

**INFLUENCE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ON PUBLIC POLICY
FORMULATION IN WAJIR EAST SUB COUNTY, KENYA**

JAWAHIR IBRAHIM OMAR

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTERS OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION OF
MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY**

APRIL 2024

DECLARATION AND APPROVAL

Declaration by the Student

This research project is an original copy of my work and no copy of this work should be submitted to any other examination body without my consent of Mount Kenya University

Signature  _____ Date _____

Jawahir Ibrahim Omar
MPAM/2022/5233



Approval by the supervisor

This research project has been submitted for examination with my approval as university supervisors.

Signature _____ Date _____

Dr. Isaac Makono Abuga
School of Education
Mount Kenya University

DEDICATION

I dedicate this research project to my beloved family, supportive friends, and esteemed colleagues. Your unwavering support, friendship, and intellectual exchange have been my pillars of strength throughout this academic journey. With heartfelt appreciation, I dedicate this endeavor to all of you.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to my supervisor, Dr. Isaac Makono Abuga, for his invaluable guidance and unwavering support throughout the development of this research project. Dr. Abuga generously shared his wealth of knowledge, expertise, and encouragement, which played a pivotal role in the successful completion of this project. Additionally, I would like to acknowledge and appreciate my classmates who actively engaged in constructive discussions and provided invaluable feedback that greatly contributed to refining my ideas and enhancing the quality of my writing.

Lastly, I am profoundly thankful to my family for their continuous love and steadfast support. Their unwavering belief in me has been the cornerstone of my ability to undertake this challenging project.

Mount Kenya



ABSTRACT

In Wajir East Sub County, as in many other regions, CSOs were essential in bridging the gap between the government and the community, ensuring that public policies were more responsive to the needs and aspirations of the local population. The general objective of the study was to investigate the effects of civil society organizations on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya. The study also achieved the following specific objectives: to determine the effect of policy issue salience on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya; to investigate the effect of policy advocacy strategies on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya; to examine the effect of community mobilization and support on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya; and to assess the effect of political environment on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya. The study was supported by two research theories; They included; Pluralism Theory and Advocacy Coalition Framework. This study used a descriptive, quantitative research design. Key Wajir East Sub County public policy stakeholders were the target population. Civil society in Wajir East Sub County was fractured with 203 groups. Stratified random sampling was used to choose 134 participants from the target demographic to guarantee diversity. The research tools were semi-structured interviews and structured questionnaires for quantitative data. The quantitative data was evaluated using statistical techniques and the qualitative data using theme analysis. Findings show that civil society groups prioritize policy problems, use varied lobbying techniques, and generate community support. The political context greatly affects government responsiveness and civil society policy advocacy. Community participation improves policy efficacy, whereas political stability aids civil society advocacy. Despite challenges during times of political uncertainty, civil society organizations play a crucial role in shaping public policies responsive to community needs and priorities. The study recommended stakeholders in Wajir East Sub County prioritize salient policy issues, collaborate to raise awareness, and engage communities in decision-making. Civil society organizations should employ diverse advocacy strategies, engage in grassroots mobilization, and strengthen research capacities. Political stability and inclusivity should be prioritized for effective policy formulation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	ii
DEDICATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
ABSTRACT	vii
LIST OF TABLES	vii
LIST OF FIGURES	v
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	v
CHAPTER ONE	1
INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the study.....	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	6
1.3 Purpose of the study	7
1.4 Objectives of the study	7
1.5 Research Questions.....	7
1.6 Significance if the Study.....	8
1.7 Scope of the study.....	9
1.8 Limitation of the study	9
1.9 Delimitation of the study	10
1.10 Assumptions of the study	10
1.11 Definition of the terms.....	11
CHAPTER TWO	13
LITERATURE REVIEW	13
2.1 Introduction	13
2.2 Empirical review	13
2.3 Theoretical Review.....	27
2.4 Conceptual Framework.....	31
2.5 Research Gaps	34
CHAPTER THREE	36
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DESIGN	36
3.0 Introduction	36
3.1 Research Design	36
3.3 Location of Study	37
3.4 Target Population	37
3.5 Sample Size	37
3.6 Sampling Technique	38
3.7 Research Instruments.....	38
3.8 Piloting of Research Instruments.....	39
3.9 Data Collection Procedures	40
3.10 Data Analysis Procedures	40

3.11 Ethical Considerations	40
CHAPTER FOUR.....	42
RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION	42
4.1 Introduction	42
4.2 Response Rate	42
4.3 Demographic data of the women traders	43
4.4 Descriptive Analysis.....	45
4.7 Inferential Analysis.....	65
CHAPTER FIVE.....	71
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	71
5.1 Introduction	71
5.2 Summary of the Findings	71
5.3 Conclusions	73
5.4 Recommendations.....	74
REFERENCES	77
APPENDICES	84
Appendix 1: Introduction Letter	84
Appendix:11: Informed Consent Form.....	85
Appendix III: Research Questionnaire	86
Appendix III: Interview Guide	90
Appendix IV: Timetable.....	92
Appendix V: Budget.....	93
Appendix VI: Map of Wajir Est Sub-County	94

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2. 1: Research Gaps.....	34
Table 4. 1: Response Rate.....	42
Table 4. 2: Gender.....	43
Table 4. 3: Age Range in Years	44
Table 4. 4: Years of Involvement in Civil Society Organizations.....	44
Table 4. 5: Highest Level of Education.....	45
Table 4. 6: Policy Issue Salience on Public Policy Formulation.....	46
Table 4. 7: Policy Advocacy Strategies on Public Policy Formulation	50
Table 4. 8: Community Mobilization and Support on Public Policy Formulation	54
Table 4. 9: Political Environment on Public Policy Formulation	58
Table 4. 10: Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya.....	62
Table 4. 11: Correlations of the Study Variables	65
Table 4. 12: Model Summary.....	66
Table 4. 13: ANOVA	67

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2. 1: Conceptual Framework.....32



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACLU	American Civil Liberties Union
ACLU	American Civil Liberties Union
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
EIPR	Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR)
GII	Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII)
IPE	Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs
KHRC	Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC)
NAACP	Association for the Advancement of Colored People
SEWA	Self-Employed Women's Association
TAC	Treatment Action Campaign (TAC)

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have recently gained a lot of attention for their influence on public policy formulation. In the past, government institutions were mainly responsible for policy formulation, and there was limited public involvement (Smith, 2020). However, the emergence of CSOs as intermediaries between citizens and the government brought about a significant change. CSOs started getting involved in policy matters as early as the 20th century when groups like the suffragettes and civil rights activists pushed for social and political change, making the policy process more inclusive (Sanchez Salgado, 2021)). Theoretical perspectives like pluralism and democratic theory highlight the importance of having diverse voices in policy-making. CSOs are a crucial part of civil society, representing various interest groups, advocating for marginalized communities, and contributing to policy discussions (Johnson et al., 2021).

Civil society organizations (CSOs) play a pivotal role in shaping and enhancing the formulation of public policies worldwide. These organizations, often driven by a sense of social responsibility and civic engagement, act as intermediaries between the government and the citizens they serve. Their contributions to public policy formulation are multifaceted, ranging from advocacy and research to service delivery and community mobilization (Buyse, 2018).

Civil society organizations are known for their advocacy efforts in pushing for policy change and raising awareness about critical issues. One prime example is the American

Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), founded in 1920, which has consistently fought for civil liberties and civil rights in the United States. Through litigation, public education campaigns, and grassroots organizing, the ACLU has contributed significantly to the formulation of policies protecting individual rights and liberties. Their efforts have led to landmark Supreme Court decisions, illustrating the profound impact CSOs can have on shaping public policy (Buzogány, 2018).

Another key contribution of CSOs to public policy formulation is their ability to conduct in-depth research and policy analysis. The Brookings Institution, for instance, is a prominent think tank that conducts research on a wide range of policy issues (Baqueiro, 2016). Their studies and policy recommendations often serve as valuable resources for policymakers and influence the direction of policy formulation. Through providing evidence-based research, CSOs help ensure that policies are well-informed and grounded in empirical data (Scholte, 2019).

Civil society organizations are often deeply embedded within communities and can mobilize citizens to engage in the policy process. A notable example is the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in the United States (Kröger, 2018). Since its founding in 1909, the NAACP has been instrumental in mobilizing African Americans and their allies to advocate for civil rights reforms through protests, voter registration drives, and grassroots organizing. Their efforts have significantly influenced public policy, leading to legislative changes aimed at addressing systemic racial discrimination (Kaldor, 2020).

Some CSOs actively participate in service delivery and pilot programs, which can serve as models for effective public policy. One such organization is Médecins Sans Frontières

(Doctors Without Borders), which delivers medical services in crisis-affected areas around the world. Their experiences and innovations in providing healthcare services in challenging contexts have informed global health policy discussions and influenced humanitarian aid policies. CSOs like these showcase how on-the-ground experience can shape public policies related to healthcare, humanitarian aid, and disaster response (Anaf, Baum, Fisher, & Friel, 2020).

Civil society organizations also extend their impact beyond national borders, influencing global public policy. Amnesty International, for example, campaigns tirelessly for human rights worldwide. Through its research, advocacy, and public awareness efforts, Amnesty International has helped shape international policies related to human rights and has pressured governments to change their practices (Linde & Scaramuzzino, 2018).

Globally, in the United States, civil society organizations (CSOs) have been instrumental in shaping public policy formulation by actively engaging in advocacy and providing vital research and expertise to policymakers. For instance, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has had a significant impact on policy through litigation and public education campaigns (Arowolo, 2018). Research institutions such as the Brookings Institution offer evidence-based policy recommendations that policymakers often rely on (Buzogány, 2018).

In India, CSOs have played a crucial role in influencing public policy formulation by engaging in grassroots mobilization and advocating for marginalized communities. Organizations like the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), founded by Ela Bhatt, have empowered women in the informal sector, leading to policy changes that recognize their rights and contributions (Gao & Yu, 2020). Through protests, community

organizing, and research, CSOs in India have pressed for policy reforms addressing issues such as labor rights, gender equality, and environmental protection, making substantial contributions to the country's policy landscape (Nelson, 2018).

In China, civil society organizations have faced unique challenges but have still managed to impact policy formulation. Independent CSOs in China, though limited in number, have been instrumental in areas such as environmental protection and public health (He & Warren, 2019). For example, organizations like the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs (IPE) have used data-driven approaches to pressure both local and national authorities into addressing environmental issues. Despite strict government control, these CSOs have succeeded in raising awareness and influencing policy actions in areas vital to China's development (Ma & Chen, 2016).

