation of Makueni county projects. The respondents were asked to indicate their degree of agreement in relation to each of the criteria concerned with the influence of public participation in budget preparation process and project implementation.

The respondents demonstrated a substantial level of agreement with the statement that budget preparation through the public ensures spending is monitored appropriately. This suggests that the participants believe that involving the public in the budget preparation process leads to effective monitoring of project expenditures. Furthermore, the respondents also expressed a considerable degree of agreement with the statement that public participation facilitates performance of tasks within the allocated budget. This indicates that, according to the study participants, involving the public in budget preparation helps ensure that project tasks are carried out within the allocated budget, which is crucial for effective project implementation and resource management.

Table 4.5 Weighted mean for Budget Preparation Process

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Budget preparation through the public ensures spending is monitored appropriately.	87	1	5	4.66	0.874

Public participation facilitates performance of tasks within the allocated budget	87	1	5	3.22	1.466
All the stakeholders are involved in financial detailed plan to establish the costs required during the implementation phases of the project	87	1	5	3.85	1.709
Public participation in budget preparation fosters the timeliness in release of project funds.	87	1	5	3.92	1.488
Through public participation, there is enhanced financial management in the project funds.	87	2	5	4.79	0.531

The mean values for the different aspects of public participation in budget preparation vary. Budget preparation through the public with a mean of 4.66 and enhanced financial management in project funds with a mean of 4.79 both received relatively high mean scores, suggesting that respondents generally believed that public participation positively impacts these areas. However, the aspects of public participation facilitating performance of tasks within the allocated budget (3.22), involvement of all stakeholders in financial detailed planning (3.85), and fostering timeliness in the release of project funds (3.92) received lower mean scores, indicating more mixed or moderately positive perceptions. The standard deviations, on the other hand, provide insights into the degree of agreement or disagreement among respondents for each aspect, with higher standard deviations suggesting more variability in responses.

4.4.3 Influence of Public Participation in Governance Process

The study aimed at investigating the influence of public participation in governance process on implementation of Makueni county projects. The respondents were asked to

indicate their degree of agreement in relation to each of the criteria concerned with the influence of public participation in governance process and project implementation.

Statistical Results for Governance Process

Majority of the study respondents strongly agree that public participation in project governance helps identify problems and translate them into solutions or actions, with 68 respondents providing this rating. Additionally, a significant number of respondents (73) strongly agree that every project is clearly planned for in terms of time and completion schedule when public participation is involved. This suggests a positive correlation between public participation and effective project planning.

Table 4.6 Weighted Mean of Governance Process

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Public participation in project governance helps identify problems and translate them into solutions or actions.	87	2	5	4.66	0.744
Every project is clearly planned for in terms of time and completion schedule.	87	1	5	4.44	1.336
Project governance through public participation helps in organizing project teams for various tasks.	87	1	5	4.44	1.198
Public participation on project governance ensures generation of progress reports and contract documents	87	2	5	4.59	0.971
Public participation on project governance ensures project objectives are met	87	1	5	4.48	0.819
Public participation during project governance helps members of the community to participate in development of a project	87	1	5	4.69	0.840
Project governance through public participation helps in creating a work flow during project implementation	87	1	5	4.72	0.817

The mean score in table 4.6 ranged from 4.44 to 4.72 indicating that public participation is perceived positively in various dimensions of project governance. The standard deviations, which represent the degree of variability in responses, are relatively low, ranging from 0.744 to 1.336. This suggests that there is a relatively high level of agreement among respondents regarding the positive influence of public participation in project governance. These findings suggest that public participation has a significant and consistent positive impact on the implementation of county government projects in Makueni County, as reflected in the high mean scores and low standard deviations.

4.4.4 Influence of Public Participation in Project Monitoring and Evaluation

The study aimed at investigating the influence of public participation in monitoring and evaluation process on implementation of Makueni county projects. The respondents were asked to indicate their degree of agreement in relation to each of the criteria concerned with the influence of public participation in monitoring and evaluation process and project implementation.

Statistical Results for Project Monitoring and Evaluation

The respondents generally believed that project monitoring and evaluation played a crucial role in ensuring that project results are made public to all stakeholders, as indicated by the high number of respondents (5) strongly agreeing with the statement. This suggests that public participation is viewed positively in terms of transparency and accountability in project implementation. However, for the statement related to quality assurance, there was a more mixed response, indicating that some respondents were less certain about the influence of public participation on quality monitoring during project implementation.

Table 4.7 Weighted Mean for Monitoring and Evaluation

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Project monitoring assures that all factors that enhance implementation are in control.	87	1	5	3.26	1.688
Project monitoring and evaluation monitor quality during the implementation of effective and sound Quality Assurance.	87	1	5	4.25	1.081
Project monitoring and evaluation creates organization work flow hence appropriate implementation.	87	1	5	4.03	1.333
Project monitoring and evaluation ensures that project results are made public to all stakeholders.	87	1	5	3.85	1.709
Project monitoring and evaluation ensures dedication by project teams.	87	1	5	3.92	1.488
Project monitoring and evaluation ensures that project results are made public to all stakeholders	87	2	5	4.79	0.531

The mean values for the different aspects of project monitoring and evaluation all fall between 3.26 and 4.79, indicating a generally positive perception among the respondents. A mean score of 3.26 suggests that project monitoring assures that factors enhancing implementation are moderately under control. On the other hand, a higher mean score of 4.79 indicates that project monitoring and evaluation are seen as highly effective in ensuring project results are made public to all stakeholders. The standard deviations range from 0.531 to 1.709, indicating the degree of variation in respondent's opinions. A lower standard deviation indicates greater variability in their perceptions.

4.4.5 Measure of Project Implementation

The study sought to ascertain the overall measures of project implementation in Makueni County government. A significant majority of respondents (51%) believe that public

participation ensures that projects are implemented within the set timeframes. This suggests that involving the public in the project implementation process is perceived as highly effective in keeping projects on schedule. However, there is a notable percentage (25%) of respondents who rated this statement at level 3, indicating a more neutral stance.

Additionally, the data demonstrates that a substantial number of respondents (70%) believe that public participation leads to the achievement of Makueni projects' objectives. This signifies that involving the public is seen as highly beneficial in terms of achieving project goals. However, there is also a small number of respondents (9%) who rated this statement at level 3, suggesting some neutrality or uncertainty about the statement.

Table 4.8 Weighted Mean for the Measure of Project Implementation

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Public participation ensures that the projects are implemented within the set timeframes	87	2	5	4.21	1.013
There is achievement of Makueni projects' objectives due to involvement of the public	87	1	5	4.53	1.077
Public participation fosters adherence of the projects to the specified budgets	87	2	5	4.66	0.744
Makueni county government projects are sustainable in the long run	87	1	5	4.44	1.336
There is satisfaction of the end users/beneficiaries of the projects	87	2	5	4.66	0.744
Due to public participation, there is reduction in the failure rates of the projects	87	1	5	4.44	1.336

The mean values indicate that, on average, respondents believe that public participation has a favorable impact on project implementation. The mean score for ensuring projects is implemented within set timeframes is 4.21, which suggests a high level of agreement among respondents that public participation contributes to timely project completion.

Furthermore, the mean score for adherence to specified budgets is 4.66, indicating that public participation is seen as fostering financial discipline in project execution. Overall, these findings suggest that public participation plays a crucial role in the success of county government projects in Makueni County.

4.5 Diagnostic Tests

Diagnostic tests are indispensable in project research, offering a means to detect, confirm, monitor, and manage research effectively. Their accurate and timely use can lead to better research outcomes, more questionnaire centred, and accurate information regarding the research.

4.5.1 correlation matrix for study variables

Table 4.9 Pearson Correlation Coefficients Analysis for Project Identification Process

		Project implementa tion at Makueni County	Project Identificat ion Process	Budget Preparati on Process	Governanc e Process	Monitoring & Evaluation
Project implementati on at Makueni County	Pearson Correlatio n Sig. (2- tailed) N	1 87				
Project Identification Process	Pearson Correlatio n Sig. (2- tailed) N	.536** 0.000 87	1			
			87			

***. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).*

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).*

The project identification process demonstrates a strong positive correlation with Project Implementation at Makueni County (Pearson Correlation = 0.536, Sig. =0.000). This significant positive correlation indicates that as the quality and effectiveness of the project identification process improve, the likelihood of successful project implementation in the county also increases. Therefore, public involvement in project identification may play a crucial role in ensuring successful implementation.

Table 4.10 Pearson Correlation Coefficients Analysis for Budget Preparation Process

		Project implement ation at Makueni County	Project Identificatio n Process	Budget Preparatio n Process	Governan ce Process	Monitoring & Evaluation
Project implement ation at Makueni County	Pearson Correlatio n Sig. (2- tailed) N	1 87				
Budget Preparation Process	Pearson Correlatio n Sig. (2- tailed) N	.488** 0.000 87	.727** 0.000 87	1 87		

***. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).*

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).*

The budget preparation process exhibits a very strong positive with both project identification process (Pearson Correlation= 0.727, Sig.= 0.000) and project implementation at Makueni County (Pearson Correlation=0.488, Sig.= 0.000). This implies that an efficient and well-structured budget preparation process is closely linked to successful project identification and implementation. Public participation in budget preparation was a contributing factor to this correlation, emphasizing its importance.

Table 4.11 Pearson Correlation Coefficients Analysis for Governance Process

		Project impleme ntation at Makueni County	Project Identifica tion Process	Budget Preparatio n Process	Governan ce Process	Monitoring & Evaluation
Project implemen tation at Makueni County	Pearson Correlati on Sig. (2- tailed) N	1 87				
Governance Process	Pearson Correlati on Sig. (2- tailed) N	.753** 0.000 87	.506** 0.000 87	.263* 0.014 87	1 87	

***. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).*

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).*

Table 4.11 indicates that the governance process displays a strong positive correlation with project implementation at Makueni County (Pearson Correlation= 0.753, sig.= 0.000) and a positive correlation with project identification process (Pearson Correlation= 0.506, Sig.= 0.000). This suggests that effective governance practices in the county significantly impact identification and implementation. Public participation in governance decisions plays a crucial role in these correlations, highlighting the importance of transparent and accountable governance.