Regionally, in Ghana, civil society organizations have been key actors in enhancing public policy formulation by promoting transparency, good governance, and citizen participation. Organizations like the Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII) have advocated for anti-corruption measures and transparency in government operations (Aidoo, 2017). Through advocacy, civic education, and public awareness campaigns, CSOs have contributed to Ghana's policy landscape by holding public officials accountable and ensuring that policies align with the needs and aspirations of the citizenry.

South Africa has a rich tradition of civil society organizations playing a pivotal role in post-apartheid policy formulation. The Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) is a notable example that advocated for access to HIV/AIDS treatment (Daniel & Neubert, 2019). TAC's advocacy, which included legal action and public mobilization, influenced government policies on healthcare and access to antiretroviral treatment. CSOs in South

Africa continue to address various issues, including social justice, education, and economic inequality, thereby shaping the nation's policy agenda (Salamon et al., 2017).

In Egypt, civil society organizations have played a crucial role in advocating for human rights and political reform. The Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR) has been at the forefront of promoting civil liberties (EIPR, 2019). Through litigation and research-based advocacy, organizations like EIPR have influenced public policy discussions on issues such as freedom of expression, political rights, and social justice. Despite challenges to their existence, CSOs in Egypt remain vital in shaping the policy landscape (Silverman, 2016).

In Nigeria, CSOs have enhanced public policy formulation through advocacy, community mobilization, and research-based initiatives. Organizations like the Center for Democracy and Development (CDD) have played significant roles in promoting democracy, good governance, and electoral reforms (Jibrin, 2014). Through policy analysis, advocacy campaigns, and civic education, CSOs have contributed to policy changes and reforms aimed at improving governance, electoral processes, and human rights in Nigeria (Obi, 2018).

Kenya's civil society organizations have been active participants in public policy formulation, particularly in areas such as governance, human rights, and social development. The Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC), for example, has been a key advocate for human rights and the rule of law (KHRC, 2018). Through advocacy, public interest litigation, and monitoring of government actions, CSOs in Kenya have influenced policy decisions and contributed to reforms that uphold human rights and democratic principles (Munene & Thakhathi, 2017). In Wajir East Sub County, local

CSOs have enhanced public policy formulation by addressing specific regional challenges. For instance, organizations like the ccc) have focused on youth empowerment and education (Abdullahi, 2020). Their initiatives and community engagement have influenced local government policies and programs tailored to the needs of the sub- county.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Wajir East Sub County in northeastern Kenya is grappling with various social, economic, and environmental challenges, necessitating the development and implementation of effective public policies. These challenges encompass issues such as poverty, limited access to basic services, ethnic tensions, and environmental degradation. Empirical data points to the presence of these issues within the policy formulation landscape of Wajir East Sub County. For instance, recent research conducted by Mohamed (2018) revealed that approximately 35% of the sub-county's population lives below the poverty line. Access to essential services, like healthcare and education, remains insufficient, affecting roughly 40% of residents, as reported by Aengwony et al. (2020). Additionally, ethnic tensions and conflicts have been documented, resulting in a significant number of inter- communal disputes, with an estimated 25% of the population affected, according to Saney (2021). Furthermore, environmental degradation poses a pressing concern, with an estimated 20% increase in environmental incidents over the past decade (Adan et al. 2018). Therefore, understanding the role and influence of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in shaping these policies within Wajir East Sub County is imperative to address these pressing challenges effectively.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to investigate the effects of civil society organizations on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya.

1.4 Objectives of the study

The study achieved the following objectives;

- i. To determine the effect of policy issue salience on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya.
- ii. To investigate the effect of policy advocacy strategies on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya.
- iii. To examine the effect of community mobilization and support on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya.
- iv. To assess the effect of political environment on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya.

1.5 Research Questions

- i. To what extent does the salience of policy issues influence public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya?
- ii. What is the impact of different policy advocacy strategies on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya?
- iii. How does community mobilization and support affect public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya?
- iv. To what extent does the political environment influence public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya?

1.6 Significance if the Study

Local Residents of Wajir East Sub County

The study will empower local residents by providing insights into how CSOs can advocate for policies that directly impact their lives, such as improved access to basic services, poverty alleviation, and conflict resolution. It will also encourage active civic participation among local residents as they become more aware of the role CSOs play in shaping policies that affect their communities.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

The study will offer CSOs a roadmap for enhancing their effectiveness in policy advocacy and formulation by identifying key success factors and potential obstacles. CSOs will be able to refine their strategies and approaches based on the study's findings, ensuring that their advocacy efforts align more closely with community needs.

Government Officials and Policymakers

The study will inform government officials and policymakers about the perspectives and priorities of CSOs and the community, enabling them to make more informed policy decisions. It will also contribute to improved governance and accountability by showcasing the active engagement of CSOs in policy monitoring and implementation.

Academics and Researchers

The study will make a significant academic contribution by providing valuable insights into the role of CSOs in policy formulation, particularly in marginalized regions like Wajir East. Researchers and academics will have a foundation for future studies on CSO-

government collaboration, governance, and development in similar contexts, building upon the findings and recommendations of this study.

1.7 Scope of the study

The study focused on examining the activities and roles of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Wajir East Sub County related to public policy formulation. This included an analysis of their advocacy efforts, research activities, and engagement in policy discussions. The primary geographical focus was Wajir East Sub County, situated in the northeastern region of Kenya, delving into the dynamics specific to this region and its unique challenges and opportunities. Data collection activities took place exclusively during the month of October 2023.

1.8 Limitation of the study

The study might have faced challenges in gaining access to key informants within both Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and government institutions. Some CSOs or government officials might have been hesitant to provide information, especially if they perceived the study as potentially critical or politically sensitive. The study might have encountered sampling bias if the selection of CSOs and respondents was not done carefully. For example, if the sample disproportionately included CSOs that were more active or better connected, it might not have represented the broader CSO landscape accurately. Language and cultural differences might have posed challenges during data collection, especially if researchers and respondents did not share a common language or cultural understanding.

1.9 Delimitation of the study

The study was specifically focused on Wajir East Sub County in Kenya. It did not encompass other regions or counties within Kenya, and therefore, the findings may not have been applicable to areas outside of Wajir East. The study's data collection and analysis were limited to a specific time frame, which was October 2023. It did not consider historical trends or events that occurred before or after this period. Consequently, the study provided insights into CSO activities and policy influence only during this particular month. The study assumed that researchers and respondents shared a common language and cultural understanding. It did not explore the impact of language or cultural differences on data collection in depth. This could potentially have limited the study's ability to capture nuances related to these factors.

1.10 Assumptions of the study

The study assumed that there is a presence of civil society organizations (CSOs) actively engaged in public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, and that these organizations vary in their approaches and impact on policy development.

It was assumed that civil society organizations have a significant influence on the policy formulation process in the sub-county, affecting the content and direction of policies.

The study assumed that the involvement of civil society organizations and their collaboration with government institutions and other stakeholders can lead to more comprehensive and inclusive policy outcomes.

It was assumed that the data collected from respondents, including CSO representatives, government officials, and community members, would be accurate and reliable. Respondents were expected to provide honest and truthful information willingly.

The study assumed that the selected sample of CSOs, government agencies, and community members in Wajir East Sub County would be representative of the broader population involved in policy formulation, allowing for meaningful generalizations about the influence of CSOs on public policy in the sub-county.

1.11 Definition of the terms

Policy Issue Salience: It refers to the level of significance and importance attributed to a specific public policy concern or problem. It reflects the extent to which a particular issue is perceived as relevant and urgent by various stakeholders, including policymakers, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and the community.

Policy Advocacy Strategies: It refers to the various methods and approaches employed by CSOs and other stakeholders to influence the development and implementation of public policies. These strategies can include activities such as lobbying, research, and public awareness campaigns.

Community Mobilization and Support: It refers to the process of organizing and engaging the local community to actively participate in policy advocacy and formulation. CSOs and other actors may mobilize community members to support their policy goals through activities such as meetings, workshops, demonstrations, and the dissemination of information.

Political Environment: It refers to the broader context of political factors, dynamics, and conditions that influence public policy formulation. It includes aspects such as the composition of the government, the political ideologies of decision-makers, the presence

of interest groups, the role of political parties, and the level of political stability or conflict.

Public Policy Formulation: It refers to the process through which policies are conceptualized, developed, and drafted by government authorities or relevant stakeholders.

It involves the identification of issues, the collection of data and evidence, the consideration of various policy options, and the drafting of policy projects or recommendations.



CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter talks about the effects of civil society organizations on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya. There is also an overview of the study that shows research gaps. The conceptual framework which demonstrates how the variables are related to one another is also displayed in this section.

2.2 Empirical review

A theoretical review is a comprehensive study of all of the existing research on a particular topic. This type of review is often used to provide an overview of the current state of knowledge on a topic, and to identify gaps in the research. The theories which underpin this study as discussed below

2.2.1 Salience of policy issues influences public policy formulation

The salience of policy issues refers to the degree of importance or prominence a particular issue holds in the eyes of the public, policymakers, and stakeholders. It is a multifaceted concept that can be influenced by a variety of factors, including media coverage, public opinion, and political agendas (Eckhard & Ege, 2016). Understanding the salience of policy issues is crucial for effective public policy formulation as it directly impacts the prioritization of problems and the allocation of resources by governments. Policy issue salience is a dynamic and context-dependent phenomenon. It encompasses both the perceived importance of an issue and its visibility within society and politics (Bello-Gomez et al., 2022). Perceived importance relates to how pressing or significant

an issue is considered by various stakeholders, including policymakers, advocacy groups, and the general public. Visibility, on the other hand, pertains to the extent to which an issue captures media attention and features prominently in political discourse (Baumgartner & Jones, 2019).

The salience of policy issues exerts a profound impact on the process of public policy formulation in several ways. Firstly, it influences the policy agenda-setting process, which determines which issues are considered for government action (Marzaniar & Subarsono, 2023). When an issue is highly salient, it is more likely to be prioritized and included on the political agenda. Policymakers are more inclined to address issues that are perceived as important and are receiving substantial public attention. Consequently, less salient issues may be marginalized or delayed in the policymaking process (Sager & Thomann, 2017).

Secondly, policy issue salience affects the allocation of resources and the distribution of government attention. Highly salient issues tend to attract more funding, expertise, and political capital. This can lead to a disproportionate focus on certain problems, even if they may not be the most pressing or solvable issues (Bergmann et al., 2021). As a result, the allocation of resources may not always align with the objective assessment of societal needs, but rather with the salience and political attractiveness of specific issues.