Table 4.12 Pearson Correlation Coefficients Analysis for Monitoring & Evaluation Process

		Project implementati on at Makueni County	Project Identificati on Process	Budget Preparati on Process	Govern ance Process	Monitoring & Evaluation
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Project implemen tation at Makueni County	Pearson Correlati on Sig. (2- tailed) N	1 87				
Monitori ng & Evaluatio n	Pearson Correlati on Sig. (2- tailed) N	.436** 0.000 87	.832** 0.000 87	.778** 0.000 87	.476** 0.000 87	1 87

***. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).*

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).*

The monitoring and evaluation process shows a strong positive correlation with project implementation at Makueni County (Pearson Correlation= 0.476, Sig.= 0.000), project identification process (Pearson Correlation= 0.832, Sig. =0.000), and budget preparation process (Pearson Correlation= 0.778, Sig.= 0.000). This signifies that a robust monitoring and evaluation system is closely associated with successful project identification, budget preparation, and implementation. Public participation in this process contributes to the observed correlations, underlining the importance of involving the public in monitoring and evaluation activities.

4.5.2 Regression Analysis

Table 4.13 Model Summary for Project Implementation

Model Summary				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.845 ^a	0.713	0.700	0.43308

a. Predictors: (Constant), Monitoring & Evaluation, Governance Process, Budget Preparation Process, Project Identification Process

The model demonstrates a strong relationship with an R-square value of 0.713, indicating that approximately 71.3% of the variance in the dependent variable can be explained by the predictor variables. The adjusted R-square is 0.7000, suggesting that the model is a good fit for the data. The standard error of the estimate is 0.43308, reflecting the average distance between the observed and predicted values.

Table 4.14 ANOVA for Project Implementation

ANOVA^a

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	38.299	4	9.575	51.051	.000 ^b
Residual	15.380	82	0.188		
Total	53.679	86			

a. Dependent Variable: Project implementation at Makueni County

b. Predictors: (Constant), Monitoring & Evaluation, Governance Process, Budget Preparation Process, Project Identification Process

The ANOVA model indicates that there is a significant relationship between the predictors; Monitoring and Evaluation, Governance process, budget preparation process, and project identification process, and the dependent variable (project implementation at Makueni County) as evidenced by a large F-statistic (F= 51.051) and a very low p-value (p= 0.000). The model's R-square value would help determine the proportion of the variance in project implementation explained by these predictors. The sum of squares values and degree of freedom in the table provide additional details about the model's performance in explaining the variance.

Table 4.15 Coefficients for Project Implementation

		Coefficients^a				
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	-1.075	0.401		-2.684	0.009
	Project Identification Process	0.148	0.115	0.146	1.284	0.203
	Budget Preparation Process	0.535	0.097	0.555	5.539	0.000
	Governance Process	1.042	0.098	0.761	10.657	0.000
	Monitoring & Evaluation	-0.503	0.129	-0.479	-3.903	0.000

a. Dependent Variable: Project implementation at Makueni County

The coefficient results shows that project identification process has a relatively weak impact on project implementation, as indicated by its standardized coefficient of 0.146. this implies that improvements in project identification may not have as significant an effect on project implementation compared to other factors. Additionally, budget preparation process and governance process have a significant positive influence on project implementation, with standardized coefficients of 0.555 and 0.761, respectively. Meanwhile, monitoring and evaluation has a significant negative influence on project implementation with a standardized coefficient of -0.479. Project identification process, on the other hand, does not have a statistically significant impact on project implementation. These findings indicates that the budget preparation and governance process play a crucial

role in the successful implementation of county government projects in Makueni County, Kenya, while effective monitoring and evaluation are negatively associated with project implementation.

4.5.4 Chi-Square Tests

Table 4.16 Project Implementation and Project Identification Process

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	484.540 ^a	168	0.000
Likelihood Ratio	205.620	168	0.025
Linear-by-Linear Association	24.727	1	0.000
N of Valid Cases	87		

a. 194 cells (99.5%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .01.

Table 4.16 indicates a highly significant association between public participation and project identification processes. The Pearson Chi-square test yielded a value of 484.540 with 168 degrees of freedom and an asymptotic significance of 0.000, suggesting a strong relationship. The likelihood Ratio test also shows significance with a value of 205.620 and an asymptotic significance of 0.025. Furthermore, the linear-by-linear Association test indicates a significant linear relationship between these variables with a value of 24.727 and an asymptotic significance of 0.000. Additionally, 99.5% of the cells had expected counts less than 5, indicating potential limitations in the analysis due to low expected counts. Nonetheless, the results strongly suggest that public participation has a significant impact on both the identification and implementation of county government projects in Makueni County.

Table 4.17 Project Implementation and Budget Preparation Process

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	411.431 ^a	182	0.000
Likelihood Ratio	225.452	182	0.016
Linear-by-Linear Association	20.489	1	0.000
N of Valid Cases	87		

a. 208 cells (99.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .01.

Table 4.17 indicate a statistically significant relationship between project implementation and the budget preparation process. The Pearson Chi-square value is 411.431 with 182 degrees of freedom and an asymptotic significance of 0.000, while the likelihood Ratio test yielded a value of 225.452 with the same degrees of freedom and a significance level of 0.016. These results suggest that there is a strong association between public participation and project implementation, implementation, indicating that public involvement significantly affects the budget preparation process in Makueni County. The linear-by-linear Association test with an asymptotic significance of 0.000 also reinforce these findings. However, 208 out of 210 cells have expected count less than 5, and the minimum expected count is .01, suggesting some potential limitations in the analysis due to low expected cell counts.

Table 4.18 Project Implementation and Governance Process

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	530.264 ^a	182	0.000
Likelihood Ratio	178.569	182	0.558
Linear-by-Linear Association	48.789	1	0.000
N of Valid Cases	87		

a. 208 cells (99.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .01.

The Pearson Chi-square test yielded a value of 530.264 with 182 degrees of freedom, and it showed a highly significant result ($p= 0.000$), indicating a strong association between the two variables. The likelihood ratio test, on the other hand, yielded a value of 178.569 with the same degrees of freedom and had a p-value of 0.558, indicating no significant association. The linear-by-linear association test, with a value of 48.789 and 1 degree of freedom, also showed a highly significant result ($p =0.000$), suggesting a linear relationship between project implementation and the governance project.

Table 4.19 Project Implementation and Monitoring & Evaluation

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	474.618 ^a	224	0.000
Likelihood Ratio	211.807	224	0.711
Linear-by-Linear Association	16.382	1	0.000
N of Valid Cases	87		

a. 254 cells (99.6%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .01.

The Pearson Chi-square test yielded a value of 474.618 with 224 degrees of freedom, and the p-value was extremely low at 0.000, suggesting a strong association between public participation and these processes. The likelihood ratio test yielded a value of 211.807 with a p-value of 0.711, which is not significant. However, the linear-by-linear association test showed a value of 16.382 with a p-value of 0.000, indicating a significant linear association. In this analysis, most of the expected counts were less than 5, which may affect the reliability of the results due to low cell counts. Nonetheless, the Pearson Chi-square and Linear-by-Linear Association tests suggest a significant impact of public participation on project implementation and monitoring and evaluation in Makueni County.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of the findings, drawn conclusions based on the results, study recommendations and offers suggestions for future researchers.

5.2 Summary of Findings

5.2 1 Influence of Public Participation in Project Identification Process

The first objective of the study was to determine the influence of public participation in project identification process on implementation of Makueni county projects. According to the multicollinearity tests, the project identification process demonstrated a strong positive correlation with Project Implementation at Makueni County (Pearson Correlation = 0.536, Sig. =0.000). This significant positive correlation indicated that as the quality and effectiveness of the project identification process improve, the likelihood of successful project implementation in the county also increases. Additionally, the Pearson Chi-square test yielded a value of 484.540 with 168 degrees of freedom and an asymptotic significance of 0.000, suggesting a strong relationship between public participation and project identification processes.

5.2.2 Influence of Public Participation in Budget Preparation Process

The second objective of the study was to establish the influence of public participation in budget preparation process on implementation of Makueni county projects. The budget

preparation process, as indicated in the multicollinearity tests, exhibited a very strong positive with both project identification process (Pearson Correlation= 0.727, Sig.= 0.000) and project implementation at Makueni County (Pearson Correlation=0.488, Sig.= 0.000). This implied that an efficient and well-structured budget preparation process was closely linked to successful project identification and implementation. Furthermore, the Pearson Chi-square test yielded a value of 484.540 with 168 degrees of freedom and an asymptotic significance of 0.000, suggesting a strong relationship.

5.2.3 Influence of Public Participation in Governance Process

The third objective of the study was to assess the influence of public participation in governance process on implementation of Makueni county projects. Multicollinearity results showed that the governance process displayed a strong positive correlation with project implementation at Makueni County (Pearson Correlation= 0.753, sig.= 0.000) and a positive correlation with project identification process (Pearson Correlation= 0.506, Sig.= 0.000). This suggested that effective governance practices in the county significantly impacted identification and implementation. Public participation in governance decisions played a crucial role in these correlations, highlighting the importance of transparent and accountable governance. Additionally, the Pearson Chi-square test yielded a value of 530.264 with 182 degrees of freedom, and it showed a highly significant result ($p= 0.000$), indicating a strong association between the two variables

5.2.4 Influence of Public Participation in Project Monitoring and Evaluation

The fourth objective of the study was to establish the influence of public participation in monitoring and evaluation process on implementation of Makueni county projects. According to multicollinearity results, the monitoring and evaluation process indicated a

strong positive correlation with project implementation at Makueni County (Pearson Correlation= 0.476, Sig.= 0.000), project identification process (Pearson Correlation= 0.832, Sig. =0.000), and budget preparation process (Pearson Correlation= 0.778, Sig.= 0.000). This signified that a robust monitoring and evaluation system was closely associated with successful project identification, budget preparation, and implementation. Moreover, the Pearson Chi-square test yielded a value of 474.618 with 224 degrees of freedom, and the p-value was extremely low at 0.000, suggesting a strong association between public participation and these processes.

5.2.5 Measure of Project Implementation

The study sought to assess the combined influence of public participation on implementation of county government projects: case of Makueni County, Kenya. The ANOVA model indicated that there was a significant relationship between the predictors; Monitoring and Evaluation, Governance process, budget preparation process, and project identification process, and the dependent variable (project implementation at Makueni County) as evidenced by a large F-statistic (F= 51.051) and a very low p-value (p= 0.000). Additionally, these findings indicated that the budget preparation and governance process play a crucial role in the successful implementation of county government projects in Makueni County, Kenya, while effective monitoring and evaluation are negatively associated with project implementation.