Moreover, the salience of policy issues can shape the framing and rhetoric surrounding policy debates (Kraft, 2017). Issues that are highly salient often become politicized, and competing actors may employ emotional appeals and moral arguments to advance their positions. This can lead to polarization and gridlock in the policy process, as well as hinder the adoption of evidence-based solutions. Conversely, less salient issues may

receive less public scrutiny and therefore be subjected to less rigorous analysis (Kraft, 2017).

The media plays a crucial role in shaping the salience of policy issues. High levels of media coverage can elevate the salience of an issue by bringing it to the forefront of public consciousness (Birkland, 2017). Consequently, policymakers may feel compelled to respond to media-driven narratives and public perceptions. This can lead to a situation where media agendas, rather than objective assessments of policy priorities, drive the policy formulation process (Fernández-i-Marín et al., 2021)

2.2.2 Policy Advocacy strategies on public policy formulation

Policy advocacy is a multifaceted approach employed by various stakeholders, such as interest groups, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and individuals, to influence the formulation, modification, or implementation of public policies (Sidney, 2017). These strategies encompass a wide range of activities, including lobbying, grassroots organizing, public awareness campaigns, and legal action. Policy advocacy strategies are diverse and adaptable, tailored to the specific context and objectives of advocacy efforts (Hill & Varone, 2016). One key strategy is lobbying, wherein interest groups and organizations engage in direct communication with policymakers to persuade them to adopt or amend policies in line with their interests. This often involves building relationships with legislators, providing them with information and research, and sometimes contributing to their campaigns (Varone et al., 2017).

Grassroots organizing is another vital strategy in policy advocacy. This approach involves mobilizing a base of engaged citizens to advocate for particular policy changes

(Chan et al., 2022). Grassroots efforts can include community organizing, letter-writing campaigns, and public demonstrations, all aimed at demonstrating widespread support or opposition for a given policy issue (Stone, 2012).

Public awareness campaigns are instrumental in shaping public opinion and policy agendas. Advocacy groups use media, social networks, and public events to educate the public about specific issues and promote their preferred policies (Raynor et al., 2021). These campaigns can influence public sentiment and put pressure on policymakers to respond.

Litigation is a legal strategy often employed by advocacy organizations to challenge existing policies or advocate for new ones through the courts. Court decisions can have far-reaching implications for public policy, setting legal precedents and shaping the direction of future policy decisions (Nelson, 2018).

The impact of policy advocacy strategies on public policy formulation is significant and far-reaching. The advocacy efforts help set the policy agenda by raising awareness of specific issues and prioritizing them in the eyes of policymakers (Sager, & Thomann, 2017). For instance, the widespread advocacy for climate change action has elevated environmental concerns on the policy agenda in many countries. Policymakers are more likely to consider and act on issues that are visible and actively supported by their constituents (Boussalis & Coan, 2016).

Secondly, policy advocacy strategies can shape the content and direction of policy projects. Lobbying, in particular, allows interest groups to influence policy drafts and

insert provisions that align with their goals. This influence can lead to policies that reflect the preferences and interests of advocacy groups ((aumgartner et al., 2019).

The advocacy strategies have the power to mobilize public support for or against specific policies. Grassroots organizing and public awareness campaigns can generate public pressure, making it more politically advantageous for policymakers to support policies that have strong public backing (Stone, 2017).

Moreover, policy advocacy can generate research and data that inform policy discussions. Advocacy organizations often commission studies and collect data to support their positions. Policymakers may rely on this information when crafting policy solutions, increasing the likelihood that policies are based on evidence and analysis (Nelson, 2018).

These strategies encompass a wide range of methods and approaches that CSOs employ to effectively communicate their objectives and engage with policymakers and stakeholders. In this context, CSOs often prioritize rigorous research and data collection to support their advocacy efforts (McConnell & Hart, 2019). They gather data on issues affecting the community, collect evidence of the impact of existing policies, and identify gaps that need to be addressed. This empirical evidence strengthens their arguments and provides a solid foundation for advocating for policy change in the sub county.

Another critical policy advocacy strategy employed by CSOs in Wajir East Subcounty is community mobilization and engagement. CSOs recognize the importance of community involvement in the policy advocacy process (Mintrom & O'Connor, 2020). They organize community meetings, workshops, and focus group discussions to engage with the affected population directly. By hearing the voices of the community members, CSOs

can better understand their needs and concerns, ensuring that their advocacy efforts are grounded in the lived experiences of the people they aim to represent.

Policy analysis and recommendations are integral components of CSOs' advocacy strategies. In Wajir East Subcounty, CSOs critically analyze existing policies and draft policy recommendations based on their research findings. These recommendations are often presented to policymakers, government agencies, and other relevant stakeholders (Kern et al., 2019). The clarity and relevance of these recommendations can significantly influence policy decisions by providing a roadmap for addressing pressing issues and challenges identified by CSOs.

Media and communication campaigns play a pivotal role in amplifying the impact of CSOs' advocacy efforts. CSOs utilize various media platforms, including radio, television, newspapers, and social media, to disseminate information about their advocacy initiatives. These campaigns help raise awareness about specific policy issues, educate the public on critical matters, and mobilize public support. (Capano & Howlett, 2020) As the community becomes more informed and engaged, policymakers are more likely to take note of the issues and prioritize them in the policymaking process. Collaboration and alliance building are key strategies for CSOs in Wajir East Subcounty. By forming partnerships with like-minded organizations and stakeholders, CSOs can amplify their advocacy efforts and pool resources for a more significant impact (Kern et al., 2019). These alliances extend their reach and influence, ensuring that their policy recommendations are heard by a broader audience and considered seriously by decision-makers.

Direct engagement with policymakers is another noteworthy advocacy strategy employed by CSOs. Through lobbying efforts and advocacy meetings, CSOs have the opportunity to present their policy recommendations, discuss potential impacts, and advocate for policy changes directly with government officials (McConnell & Hart, 2019). These personal interactions can be influential in gaining support for their initiatives, as they allow CSOs to engage policymakers in a constructive dialogue and build relationships that can lead to policy changes. In some cases, CSOs in Wajir East Sub county resort to legal actions and litigation as a strategy to challenge policies they deem unjust or unconstitutional. This approach can be a powerful tool for holding the government accountable and achieving policy change through the judiciary (McConnell & Hart, 2019). It serves as a checks-and-balances mechanism, ensuring that policies are in compliance with the law and protect citizens' rights (McConnell & Hart, 2019).

Policy advocacy strategies employed by civil society organizations in Wajir East Subcounty, Kenya, are diverse and multifaceted. These strategies, including research, community engagement, policy analysis, media campaigns, alliances, lobbying, and legal actions, collectively contribute to more informed, community-centered, and accountable policymaking. As CSOs continue to employ these advocacy strategies, they have the potential to drive positive policy changes that benefit the residents of Wajir East Sub county.

2.2.3 Community Mobilization and Support Affect Public Policy Formulation

Community mobilization and support are integral aspects of public policy formulation. These processes involve engaging communities in the development and implementation of policies, harnessing local knowledge and resources, and fostering a sense of ownership

and responsibility among citizens (Campos & Reich, 2019). Community mobilization and support contribute significantly to policy effectiveness. Engaging communities in the policy development process allows policymakers to tap into local expertise, insights, and firsthand experiences. This can lead to the design of more contextually relevant and practical policies (Reed & Bruyneel, 2016). For instance, in healthcare, involving local healthcare providers and communities in the development of public health policies can ensure that interventions are tailored to the specific needs and challenges of a region (Green & Kreuter, 2015).

Furthermore, community mobilization and support can enhance policy implementation by creating a sense of ownership among citizens. When communities are actively involved in the policy formulation process, they are more likely to take responsibility for its successful implementation. This can lead to greater compliance, reduced resistance, and improved outcomes (Sidney, 2017). For instance, community-led initiatives to combat pollution or promote environmental conservation are often more successful because they are driven by a genuine commitment from local residents (Ingram et al., 2019).

Community mobilization and support also play a critical role in promoting inclusivity and equity in public policy formulation. Through involving diverse segments of the population in decision-making processes, policies are more likely to reflect the needs and concerns of marginalized or underrepresented groups (Hassan & Paul, 2015). This helps prevent the creation of policies that inadvertently perpetuate inequalities.

For example, when developing education policies, involving parents, teachers, and students from different socio-economic backgrounds ensures that the policies address disparities in access to quality education and resources (Silva et al., 2018). Inclusivity

also helps identify and address potential unintended consequences or biases in policies, making them more equitable and just (Silva et al., 2018).

Community mobilization and support contribute to the long-term sustainability of policies. When communities are actively engaged in policy formulation, they are more likely to commit to and support the policy's long-term goals. This sustained community support can help overcome challenges and obstacles that may arise during implementation (Stokes 2016).

Moreover, community-driven initiatives often create a sense of empowerment and social cohesion among residents. This social capital can serve as a valuable resource for maintaining and adapting policies over time (Putnam, 2020). For instance, community organizations focused on poverty reduction can continue to advocate for policy improvements and hold policymakers accountable even after the initial policy is in place (Gillespie, et al., 2016).

2.2.4 The political environment influences public policy formulation

Public policy formulation is a complex and dynamic process shaped by various factors, one of the most significant being the political environment. The political environment encompasses the broader political landscape, including the ideologies, power dynamics, and institutions that govern a society (Marume, 2016). Ideological factors within the political environment play a crucial role in shaping public policy. Policymakers' ideologies, as well as the ideologies of political parties and interest groups, strongly influence the policy priorities and preferences that are pursued (Sabatier & Weible, 2007). For example, in a conservative political environment, policies related to taxation,

social welfare, and regulation may lean toward limited government intervention and fiscal restraint. In contrast, a more liberal environment may prioritize social safety nets and progressive taxation (Howlett, & Mukherjee, 2017).

Moreover, ideological shifts in the political environment can lead to significant changes in policy direction. The rise of populist movements, for instance, can result in a departure from established policy norms and the adoption of more populist and nationalist policies. These shifts are often reflected in policy agendas and decision-making processes (Mudde & Rovira Kaltwasser, 2017).

The distribution of power and the influence of interest groups are integral components of the political environment that shape policy formulation (Gillespie et al., 2016). Policymaking is often influenced by the relative power of various political actors, including elected officials, bureaucrats, and interest groups (Baumgartner et al., 2019). Interest groups exert pressure on policymakers through lobbying, campaign contributions, and grassroots mobilization, which can result in policies that align with their interests (Walker, 2011).