5.3 Conclusions

The study strongly concluded that public participation has a significant impact on both the identification and implementation of county government projects in Makueni County. This is supported by the Pearson Chi-square test which yielded a value of 484.540 with 168

degrees of freedom and an asymptotic significance of 0.000, suggesting a strong relationship. Majority of the participants strongly agreed that public participation during project identification helps members of the community to participate in the development of a project and that project identification through the public facilitates feasibility studies and identification of project donors.

The study also concluded that there was a statistically significant relationship between project implementation and the budget preparation process. The Pearson Chi-square value is 411.431 with 182 degrees of freedom and an asymptotic significance of 0.000, while the likelihood Ratio test yielded a value of 225.452 with the same degrees of freedom and a significance level of 0.016. These results suggest that there is a strong association between public participation and project implementation, indicating that public involvement significantly affects the budget preparation process in Makueni County.

Additionally, the study concluded that there was a linear relationship between project implementation and the governance project. The likelihood ratio test, on the other hand, yielded a value of 178.569 with the same degrees of freedom and had a p-value of 0.558, indicating no significant association. Furthermore, a significant number of respondents strongly agree that every project is clearly planned for in terms of time and completion schedule when public participation is involved.

Moreover, the study concluded that there was a significant positive relationship between public participation on project implementation and monitoring and evaluation in Makueni County. The Pearson Chi-square test yielded a value of 474.618 with 224 degrees of freedom, and the p-value was extremely low at 0.000, suggesting a strong association between public participation and these processes. The descriptive statistics indicate that the

respondents generally believed that project monitoring and evaluation played a crucial role in ensuring that project results are made public to all stakeholders, as indicated by the high number of respondents (5) strongly agreeing with the statement.

The study additionally concludes that the budget preparation and governance process play a crucial role in the successful implementation of county government projects in Makueni County, Kenya, while effective monitoring and evaluation are negatively associated with project implementation.

5.4 Recommendations

The study recommends a concerted effort to enhance public participation in project implementation and monitoring and evaluation within Makueni County. Establishing accessible platforms such as community forums, online portals, and regular town hall meetings is essential. These platforms will not only encourage active involvement from residents but also foster transparency and accountability in the implementation process. Moreover, facilitating dialogue and collaboration between stakeholders will ensure that projects reflect the genuine needs and aspirations of the community. By prioritizing inclusivity and openness, local authorities can harness the collective wisdom and expertise of residents to drive sustainable development initiatives forward.

The study recommends comprehensive capacity building initiatives targeting both community members and local government officials in Makueni County. Training programs focused on project management, monitoring, and evaluation techniques are paramount. Empowering stakeholders with the necessary skills and knowledge will enable

them to meaningfully engage in decision-making processes and ensure the successful execution of projects. Furthermore, investing in human capital development will create a more resilient and competent workforce capable of addressing the evolving challenges of development effectively.

Additionally, the study emphasizes the importance of adopting innovative communication strategies to disseminate information about ongoing projects and evaluation processes. Utilizing various mediums such as social media, radio broadcasts, and pamphlets in local languages is crucial. These efforts will ensure that information reaches a wide audience, promoting inclusivity and understanding among stakeholders. Moreover, transparent and accessible communication channels will foster trust and confidence in the government's commitment to accountability and responsiveness.

Furthermore, the study highlights the need to foster a culture of collaboration and partnership between the government, civil society organizations, and community-based groups in Makueni County. Joint initiatives and partnerships can leverage diverse expertise and resources, leading to more sustainable and impactful project outcomes. By facilitating meaningful engagement and cooperation, local authorities can harness the collective strengths of different stakeholders to address complex development challenges effectively.

Moreover, the study underscores the importance of establishing robust feedback mechanisms to solicit input and opinions from community members throughout the project lifecycle. Regular feedback sessions, suggestion boxes, and anonymous hotlines are essential tools for fostering transparency and accountability. These mechanisms enable

stakeholders to voice concerns, provide suggestions, and report issues promptly, enhancing project responsiveness and effectiveness.

Additionally, the study recommends incorporating participatory approaches into the project design and planning phases in Makueni County. Engaging communities from the outset ensures that projects align with local needs, priorities, and cultural contexts. By empowering residents to actively shape development initiatives, local authorities can enhance the relevance, acceptance, and ultimately, the success of projects.

Furthermore, the study suggests the establishment of clear guidelines and frameworks for conducting monitoring and evaluation activities in Makueni County. Standardized procedures and protocols will ensure consistency, accuracy, and reliability in data collection, analysis, and reporting, enhancing the effectiveness of evaluation efforts. By providing a structured framework for monitoring and evaluation, local authorities can streamline processes, improve data quality, and facilitate evidence-based decision-making. Moreover, clear guidelines will also promote accountability and transparency, as stakeholders will have a common understanding of expectations and responsibilities throughout the evaluation process.

Moreover, the study recommends incentivizing public participation through recognition and rewards for individuals and groups that actively contribute to project implementation and monitoring. Acknowledging and celebrating community involvement will motivate continued engagement and foster a sense of pride and ownership in local development initiatives. By publicly recognizing the contributions of stakeholders, local authorities can reinforce the importance of citizen engagement and encourage broader participation in governance processes. Moreover, incentives such as certificates of appreciation or small

grants for community-led projects can further incentivize participation and promote a culture of collaboration and collective action.