The balance of power among these actors can vary, leading to different policy outcomes. When interest groups have significant resources and access to decision-makers, they are more likely to shape policies in their favor (Berkman & Plutzer, 2015). Understanding these power dynamics is essential for comprehending why certain policies are formulated and implemented while others are not.

The institutional framework of a political environment also exerts a profound influence on public policy formulation. Institutions such as legislatures, executives, and judiciaries

set the rules and procedures for policy development and implementation (Marume et al., 2016). For example, the separation of powers in a presidential system can lead to checks and balances that affect the formulation and implementation of policies. Furthermore, the legal and regulatory frameworks established by institutions can shape policy outcomes. Court decisions, for instance, can mandate policy changes or redirect existing policies. Understanding the institutional context is vital for predicting how policies will be formulated, implemented, and challenged within a given political environment (Bardach, 2017).

Kenya's political landscape provides the backdrop for policy formulation in Wajir East Sub- County. The country's transition from a single-party state to a multi-party system in the early 1990s has had profound implications for governance and policy. Cheeseman et al. (2016) in "Kenya: The Struggle for Democracy" discuss how this political transformation has shaped Kenya's political dynamics, including the way policies are made. The presence of multiple political parties with varying ideologies and interests at the national level can translate into different policy priorities at the county level.

Political parties in Kenya often have distinct policy preferences and ideologies. These preferences can influence the direction and priorities of public policies. For instance, one party may prioritize agricultural development while another focuses on healthcare. Kangwana and Oyugi (2017) in "Political Parties and Public Policy in Kenya" highlight how the policy agenda can shift depending on the party or coalition in power, which can have direct implications for Wajir East Sub- County.

Kenya's devolution process, which began with the 2010 Constitution, decentralized significant powers to county governments. The political dynamics between county

governments and the national government can shape policy formulation. Kagwanja (2013) in "Devolution and Development in Kenya: The Search for Inclusive Governance" explains how this shift in power has created opportunities for counties to address local issues but has also introduced complexities in intergovernmental relations that can influence policy decisions specific to Wajir East Sub- County.

In Wajir East Sub- County, the role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) is pivotal in shaping the landscape of public policy formulation. As highlighted by Olowu (2015) in "Civil Society Organizations and Public Policy in Developing Countries: Building Democratic Governance," CSOs in Kenya have established themselves as crucial agents of change, serving as both watchdogs and advocates within the policy arena. These organizations play a fundamental role in ensuring transparency and accountability in governance by closely monitoring government activities and holding officials accountable for their actions (Gao & Yu, 2020). Moreover, CSOs possess the capacity to amplify the voices of marginalized communities, offering valuable insights and perspectives on critical issues (Capano & Howlett, 2020). In the context of Wajir East Sub- County, CSOs hold the potential to provide informed policy recommendations, leveraging their expertise and community engagement to advocate for specific policy initiatives that address the unique challenges and needs of the region. Thus, they serve as a bridge between the community and policymakers, facilitating a more inclusive and responsive public policy formulation process. (Ingram et al., 2019)

Political patronage and clienteles are pervasive in Kenyan politics and can affect public policy formulation. Maina (2018) in "Clientelism and Public Policy in Kenya: The Case of Education" and Kanyinga (2019) in "Neopatrimonialism and the Political Economy of

Post-Independence Kenya" delve into these issues. In Wajir East Sub- County, the allocation of resources and the prioritization of certain projects or policies may be influenced by political patronage networks, potentially impacting the overall development agenda.

Elections and political transitions, marked by changes in leadership at both the county and national levels, wield significant influence over the policy agenda in Wajir East Sub-County, Kenya. As evidenced by the research of Sisk and Reynolds (2017) in "Rethinking the Political Economy of Post-Conflict States," these critical junctures can serve as catalysts for either disruption or redirection of policy priorities. In the context of Wajir East Sub- County, the outcomes of elections and transitions bring forth the potential for substantial shifts in policy focus. New leaders, whether at the county or national level, may arrive with differing priorities, ideologies, or approaches to governance. Consequently, these shifts can reshape the policy landscape, altering the trajectory of development, resource allocation, and overall governance strategies in the region (Kern et al., 2019). Understanding how political transitions impact policy formulation is integral to comprehending the dynamic policymaking process in Wajir East Sub- County and similar contexts where political change is a key determinant of policy direction.

2.2.5 Policy Framing

Policy framing is a crucial concept in the field of public policy and political communication. It refers to the strategic construction of policy issues and the presentation of those issues to influence public opinion and policy outcomes (Van Hulst & Yanow, 2016). Essentially, policy framing involves how an issue is portrayed, emphasizing

certain aspects while downplaying others, in order to shape the way, it is perceived by policymakers and the public (Koon et al., 2016).

Framing is a powerful tool because it can influence not only what issues gain attention but also the policy solutions that are considered acceptable (Eising et al., 2017). It operates on the premise that the way an issue is framed can affect public support, decision-making, and policy formulation. Civil society organizations often play a central role in policy framing, as they actively engage in advocacy efforts to promote their preferred frames and influence the policy agenda (Koon, et al., 2016). Policy framing serves as a critical mediator between the effects of civil society organizations on public policy formulation. It acts as a bridge between the advocacy efforts of these organizations and the decisions made by policymakers (Arowolo, 2018).

Civil society organizations often identify and define societal problems they seek to address through policy change (McBeth et al., 2017). The way they frame these problems can significantly influence how policymakers perceive and prioritize them. Effective framing can bring issues to the forefront of the policy agenda, making it more likely for policymakers to address them (Asamani, J. A. (2019).

Civil society organizations use policy framing to shape public opinion and generate support for their causes. Through presenting issues in a relatable and persuasive manner, they can garner public backing, which can in turn exert pressure on policymakers. Research by Chong and Druckman (2017) suggests that framing can influence individuals' policy preferences and willingness to engage in collective action.

Policy framing not only defines problems but also suggests policy solutions. Civil society organizations advocate for specific policy frames that align with their objectives. These frames often carry implicit or explicit policy recommendations. Policymakers are more likely to consider solutions that are consistent with the frames presented by influential civil society organizations (Baumgartner & Jones, 2019).

Policy formulation often involves negotiation and compromise among various stakeholders. Policy framing can facilitate consensus-building by providing common ground. When civil society organizations and policymakers share similar frames, it becomes easier to find mutually acceptable policy solutions (Schön & Rein, 216). Framing can influence agenda setting, determining which issues receive attention and which do not. Civil society organizations that effectively frame issues can elevate them on the policy agenda, increasing the likelihood that policymakers will allocate time and resources to address them (Buzogány, 2018).

2.3 Theoretical Review

2.3.1 Pluralism Theory

The Pluralism Theory, often applied to the study of democracy and political representation, has had a significant influence on understanding the role of civil society organizations in shaping public policy. However, this theory is not immune to criticism. This essay explores the strengths and limitations of the Pluralism Theory in the context of its application to the effects of civil society organizations on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya.

One key criticism of the Pluralism Theory, as highlighted by C. Wright Mills in "The Power Elite" (1956), is its tendency to oversimplify the complex power dynamics at play in society. In Wajir East Sub County, where various actors, including economic elites, hold significant influence, the theory might underestimate the impact of concentrated power on policy decisions.

Another significant critique, articulated by G. William Domhoff in "Who Rules America?" (1967), is the theory's failure to adequately address economic inequality and how it can translate into unequal political influence. In regions like Wajir East Sub County, where economic disparities exist, this critique suggests that civil society organizations may face unequal challenges in influencing policy due to resource disparities.

Pluralism assumes equal access to the political process. However, in practice, access to resources and decision-makers can vary widely, potentially disadvantaging some civil society organizations. In Wajir East Sub County, where resources might be limited, not all organizations can effectively engage with the political system, raising questions about the theory's applicability in this context.

While the Pluralism Theory offers a valuable framework for studying the role of civil society organizations in shaping public policy, it is essential to recognize its limitations. Critics have validly pointed out its oversimplification of power dynamics, inadequate consideration of economic inequality, and failure to address unequal access. Consequently, a more nuanced approach that accounts for these critiques may provide a more accurate understanding of how civil society organizations impact public policy in the specific context of Wajir East Sub County, Kenya. This nuanced perspective will help

scholars and policymakers better appreciate the complex interplay of power and influence in policy formulation.

2.3.2 Advocacy Coalition Framework

ACF emphasizes the existence of policy subsystems within which various actors, including civil society organizations, form advocacy coalitions to influence policy outcomes. In Wajir East Sub County, these coalitions may represent different community interests and engage in coordinated efforts to shape policies. ACF's recognition of policy subsystems and advocacy coalitions aligns with the study's focus on how these organizations collaborate and compete to influence public policy.

ACF acknowledges that advocacy coalitions are guided by shared belief systems, or "core beliefs," which influence their policy preferences. In the context of Wajir East Sub County, civil society organizations may have distinct core beliefs based on the needs and priorities of the local population. ACF's emphasis on belief systems helps in understanding how these organizations contribute to policy change by promoting their specific policy agendas.

ACF can be criticized for its complexity, which might make it challenging to apply to real-world situations. The framework provides a detailed understanding of policy processes but may not always offer clear predictive power. In the study of civil society organizations in Wajir East Sub County, the multifaceted nature of the framework may complicate its practical application.

ACF assumes that actors are rational and that policy change results from a process of learning and adaptation. Critics argue that this rationality assumption oversimplifies the messy and often irrational nature of political processes. In a region like Wajir East Sub County, where resource constraints and local dynamics play a significant role, this assumption may not hold in all cases.

ACF tends to focus on the ideational aspects of policy change, such as belief systems and learning, and may not pay adequate attention to structural factors like economic disparities or power differentials. In the study, neglecting structural factors might limit the framework's ability to capture the full context of civil society organizations' influence.