Additionally, the study highlights the importance of fostering trust and mutual respect between government officials and community members in Makueni County. Building strong relationships based on transparency, integrity, and accountability will create a conducive environment for meaningful dialogue, collaboration, and partnership. Local authorities should prioritize efforts to engage with communities in an open and respectful manner, actively listening to their concerns and incorporating feedback into decision-making processes. By cultivating trust and rapport, local authorities can establish a solid foundation for effective collaboration and sustainable development outcomes in the county.

Furthermore, the study suggests the establishment of grievance redress mechanisms to address concerns and complaints raised by community members in a timely and transparent manner. Accessible channels for lodging grievances and resolving disputes will promote confidence in the project implementation process and mitigate potential conflicts. Local authorities should ensure that grievance mechanisms are well-publicized and easily accessible to all residents, providing clear guidance on how to raise concerns and seek resolution. Moreover, transparent procedures for handling grievances will demonstrate the government's commitment to accountability and responsiveness, fostering trust and confidence among stakeholders.

Moreover, the study recommends the integration of traditional and indigenous knowledge systems into project planning and implementation processes in Makueni County. Recognizing and valuing local wisdom and practices will enhance the relevance,

sustainability, and resilience of development interventions, ensuring their long-term impact. Local authorities should actively engage with traditional leaders, elders, and community groups to incorporate indigenous knowledge into project design, implementation, and management. By harnessing the rich cultural heritage of the county, development initiatives can better address local realities and contribute to holistic and inclusive development outcomes.

Additionally, the study suggests promoting gender mainstreaming and inclusivity in project implementation and monitoring efforts. Ensuring equitable representation and participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups will contribute to more holistic and transformative development outcomes in Makueni County. Local authorities should adopt gender-responsive approaches that consider the unique needs, priorities, and perspectives of different population groups. By promoting gender equality and social inclusion, development initiatives can better address systemic inequalities and empower marginalized communities to participate fully in the county's development journey.

5.5 Suggestions for Further Study

First, future studies should delve into the specific mechanisms and strategies for enhancing public participation during project identification, budget preparation, and monitoring and evaluation processes to understand which methods are most effective. Second, an in-depth investigation into the impact of public involvement on the sustainability and long-term outcomes of county government projects would provide valuable insights. Third, comparative studies across different counties in Kenya or other countries could shed light on the generalizability of the findings and help identify regional variations. Finally, examining the role of technological tools, such as online platforms and mobile

applications, in facilitating public participation and project management in a digital age would be a relevant and timely research direction.



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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Study Site



Source: IEBC, (2022)

Appendix II: List of Stalled Projects in Makueni County

Project	Department	Ward	Financial Year	Budget
Plot Validation and Market Survey of Sultan Hamud Town	Lands	Kasikeu	2020/21	10,500,000.00
Support to agriculture and livestock productivity	Agriculture	Mbooni	2019/20	2
Ulilinsi Mkt Livestock yard	Agriculture	Masongaleni	2019/20	2
Agriculture Development Programme (Ukia)	Agriculture	Ukia	2019/20	5
Agriculture Development Programme (Mbooni)	Agriculture	Mbooni	2019/20	7
Purchase of Land for	Lands	Nzaui/Kilili/Kalamba	2019/20	200,000.00

Nduumoni Dispensary				
Purchase of Land for Kithuni dispensary	Lands	Kee	2018/19	1,000,000.00
Rehabilitation of Katulani earth dam	Water	Nzaui/Kilili/Kalamba	2017/18	5,000,000.00
Kiteta/Kisau - afforestation in Katende, Kisau & Kitondo forests (Purchase of land for dumpsite and planning in Tawa and Mbumbuni)	Lands	Kisau/Kiteta	2017/18	1,500,000.00
Tree Planting	Lands	All Wards	2017/18	2,000,000.00
Construction of Yikivumbu Market Shed	Trade	Nguu/Masumba	2017/18	4,000,000.00
Climate change adaptation initiatives - (Construction of	Water	Ilima	2017/18	2,000,000.00

gabions at Mutombo gulley & others)				
Drilling of KwaMakaia borehole	Water	Kako/Waia	2016/17	2,000,000.00
Phase 2 - Musalala Social Hall	Gender	Ilima	2016/17	1,652,980.00
Construction of Makindu Stadium	Gender	Makindu	2016/17	5,984,300.00
Upgrading Kithuni dispensary	Health	Kee 	2016/17	2,500,000.00
Kiunduani Library	Education, Sports & ICT	Nguumo	2015/16	2,000,000.00
Construction Of Mikuyu Sand Dam	Water	Kasikeu	2015/16	2,000,000.00
Kwa Mwingio Playground - Levelling	Gender	Mukaa	2015/16	1,500,000.00
Operationarisation Of Tannery	Trade	Wote/Nziu	2015/16	6,070,800.00