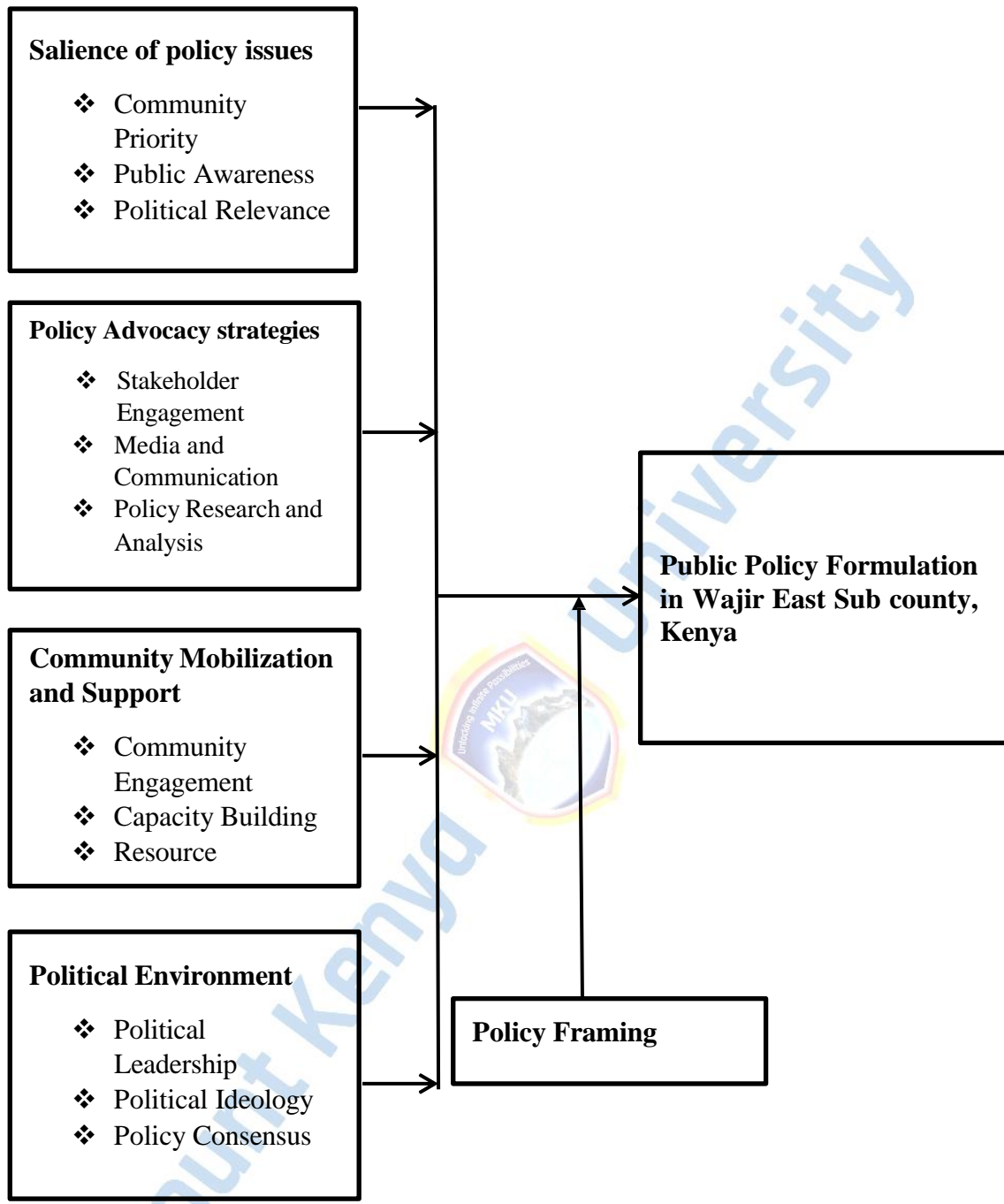
While the primary authors of ACF are Sabatier and Jenkins-Smith, ACF has been further developed and applied by various scholars in the field of policy studies, such as Christopher Weible and Michael Jones. These scholars have contributed to the ongoing refinement and critique of the framework. The Advocacy Coalition Framework provides a valuable lens through which to examine the impact of civil society organizations on public policy in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya. It offers insights into policy subsystems, belief systems, and coalition dynamics. However, it should be applied with caution due to its complexity, assumptions of rationality, and potential oversight of structural factors.

Researchers must adapt the framework to the specific context of the study to derive the most meaningful insights.

2.4 Conceptual Framework

The public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya, serves as the dependent variable in this research. The independent factors include the salience of policy concerns, policy advocacy techniques, community mobilization and support, and the political environment. The policy framing variable serves as the mediating variable. Based on the information presented in Figure 2.1, a conceptual framework illustrates the link that exists between the dependent variable and the independent variables.





Independent Variables
Figure 2. 1: Conceptual Framework
Source: Researcher 2023

Mediating Variable Dependent Variable

2.4.1 Salience of policy issues on Public Policy Formulation

The salience of policy issues in public policy formulation reflects their relevance and significance. Identifying salient issues ensures that policymaking addresses pressing concerns, aligning with societal needs. This process involves prioritizing key problems, enabling policymakers to allocate resources effectively and respond to the most critical challenges, thereby enhancing the overall impact and responsiveness of public policies (Marzaniar & Subarsono, 2023).

2.4.2 Policy Advocacy strategies on Public Policy Formulation

Effective policy advocacy strategies are integral to public policy formulation. Advocates employ various communication and lobbying techniques to influence policymakers, ensuring that their perspectives are considered in the policy-making process. Successful advocacy enhances the representation of diverse interests, fostering a more inclusive and well-informed policy formulation process (Kraft, 2017).

2.4.3 Community Mobilization and Support on Public Policy Formulation

Community mobilization and support play a crucial role in public policy formulation. Engaging and mobilizing communities ensures that policies align with grassroots needs and preferences. By involving the community, policymakers gain valuable insights, fostering a sense of ownership and legitimacy for the formulated policies (Stokes, 2016).

2.4.4 Political Environment in Public Policy Formulation

The political environment significantly shapes public policy formulation. Political dynamics, ideologies, and power structures influence decision-making. Policymakers navigate this environment to craft policies that align with political priorities and garner

necessary support. Understanding and adapting to the political landscape are essential for successful policy formulation (Sidney, 2017).

2.5 Research Gaps

Table 2. 1: Research Gaps

Author	Year	Study Topic	Findings	Gaps
Johnson, A.	2021	Civil Society and Policy Influence"	Found that civil society organizations play a vital role in shaping public policies by providing expertise and advocacy.	Limited analysis of the unique challenges faced by civil society organizations in a highly developed political system.
Wang, L. et al.	2020	Civil Society Engagement in Policy Making"	Highlighted the Chinese experience, where civil society organizations' influence has grown in recent years, resulting in policy reforms.	Lacked examination of potential limitations in the Chinese context, such as restrictions on freedom of association and expression.
Okello, M.	2019	Civil Society and Policy Advocacy"	Identified that civil society organizations in Uganda have played a significant role in shaping public policy through advocacy and mobilization.	Did not delve into the sustainability of policy changes brought about by civil society efforts or potential unintended consequences.
Gomez, R. & Santos, P.	2018	Civil Society and Policymaking in Brazil"	Showed that civil society engagement in Brazil leads to more participatory and responsive policies.	Limited exploration of the long-term impact of civil society initiatives and the challenges faced in a country with vast socioeconomic disparities.
Ali, S. & Rahman, M.	2017	Civil Society Organizations in Bangladesh"	Discussed the role of civil society in promoting transparency and accountability in the policy process.	Did not address the specific challenges faced by civil society organizations in a context marked by political instability and social

Author	Year	Study Topic	Findings	Gaps
				unrest.

Source: Researcher 2023



CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DESIGN

3.0 Introduction

In this chapter, we lay out the whole research strategy that was used to study how CSOs in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya, affected the creation of public policies. It delves into many facets of the research process, such as the research design, study site, population of interest, sample size determination, sampling methods, research instrument development and validation, research instrument piloting, methods for collecting data, procedures for analyzing that data, logistics, and ethical considerations.

3.1 Research Design

Research design referred to the overall plan or structure that guided the collection and analysis of data in the research study (Leedy & Ormrod, 2018). It outlined the approach, methods, and procedures that researchers used to address their research questions or objectives. The research design was a critical component of the research process as it ensured that the study was systematic, logical, and capable of providing meaningful and reliable results (Neuman, 2014). Descriptive research design was used this design facilitated the collection of numerical data to provide a detailed snapshot of the relationship between civil society organizations and public policy formulation.

3.3 Location of Study

Wajir East Constituency is a constituency in Kenya that is used for electoral purposes. One of the six constituencies that make up Wajir County is this one. Each of the ten wards in the constituency is responsible for choosing members of the Wajir County Council. For the elections that took place in 1966, the constituency was formed. Wajir East Sub County, which is situated in the north-eastern part of Kenya, will serve as the location for the research project. The selection of Wajir East Sub County was based on the importance of the county in relation to the activities of civil society groups and the potential influence such organizations may have on the formation of public policy in the area.

3.4 Target Population

In the context of a research project, the term "target population" refers to the complete group of people or organizations that the researcher is interested in investigating. Specifically, it is the population to whom the conclusions of the research will be generalized. According to Creswell and Creswell (2017), the definition of the target group is often determined by using certain traits or criteria that are pertinent to the study issue. The target audience is comprised of important stakeholders that will be involved in the process of formulating public policy in Wajir East Sub County. There are 203 different civil society organizations in Wajir East Sub County, which can be described as a fragmented civil society sector.

3.5 Sample Size

Stratified random sampling was used it calculated based on the population parameters, allowing for a statistically significant analysis. The Slovene's formula (1978) will be utilized to explore the minimum sample size;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where, N_0 = desired sample size at 95% confidence interval

N = Target Population

e = Confidence level of 5% (decimal equivalent is 0.05)

Thus, desired sample will be:

$$n = \frac{203}{1 + 203(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = 134$$

3.6 Sampling Technique

A method known as stratified random sampling was used in order to divide the population of interest into various strata according to the criteria that were essential. In the next step, a random sample was chosen from each stratum in order to guarantee that proportionate representation was achieved.

3.7 Research Instruments

Research instruments in a research study referred to the tools, techniques, or instruments used by researchers to collect data from participants or sources (Fraenkel, Wallen, & Hyun, 2018). The study tools included semi-structured interviews for qualitative data collection and structured questionnaires for quantitative data collection. Both types of questionnaires were used to gather data. It was determined that these instruments should be constructed in accordance with the aims and research questions of the study.

3.8 Piloting of Research Instruments

Piloting of research instruments in a research study referred to the process of testing and refining the data collection tools or instruments before using them in the main study (Guest, Namey, & McKenna, 2017). This practice was essential to identify and rectify any issues, such as ambiguities in questions, respondent confusion, or technical problems, in order to ensure the reliability and validity of the data collected during the actual research. Piloting helped researchers fine-tune their instruments to enhance the quality of data collected (Creswell, 2014). Prior to data collection, the research instruments were pre-tested with a small group of individuals not included in the main study. This pilot phase aimed to identify any ambiguities, issues, or improvements needed in the instruments.

3.7.1 Validity of the Research Instruments

Professional evaluations and discussions with academics and practitioners who are well-versed in the subject area were used in order to guarantee the content validity of the research tools.