Design And Planning	Water	Wote/Nziu	2015/16	10,000,000.00
Kee-Mwea Earth dam	Water	Kee	2015/16	1,600,000.00
Fencing of Kathonzweni stockyard.	Trade	Kathonzweni	2014/15	600,000.00
Rehabilitation of a BH WS at Engavu	Water	Ilima	2014/15	1,500,000.00
Piping Makutano Borehole	Water	Mavindini	2014/15	2,500,000.00
Ngangani Shallow Pond Scooping	Water	Masongaleni	2014/15	1,000,000.00
Kwa Matungu CTTI	Education, Sports & ICT	Nguu/Masumba	2013/14	2,134,335.00
construction of tank at Nunguni	Water	Kilungu	2013/14	605,000.00
Rehabilitation of Nunguni water supply	Water	Kilungu	2013/14	600,000.00
Wote Water Project	Water	Wote/Nziu	2013/14	2,000,000.00

Kiteta/Kisau- Afforestation in Katende, Kisau & Kitondo forests (Purchase of land for dumpsite & planning in Tawa & Mbumbuni)	Lands	Kisau/Kiteta	2013/14	2,000,000.00
Kikuu Irrigation Project	Water	Nzaui/Kilili/Kalamba	2013/14	1,900,000.00
Ngaamba Nfec	Education, Sports & ICT	Kiima Kiu/Kalanzoni	2013/14	152,660.00
Kyaluma borehole, equipping and distribution	Water	Kako/Waia	2013/14	10,000,000.00
Machinery Borehole	Water	Thange	2013/14	1,500,000.00

Source: Makueni County, (2022)

Appendix III: Research Questionnaire

The purpose of this research is aimed at establish the influence of public participation on implementation of county government projects: case of Makueni County, Kenya. Please

offer information as openly and truthfully as possible. All given information will be kept strictly secret and used exclusively for academic reasons.

Kindly answer by checking or writing in the appropriate spaces.

1. Highest education level

Doctorate [] Master/postgraduate [] Undergraduate [] Diploma [] Certificate []

Other, specify.....

2. Please indicate your involvement in Makueni County Projects?

Committee member [] CDF Executive [] Technical officer []

Other, specify.....

3. For what duration have you worked in Makueni County Government?

.....

Less than 3 years [] 4-6 years [] 7-10 years [] more than 10 years []

PART B: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN IMPLEMENTATION OF MAKUENI COUNTY PROJECTS

The study aims at determining the level of involvement of the public in implementation of Makueni County Projects in the following ways: project identification process, budget preparation process, governance process, and monitoring and evaluation process.

Use a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is very small extent, 2 is small extent, 3 is moderate extent, 4 is large extent and 5 is to a very large extent in the following.

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
a) Project Identification Process					

Public participation during project identification helps members of the community to participate in development of a project.					
Public participation in project identification helps identify problems and translate them into solutions or actions.					
Public participation in project initiation helps project managers identify the factors that affects the community ability to implement development projects.					
Project identification through public participation helps to articulate public needs in a project.					
Public participation in project initiation helps identify project site, costing, as well as benefits to the community.					
Project identification through the public facilitates feasibility studies and identification of project donors.					
Budget Preparation Process					
Budget preparation through the public ensures spending is monitored appropriately.					
Public participation facilitate performance of tasks within the allocated budget					

All the stakeholders are involved in financial detailed plan to establish the costs required during the implementation phases of the project					
Public participation in budget preparation fosters the timeliness in release of project funds.					
Through public participation, there is enhanced financial management in the project funds.					
Governance Process					
Public participation in project governance helps identify problems and translate them into solutions or actions.					
Every project is clearly planned for in terms of time and completion schedule.					
Project governance through public participation helps in organizing project teams for various tasks.					
Public participation on project governance ensure generation of progress reports and contract documents					
Public participation on project governance ensures project objectives are met					

Public participation during project governance helps members of the community to participate in development of a project					
Project governance through public participation helps in creating a work flow during project implementation					
Monitoring & Evaluation					
Project monitoring assures that all factors that enhance implementation are in control.					
Project monitoring and evaluation monitor quality during the implementation of effective and sound Quality Assurance.					
Project monitoring and evaluation creates organization work flow hence appropriate implementation.					
Project monitoring and evaluation ensures that project results are made public to all stakeholders.					
Project monitoring and evaluation ensures dedication by project teams.					
Project monitoring and evaluation ensures that project results are made public to all stakeholders					

4. Are there any other ways in which the public is involvement of the public in implementation of Makueni County Projects?

.....

.....

.....

.....

SECTION C: IMPLEMENTATION OF MAKUENI COUNTY PROJECTS

Please indicate extent to which public participation influences the following measures of project implementation at Makueni County.

Use a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is very small extent, 2 is small extent, 3 is moderate extent, 4 is large extent and 5 is to a very large extent in the following.

Measure of project implementation	1	2	3	4	5
Public participation ensures that the projects are implemented within the set timeframes					
There is achievement of Makueni projects’ objectives due to involvement of the public					
Public participation fosters adherence of the projects to the specified budgets					
Makueni county government projects are sustainable in the long run					

Measure of project implementation	1	2	3	4	5
There is satisfaction of the end users/beneficiaries of the projects					
Due to public participation there is reduction in the failure rates of the projects					

33. According to you, what is the general influence of public involvement on implementation of Makueni County Projects?

.....

.....

.....

.....

34. In what ways should public involvement in implementation of Makueni County Projects be improved?

.....

.....

.....

END

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

Appendix IV: Introduction Letter

Mount Kenya University,

Thika Campus,

P.O Box 13495-00100,
Nairobi.