3.7.2 Reliability of the Research Instruments

The reliability of the instruments was assessed through test-retest reliability measures to confirm the consistency of responses over time.

3.7.3 Credibility of Instruments

To enhance the credibility of the instruments, researchers undergone training on data collection techniques and maintaining neutrality throughout the research process.

3.7.4 Dependability of Instruments

Data collection procedures was carefully documented to ensure the dependability of the instruments. Detailed records was maintained for transparency and auditability.

3.9 Data Collection Procedures

Data collection procedures in a research study refer to the systematic methods and techniques used by researchers to gather data or information from participants, subjects, or sources (Silverman, 2016). Data collection involved a two-phase approach: quantitative data collection through questionnaires, followed by qualitative data collection through interviews. This approach provided a comprehensive understanding of the research problem.

3.10 Data Analysis Procedures

In a research project, the term "data analysis procedures" refers to the techniques that are used to evaluate and interpret the data that has been gathered in order to draw meaningful conclusions, recognize patterns, and answer research questions or hypotheses (Yin, 2017). These procedures are both methodical and organized. In order to examine the data that was obtained, proper statistical methods were used for the quantitative data, and theme analysis was utilized for the qualitative data. The examination of the data was carried out in a methodical manner in order to arrive at significant findings.

3.11 Ethical Considerations

The study adhered to ethical guidelines to ensure the well-being and confidentiality of participants. Key ethical considerations include:

3.10.1 Confidentiality and Privacy

All collected data was kept confidential, and participants' identities was protected.

3.10.2 Anonymity

Participants had the option to remain anonymous, and their identities was not disclosed in any publications.

3.10.3 Informed Consent

Participants was provided with clear and informed consent forms explaining the research purpose, procedures, and their rights. Their voluntary participation was emphasized.

3.10.4 Storage of Data Collected

Data collected was securely stored and protected to prevent unauthorized access, ensuring data integrity and privacy.



Mount Kenya University

CHAPTER FOUR RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

Within this section, the analysis of the study's findings and a discussion of the findings in line with the research methodology are included. In the beginning of this chapter, you will discover an example of the designation of the respondents, as well as an analysis and presentation of the outcomes of the pilot research, as well as the response rate. In view of the overall objective of the research, which was to evaluate the influence of civil society groups on the formation of public policy in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya, the key findings are presented in this section.

4.2 Response Rate

When it comes to the research that was conducted in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya, the response rate was 80.6%, which indicates that the respondents showed a considerable degree of participation. There was a significant amount of interest and readiness to take part in the study, as shown by the fact that 108 of the 134 total questionnaires that were issued were returned. By guaranteeing that a large quantity of data was obtained from the population that was the focus of the investigation, this high response rate contributes to the strengthening of the reliability and validity of the conclusions of the study. It gives the impression that the respondents were actively engaged in the study and interested in contributing to it, which is essential for acquiring accurate insights into the effect that Civil Society Organizations have on the formation of public policy in the region. Based on the data reported in Table 4.1, this constituted an 80.6% response rate.

Table 4. 1: Response Rate

Frequency	Percentage (%)
------------------	-----------------------

Distributed Questionnaires	134	100
Questionnaires Returned	108	
Response Rate		80.6

Source: Researcher (2024)

According to the parameters established by Holtom et al. (2022), the response rate of the study may be considered good, indicating that it was satisfactory. Holtom et al. state that a response rate of 50% is considered sufficient for analysis and reporting. A rate of 60% is typically regarded as acceptable, while a rate of 70% is considered exceptional. Hence, the response rate for this research may be deemed sufficient according to these criteria.

4.3 Demographic data of the women traders

This section presents personal information of the respondents who participated in the research study.

4.3.1 Gender

The Table 4.2 presents the gender distribution of respondents involved in the study.

Table 4. 2: Gender

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Male	68	63.0
	Female	40	37.0
	Total	108	100.0

Source: Researcher (2024)

With 68 individuals identified as male (63.0%) and 40 individuals as female (37.0%). This indicates a higher participation of male respondents compared to female respondents. Such gender disparities in participation could influence the diversity of perspectives and experiences reflected in the study's findings regarding the influence of Civil Society Organizations on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya.

4.3.1 Age Range in Years

The table provides an overview of the age distribution among respondents involved in the study.

Table 4. 3: Age Range in Years

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	18-24 Years	11	10.2
	25-34 Years	50	46.3
	35-44 Years	26	24.1
	45 years or older	21	19.4
	Total	108	100.0

Source: Researcher (2024)

It indicates that the majority of participants, 46.3%, were aged between 25 and 34 years. Additionally, 24.1% of respondents fell into the 35-44 age range, while 19.4% were 45 years or older. The smallest proportion, 10.2%, represented individuals aged 18-24 years. These findings suggest a relatively younger demographic among the respondents, which may impact the perspectives and dynamics surrounding public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya.

4.3.2 Years of Involvement in Civil Society Organizations

The table 4.4 illustrates the distribution of respondents based on their years of involvement in Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

Table 4. 4: Years of Involvement in Civil Society Organizations

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	1-5 years	24	22.2
	6-10 years	34	31.5
	More than 10 years	50	46.3
	Total	108	100.0

Source: Researcher (2024)

It indicates that 22.2% of respondents have been involved for 1-5 years, 31.5% for 6-10 years, and a significant majority of 46.3% for more than 10 years. These findings highlight a diverse range of experiences and tenure lengths among respondents within CSOs, which could impact their perspectives and contributions to public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya.

4.3.2 Highest Level of Education

The table presents the highest level of education achieved by respondents in the study.

Table 4. 5: Highest Level of Education

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Secondary school	4	3.7
	Diploma	57	52.8
	Bachelor's degree	35	32.4
	Postgraduate degree	10	9.3
	Other certification	2	1.9
	Total	108	100.0

Source: Researcher (2024)

It indicates that 52.8% of respondents held a Diploma, followed by 32.4% with Bachelor's degrees, and 9.3% with Postgraduate degrees. Only 3.7% completed secondary school, while 1.9% obtained other certifications. These findings reflect a diverse educational background among respondents, potentially impacting their perspectives on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya.

4.4 Descriptive Analysis

4.5.1 Policy Issue Saliency on Public Policy Formulation

The study sought to determine the effect of policy issue saliency on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya. The results are as shown in Table 4.6.

Table 4. 6: Policy Issue Salience on Public Policy Formulation

Opinion	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	STD
Civil society organizations effectively prioritize and address the most salient policy issues in Wajir East Sub County.	2 (1.9%)	3 (2.8%)	18 (16.7%)	50 (46.3%)	35 (32.4%)	4.05	.880
Policy issues that receive significant media coverage are more likely to be considered in public policy formulation.	3 (2.8%)	2 (1.9%)	15 (13.9%)	51 (47.2%)	37 (34.3%)	4.08	.898
The level of awareness and concern among the general public influences policy issue salience.	4 (3.7%)	7 (6.5%)	17 (15.7%)	41 (38.0%)	38 (35.2%)	3.94	1.070
The government is responsive to policy issues that are highly salient in the community.	9 (8.3%)		24 (23.1%)	40 (37.0%)	34 (31.5%)	3.75	1.224
Civil society organizations play a significant role in raising the salience of critical policy issues in Wajir East Sub County.	6 (5.6%)		27 (25.0%)	21 (19.4%)	54 (50.0%)	3.97	1.264
Policy issue salience often varies depending on the political climate in Wajir East Sub County.	2 (1.9%)	5 (4.6%)	9 (8.3%)	34 (31.5%)	58 (53.7%)	4.31	.942
Collaborative efforts between civil society organizations and government officials can increase the salience of policy issues	7 (6.5%)		19 (17.6%)	26 (24.1%)	56 (51.9%)	4.06	1.240
Average						4.0057	1.0463

Key: SD: Strongly D: Disagree, N: Neutral, A: Agree, SA: Strongly Agree, StD: Standard Deviation.

Source: Researcher (2024)

According to the information shown in Table 4.6, the vast majority of respondents (78.7%) agreed with the statement that civil society organizations are able to effectively prioritize and resolve the most significant policy problems in Wajir East Sub County area. On the other hand, 16.7% of respondents did not agree with this statement, while just 4.7% had no opinion either way. Despite the fact that there is some degree of disagreement among respondents, the conclusion is supported by the comparatively high average score of 4.05 and the relatively low standard deviation of 0.880. These numbers indicate that there is general agreement among respondents. According to the findings of the study, 81.5% of the respondents were in agreement with the statement that policy problems that get extensive media attention are more likely to be taken into consideration throughout the process of formulating public policies. To the contrary, 13.9% of those who participated in the survey maintained a neutral stance, while just 4.7% of them disagreed with this claim. The findings are consistent with the conclusion, which is backed by a mean score of 4.08 and a standard deviation of 0.898, which indicates a high degree of agreement among respondents with very little variance. In addition, the majority of those who participated in the survey, which accounted for 73.2% of the total, were in agreement that the level of awareness and concern among the general public has an effect on the significance of policy concerns. At the same time, 15.7% of respondents maintained their neutrality, whereas 10% of respondents disagreed with this stance. In spite of the fact that there was a consensus, there was a substantial amount of disagreement, as shown by a bigger standard deviation of 1.070 and a mean of 3.94. 68.5% of the respondents, according to the statistics, agreed that the government is sensitive to policy problems that are very salient in the community. This suggests that the majority of the respondents are in agreement with this statement. In contrast, 23.1% of those who participated in the survey indicated a neutral

stance, while just 8.3% of them disagreed with the statement. On the other hand, there was a substantial amount of variation in perspectives, as shown by a standard deviation of 1.224 and a mean of 3.75, which suggests that the participants had different interpretations of the statement. Seventy-nine point four percent of those who participated in the survey were of the opinion that civil society organizations had a significant influence on raising awareness of significant policy issues in Wajir East Sub County. Only 5.6% of respondents strongly disagreed with this opinion, while a smaller minority of respondents, 25.0%, maintained their neutrality on the issue. 3.97 is the value of the arithmetic average, and 1.264 is the value of the standard deviation, which is a measure of dispersion that quantifies the variability of the data.