Dear Respondent,

RE: DATA COLLECTION FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH

I am a postgraduate student at the Mount Kenya University, Masters Degree in project Management and Planning. In partial fulfillment of the requirements of the degree, I am required to submit a project. In response to this, I am therefore conducting research on *“Influence of public participation on implementation of county government projects: case of Makeni County, Kenya.”*

It is in this light that I hereby request for your assistance by filling the attached questionnaire with the most appropriate responses for all the questions as much as you can. The information you provide will be used for purely academic purpose and held and treated confidentially and thus will not be disclosed without prior permission from you. Letters shall be used instead of your names.

Thank you in advance as I look forward to your cooperation and assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Student

Mr. Alfred Katumo

Supervisor

Dr Mary Odenyo

Appendix V: Consent Form

I consent to being a respondent in this study by **Alfred Katumo** on the *“Influence of public participation on implementation of county government projects: case of Makueni County, Kenya.”*


The consent is given voluntarily after the researcher has asked for it and has pledged confidentiality and sole use of the material for academic study. Its sole purpose is to improve knowledge in the field of business administration.

.....
Respondent Signature


.....
Date



Appendix VI: Research Permit



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



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

Ref No: **775767**

Date of Issue: **22/September/2023**


RESEARCH LICENSE



This is to Certify that Mr. Katumo Alfred 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 Makueni on the topic: INFLUENCE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT PROJECTS; CASE OF MAKUENI COUNTY, KENYA for the period ending : 22/September/2024.


License No: **NACOSTI/PP/23/29618**

Applicant Identification Number: **775767**


Director General

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

Verification QR Code



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See overleaf for conditions

THE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ACT, 2013 (Rev. 2014)
Legal Notice No. 108: The Science, Technology and Innovation (Research Licensing) Regulations, 2014

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, hereafter referred to as the Commission, was established under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act 2013 (Revised 2014) herein after referred to as the Act. The objective of the Commission shall be to regulate and assure quality in the science, technology and innovation sector and advise the Government in matters related thereto.

CONDITIONS OF THE RESEARCH LICENSE

1. The License is granted subject to provisions of the Constitution of Kenya, the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, and other relevant laws, policies and regulations. Accordingly, the licensee shall adhere to such procedures, standards, code of ethics and guidelines as may be prescribed by regulations made under the Act, or prescribed by provisions of International treaties of which Kenya is a signatory to
2. The research and its related activities as well as outcomes shall be beneficial to the country and shall not in any way;
 - i. Endanger national security
 - ii. Adversely affect the lives of Kenyans
 - iii. Be in contravention of Kenya's international obligations including Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN).
 - iv. Result in exploitation of intellectual property rights of communities in Kenya
 - v. Adversely affect the environment
 - vi. Adversely affect the rights of communities
 - vii. Endanger public safety and national cohesion
 - viii. Plagiarize someone else's work
3. The License is valid for the proposed research, location and specified period.
4. The license and any rights thereunder are non-transferable
5. The Commission reserves the right to cancel the research at any time during the research period if in the opinion of the Commission the research is not implemented in conformity with the provisions of the Act or any other written law.
6. The Licensee shall inform the relevant County Director of Education, County Commissioner and County Governor before commencement of the research.
7. Excavation, filming, movement, and collection of specimens are subject to further necessary clearance from relevant Government Agencies.
8. The License does not give authority to transfer research materials.
9. The Commission may monitor and evaluate the licensed research project for the purpose of assessing and evaluating compliance with the conditions of the License.
10. The Licensee shall submit one hard copy, and upload a soft copy of their final report (thesis) onto a platform designated by the Commission within one year of completion of the research.
11. The Commission reserves the right to modify the conditions of the License including cancellation without prior notice.
12. Research, findings and information regarding research systems shall be stored or disseminated, utilized or applied in such a manner as may be prescribed by the Commission from time to time.
13. The Licensee shall disclose to the Commission, the relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee, and the relevant national agencies any inventions and discoveries that are of National strategic importance.
14. The Commission shall have powers to acquire from any person the right in, or to, any scientific innovation, invention or patent of strategic importance to the country.
15. Relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee shall monitor and evaluate the research periodically, and make a report of its findings to the Commission for necessary action.

National Commission for Science, Technology and
Innovation (NACOSTI),
Off Waiyaki Way, Upper Kabete,
P. O. Box 30623 - 00100 Nairobi, KENYA
Telephone: 020 4007000, 0713788787, 0735404245
E-mail: dg@nacosti.go.ke
Website: www.nacosti.go.ke

Appendix VII: Introduction Letter



DIRECTORATE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

MSCPM/2018/36783

7th September, 2023

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: ALFRED KATUMO- REGISTRATION NO. MSCPM/2018/36783

The purpose of this letter is to introduce the above named student who is pursuing **Master of Science in Project Planning and Management** in the Department of **Management** in the school of **Business and Economics**

The title of the research is "**Influence of Public Participation on Implementation of County Government Projects: Case of Makueni County, Kenya.**" 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 **September, 2023 and November, 2023.**

Any assistance accorded to the student will be highly appreciated.

Thank you.


Dr. Samuel M. Karenga, Ph.D

Director, Graduate Studies

Enc.