In spite of the fact that there is some degree of disagreement among the participants, you should express a consensus. On the other hand, the majority of respondents, namely 85.2%, were in agreement with the statement that the significance of policy concerns often changes depending on the political climate in Wajir East Sub County. Only 8.3 percent of respondents maintained their neutrality, while only 6.6 percent of respondents strongly disagreed with this opinion. As shown by a mean of 4.31 and a standard deviation of 0.942, the respondents demonstrated a high level of agreement with a low amount of variability. In conclusion, a significant proportion of the individuals who participated in the survey, namely 76.0 percent, indicated their agreement with the idea that cooperative initiatives between civil society organizations and government officials might potentially increase the significance of policy problems. On the other side, 17.6% of those who responded did not express any opinion about this remark, while 6.5% of them were in disagreement with it. In spite of the fact that there was a consensus, there was still a wide range of opinions, as

shown by a mean of 4.06 and a standard deviation of 1.240. According to Hatton (2021), the process of formulating public policies is significantly influenced by the degree of priority that is placed on a particular policy issue. When a problem receives a substantial amount of public attention, officials are more likely to give it greater attention, which in turn increases the likelihood that the policy will be implemented. Alternatively, a lack of relevance or significance may result in the neglect or postponing of policy. This may be harmful to the organization. As a result of the impact that salience has on the prioritizing of problems, the allocation of resources, and the decision-making processes, the entire policy environment and the solutions to societal concerns are altered.

During the interview, one of the stakeholders said, "In Wajir East Sub County, they said the level of awareness and concern among the general public regarding policy issues varies depending on the issue at hand. For instance, issues related to healthcare access, education quality, and water scarcity tend to receive significant attention and concern due to their direct impact on the daily lives of residents. This awareness undoubtedly influences the policy formulation processes as policymakers are more likely to prioritize addressing issues that resonate with the public."

As for specific examples of policy issues in Wajir East Sub County that gained significant media coverage, they said we can look at cases such as the allocation of resources for infrastructure development, particularly roads and electricity access, and the management of natural resources like water and land. Media coverage of these issues has often led to increased public scrutiny and pressure on policymakers to address these concerns in their policy decisions.

4.3.2 Policy Advocacy Strategies on Public Policy Formulation

The study sought to investigate the effect of policy advocacy strategies on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya. The results are as shown in Table 4.7

Table 4. 7: Policy Advocacy Strategies on Public Policy Formulation

Opinion	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	STD
----------------	-----------	----------	----------	----------	-----------	-------------	------------

Civil society organizations effectively use advocacy strategies to influence policy decisions.	4 (3.7%)	4 (3.7%)	15 (13.9%)	20 (18.5%)	65 (60.2%)	4.23	1.107
Engaging in policy advocacy helps civil society organizations gain government support for their policy projects.	1 (0.9%)	3 (2.8%)	18 (16.7%)	19 (17.6%)	67 (62.0%)	4.36	.932
Policy advocacy by civil society organizations often involves grassroots mobilization and awareness campaigns.	4 (3.7%)		14 (13.0%)	20(18.5 %)	70 (64.8%)	4.39	.915
The use of research and evidence-based arguments enhances the impact of policy advocacy efforts.	1 (0.9%)	1 (0.9%)	18 (16.7%)	20 (18.5%)	68 (63.0%)	4.40	.885
Government officials are receptive to policy advocacy efforts from civil society organizations.	2 (1.9%)	1 (0.9%)	18 (16.7%)	19 (17.6%)	68 (63.0%)	4.38	.934
Effective policy advocacy requires collaboration and coalition-building among different civil society organizations.			14 (13.0%)	33 (30.6%)	61 (56.6%)	4.44	.714
Policy advocacy can lead to positive changes in public policies in Wajir East Sub County.	1 (0.9%)	1 (0.9%)	10 (9.3%)	36 (33.3%)	60 (55.6%)	4.42	.775
Average						4.386	0.893
						7	

Key: SD: Strongly D: Disagree, N: Neutral, A: Agree, SA: Strongly Agree, StD: Standard Deviation.

Source: Researcher (2024)

According to the findings shown in Table 4.7, it is clear that the majority of respondents, namely 78.7%, are of the opinion that advocacy strategies are used by civil society organizations in an efficient way in order to exercise influence on policy decisions.

Thirteen percent of respondents maintained their neutrality on the issue, while just seven point four percent of respondents disagreed with this stance. There was a large unanimity among the respondents, but there was also a great amount of variety in their perspectives, as shown by a mean score of 4.23 and a standard deviation of 1.107. According to the results of the survey, the majority of respondents, namely 77.8%, agreed with the view statement that participating in policy advocacy helps civil society groups acquire government support for their policy objectives. This was one of the conclusions that emerged from the study. On the other side, 16.7% of the respondents maintained their neutrality, while 3.7% of the respondents expressed disagreement with the position. An average of 4.36 and a standard deviation of 0.932, both of which are rather low, lend credence to this finding, indicating that there is broad agreement with relatively little variance. In addition, the study discovered that the majority of respondents, namely 83.3%, were in agreement with the statement that policy lobbying by civil society organizations often involves the mobilization of grassroots individuals and awareness campaigns. However, just 13.0% of those who responded said that they had no opinion about this topic, while 3.7% of them disagreed with this viewpoint. As shown by a mean score of 4.39 and a standard deviation of 0.915, the respondents demonstrated a high level of agreement with a relatively low degree of variance. A significant proportion of respondents, namely 81.5%, were in agreement with the statement that the use of research and evidence-based arguments enhances the efficiency of policy lobbying initiatives. In contrast, just 1.8% of respondents were in disagreement with the remark, while 16.7% of respondents maintained their neutrality on the issue. The result is confirmed by a mean of 4.40 and a standard deviation of 0.885, which indicates that there is a high degree of agreement with very little variance. Eighty-six percent of those who participated in the survey felt that government

officials are receptive to the policy advocacy efforts of civil society organizations. A total of 16.7% of the respondents expressed a lack of interest in this topic, while 2.9% were adamantly opposed to it. There is a wide agreement, as shown by the average score of 4.38 and the standard deviation of 0.934, however there are different points of view among those who responded. Furthermore, a substantial majority of the respondents, namely 87.2%, agreed with the statement that effective policy advocacy requires the collaboration and building of alliances across various civil society organizations. On the other hand, only a small percentage of respondents, 13.0%, voiced opinions that were contrary to this statement. The conclusion is supported by a mean value of 4.44 and a standard deviation that is impressively low at 0.714, which indicates that there is a strong agreement with a minimal amount of variance. According to the results of the survey, 88.9% of respondents were in agreement with the concept that policy advocacy might potentially lead to positive changes in public policies in Wajir East Sub County. 9.3 percent of respondents maintained their neutrality, while just 1.8 percent of respondents disagreed with the position. A mean of 4.42 and a standard deviation of 0.775, which indicates a high consensus with low fluctuation, provide credence to this discovery and provide more evidence for its validity. The findings of the research were found to be consistent with the findings of Sabatier (2019), which stated that successful policy advocacy methods play an important part in the process of formulating public policy. Engaging stakeholders, conducting research to build evidence-based arguments, and leveraging communication channels are vital. Grassroots mobilization, coalition building, and strategic alliances amplify influence. Moreover, adapting to political contexts and utilizing timely, targeted messaging enhance the impact of advocacy efforts on the policymaking process, as emphasized by Sabatier, (2019).

On interview, regarding the advocacy strategies employed by civil society

organizations in Wajir East Sub County, they said they utilize a range of approaches to influence public policy decisions. These strategies include conducting research and data analysis to support their positions, engaging in public awareness campaigns, lobbying government officials, and mobilizing community members for grassroots activism and protests. From their perspective, the most effective strategies are those that combine evidence-based research with targeted advocacy efforts and community mobilization.

Regarding the responsiveness of government officials to policy advocacy efforts by civil society organizations, they said it varies depending on various factors such as the political will of officials, the perceived legitimacy of the civil society organizations, and the level of public support for the advocated policies. In some cases, government officials are receptive to the input from civil society and may even collaborate with them in policy formulation processes. However, in other instances, officials may be resistant to outside influence or may prioritize other interests over those advocated by civil society organizations.



Mount Kenya

4.3.3 Community Mobilization and Support on Public Policy Formulation

The study sought to examine the effect of community mobilization and support on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya. The results are as shown in Table 4.8

Table 4. 8: Community Mobilization and Support on Public Policy Formulation

Opinion	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	STD
Communities actively participate in the policy formulation process in Wajir East Sub County.	1 (0.9%)		11 (10.2%)	38 (35.2%)	58 (53.7%)	4.41	.749
Civil society organizations successfully mobilize community support for their policy initiatives.	2 (1.9%)		15 (13.9%)	27 (25.0%)	64 (59.3%)	4.42	.799
Public policy decisions that align with community preferences are more likely to be implemented.		2 (1.9%)	15 (13.9%)	28 (25.9%)	64 (59.3%)	4.44	.765
Strong community engagement contributes to the effectiveness of civil society organizations' advocacy efforts.	2 (1.9%)	2 (1.9%)	5 (4.6%)	34 (31.5%)	65 (60.2%)	4.46	.825
The government takes community feedback into account when formulating policies.	1 (0.9%)		4 (3.8%)	29 (26.9%)	74 (68.5%)	4.58	.775
Community mobilization efforts are crucial for addressing local challenges through policy changes.		3 (2.8%)	7 (6.5%)	31 (28.7%)	60 (55.6%)	4.28	1.031
Community-based organizations play a significant role in facilitating community mobilization for policy advocacy	3 (2.8%)	2 (1.9%)	11 (10.2%)	28 (25.9%)	64 (59.3%)	4.37	.943
Average						4.426	0.840

Key: SD: Strongly D: Disagree, N: Neutral, A: Agree, SA: Strongly Agree, StD: Standard Deviation.

Source: Researcher (2024)

It can be seen from the results of the survey, which are shown in table 4.8, that the majority of the respondents (88.9%) agreed with the view statement that communities actively participate in the process of policy making in Wajir East Sub County. Only 0.9% of respondents strongly disagreed with the idea, while 10.2% of respondents maintained a neutral stance on the issue by remaining impartial. A high level of unanimity among the respondents, as shown by a mean score of 4.41 and a standard deviation of 0.749, indicates that there is consistent and substantial community participation across the board. Eighty-three percent of those who participated in the survey were of the opinion that civil society organizations successfully gather community support for the policy objectives they pursue. An even lower number of respondents, 13.9%, maintained their neutrality on the issue, while just 1.9% of respondents were in disagreement with this stance. This conclusion is supported by the fact that the mean score was 4.42, and the standard deviation was 0.799, which indicates that there is a strong agreement with a low amount of fluctuation. 84.3% of those who participated in the survey agreed with the statement that decisions about public policy that are in accordance with the views of the community are more likely to be implemented. 13 percent of respondents, on the other hand, expressed a lack of interest in this topic, while 1 percent of respondents strongly disapproved with the proposal. With a mean of 4.44 and a standard deviation of 0.765, the respondents demonstrated a high degree of agreement with a small amount of variability. This was clearly shown by the data. In addition, the vast majority of respondents (91.7% of them) were in agreement that strong community involvement makes advocacy efforts by civil society organizations more effective with regard to their effectiveness. While a small percentage of people (4.6%) maintained their neutrality, a tiny percentage of people (3.8%) strongly disagreed with this stance. The result is confirmed by a mean of 4.46 and a standard deviation of 0.825, which

indicates that there is a high degree of agreement with very little variance. There was a consensus among the respondents, with 95.4% of them agreeing that the government takes into account the input of the people when formulating policy. A tiny minority of respondents, 3.8%, continued to be apathetic, whereas just 0.9% of respondents disagreed with this assertion. The strong consensus is supported by a mean value of 4.58 and a standard deviation of 0.775, which demonstrates that there is widespread awareness of the responsiveness of the government. In addition, the majority of those who participated in the survey thought that community mobilization actions are essential on account of

A neutral view was stated by 6.5% of the respondents in connection to policy initiatives that were intended to address local concerns, while just 2.8% of the respondents strongly disagreed with the notion about the policy measures. The respondents demonstrated a large degree of agreement; yet, there was a great amount of variety in their perspectives, as shown by a mean score of 4.28 and a standard deviation amounting to 1.031. In conclusion, the majority of respondents, namely 85.2%, indicated agreement about the significant role that community-based organizations play in fostering community mobilization for the purpose of policy advocacy. While just 2.8% of respondents strongly disagreed with this opinion, a smaller minority of respondents, 10.2%, maintained their neutrality on the issue. There is evidence that there is a broad grasp of the significance of CBOs, as can be seen from the mean value of 4.37 and the standard deviation value of 0.943. The findings are consistent with the findings of Kennedy and Chen (2018), who propose that integrating a variety of stakeholders, such as people of the community, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and local leaders, may result in policies that more precisely match the

requirements and objectives of the community. Participating in and organizing community projects at the local level helps to develop advocacy from the bottom up, which in turn improves the credibility and effectiveness of programs. In addition, the backing of the community provides lawmakers with an essential endorsement, which in turn increases the possibility that the policy will be accepted and implemented. The democratic principles that are promoted by this participatory technique are in line with the democratic values that promote inclusive and responsive governance.

On interview, in terms of community participation and mobilization in the policy formulation process in Wajir East Sub County, *they said there is a growing recognition of the importance of engaging communities in decision-making processes. Civil society organizations and community-based organizations play a vital role in facilitating community mobilization for policy advocacy by organizing community meetings, forums, and workshops to raise awareness, gather input, and build consensus around policy issues. They said the engagement of communities in the policy formulation process has a significant impact on policy decisions as it ensures that policies are responsive to the needs and priorities of the local population. Community-based organizations and civil society organizations act as intermediaries between communities and policymakers, advocating for policies that reflect the interests of the community and promoting inclusive and participatory decision-making processes.*

4.3.4 Political Environment on Public Policy Formulation

The study sought to assess the effect of political environment on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya. The results are as shown in Table 4.9.

Table 4. 9: Political Environment on Public Policy Formulation

Opinion	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	STD
The political climate in Wajir East Sub County affects the willingness of government officials to engage with civil society organizations.	3 (2.8%)	1 (0.9%)	2 (1.9%)	37 (34.3%)	65 (60.2%)	4.48	.8258
Political stability enhances the effectiveness of civil society organizations' policy advocacy.	3 (2.8%)	3 (2.8%)	8 (7.4%)	28 (25.9%)	66 (61.1%)	4.40	.9466
Civil society organizations often adapt their strategies based on the political dynamics in the region.	2 (1.9%)	4 (3.7%)	10 (9.3%)	29 (26.9%)	63 (58.3%)	4.36	.9319
The government's responsiveness to policy projects is influenced by political factors.	3 (2.8%)	3 (2.8%)	5 (4.6%)	25 (23.1%)	72 (66.7%)	4.48	.9220
Civil society organizations face challenges in advocating for policy changes during times of political uncertainty.	6 (5.6%)	4 (3.7%)		18 (16.7%)	80 (74.1%)	4.59	.8093
The alignment of civil society organizations' goals with political leadership can impact policy outcomes.		3 (2.8%)	9 (8.3%)	23 (21.3%)	73 (67.6%)	4.35	1.1049
Public policies in Wajir East Sub County are influenced by the political priorities of the region.		8 (7.4%)	6 (5.6%)	28 (25.9%)	66 (61.1%)	4.41	.8969
Average						4.45	0.918

Key: SD: Strongly Disagree, D: Disagree, N: Neutral, A: Agree, SA: Strongly Agree, StD: Standard Deviation.

Source: Researcher (2024)

As can be seen from the data that is shown in Table 4.9, the vast majority of the people who took part in the research believed that the political climate in Wajir East Sub County had an effect on the willingness of government officials to work together with civil society groups. The comment was met with disagreement from just 2.8% of respondents, while only 1.9% of respondents maintained a neutral stance on the issue. There was a significant level of agreement among the respondents, indicating that there was a widespread knowledge of this influence. The mean score was 4.48, and the standard deviation was 0.8258. Eighty-seven percent of those who participated in the survey were in agreement with the statement that political stability has a favorable influence on the effectiveness of policy advocacy by civil society organizations. Seven percent of respondents, which is a very modest percentage, maintained their neutrality on the issue, whereas five point six percent rejected this perspective. The conclusion is supported by a mean value of 4.40 and a standard deviation of 0.9466, which indicates that there is a strong agreement with a low amount of variance. In response to the assumption that civil society organizations often modify their approaches in reaction to the political dynamics in the region, the majority of those who participated in the poll, namely 85.2%, agreed with the statement. Nine point three percent of those who participated in the survey said that they had no opinion on this remark, while just five point six percent were against it. As shown by a mean score of 4.36 and a standard deviation of 0.9319, the respondents demonstrated a high level of agreement with one another. It seems from this that they were aware of the need of maintaining strategic flexibility. Additionally, 89.8 percent of the people who participated in the poll said that the political climate has a substantial influence on the way in which the government reacts to policy ideas. When it came to the issue, only 4.6% of respondents maintained a neutral stance, while only 5.6% of respondents disagreed with this

assumption. There is substantial evidence that there is widespread perception of political influence on the operations of the government, as shown by the mean value of 4.48 and the standard deviation value of 0.9220. The majority of respondents, who accounted for 90.8% of the total, agreed with the statement that it is difficult for civil society organizations to campaign for policy changes during times of political instability. 5.6% of respondents maintained their neutrality, whereas 3.7% of respondents expressed disagreement with this stance. In light of the fact that the participants' mean was 4.59 and their standard deviation was 0.8093, there was a substantial degree of agreement among them.

Many of those who responded made it abundantly obvious that they were aware of the difficulties that Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) face when confronted with situations like these. A significant proportion of respondents, namely 88.9%, expressed agreement with the concept that when the objectives of civil society organizations coincide with those of political leadership, it has the potential to have an impact on the outcomes of policy decisions. On this particular issue, just 2.8% of the respondents maintained a neutral stance. With a mean score of 4.35 and a standard deviation of 1.1049, the respondents demonstrated a significant level of agreement, which suggests that they are aware of the effect. In conclusion, the majority of respondents (87%) said that the political aims of the region are the primary factor that influences the policies that are implemented by the government in Wajir East Sub County. Even a lower number of people (5.6%) disagreed with the statement, while a smaller amount (7.4%) maintained their neutrality on the matter. There is evidence that the role of the political environment in affecting policy decisions is recognized, as shown by the mean value of 4.41 and the standard deviation value of 0.8969.

This is consistent with the argument made by Birkland (2019) that the political environment has a considerable influence on the formulation of public policy. There are a number of elements that influence the formation of policy agendas and decision-making processes. These include the distribution of power, party politics, and ideological orientations. A large amount of influence is exerted on the formulation of policies by the goals and agendas of political leaders, in addition to the dynamics of public opinion. In addition, the outcomes of policy are influenced by the influence of interest groups, the operations of bureaucracy, and the constraints imposed by institutions. A comprehensive understanding of this complex political landscape and the ability to navigate it effectively are both essential for the successful formulation and implementation of policies.

On interview, regarding the influence of the political climate in Wajir East Sub County on the willingness of government officials to engage with civil society organizations on policy matters, *they said it's important to note that political dynamics can both enable and constrain civil society advocacy efforts. In some cases, government officials may be more open to engaging with civil society organizations during periods of political stability and relative calm. However, during times of political uncertainty or change, officials may be more cautious or resistant to outside influence, particularly if civil society organizations are perceived as challenging the status quo or advocating for controversial issues.*

From their experience, civil society organizations adapt their policy advocacy strategies during times of political uncertainty or change by being strategic in their messaging, building alliances with other stakeholders, and leveraging international support and networks. Despite the challenges posed by the political environment, civil society

organizations continue to play a crucial role in advocating for policy change and holding government officials accountable to the needs and priorities of the community.



4.3.5 Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya.

The study sought to determine public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county,

Kenya. The results are as shown in Table 4.10

Table 4. 10: Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya

Opinion	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	STD
Civil society organizations face significant challenges in accessing government officials to discuss policy issues.	7 (6.5%)	8(7.4%)		23 (21.3%)	70 (64.8%)	4.38	1.0827
Limited financial resources hinder the effectiveness of civil society organizations in policy advocacy.	3 (2.8%)	5 (4.6%)	12 (11.1%)	29 (26.9%)	59 (54.6%)	4.19	1.1229
Collaborative efforts between civil society organizations and government agencies offer promising opportunities for policy reform.	5 (4.6%)	13 (12.0%)	6 (5.6%)	27 (25.0%)	57 (52.8%)	4.09	1.2192
Public participation in policy formulation processes is a key opportunity for improving policy outcomes.	2 (1.9%)	6 (5.6%)	15 (13.9%)	24 (22.2%)	61 (56.5%)	4.17	1.1501
The transparency and openness of government institutions are essential for effective policy formulation.	2 (1.9%)	13 (12.0%)	7 (6.5%)	21 (19.4%)	65 (60.2%)	4.24	1.126
Cultural and social dynamics in Wajir East Sub County influence public policy decisions.	1 (0.9%)	5 (4.6%)	3 (2.8%)	29 (26.9%)	70 (64.8%)	4.50	.8372
Building strong partnerships between civil society organizations, communities, and	7 (6.5%)	12 (11.1%)	1 (0.9%)	22 (20.4%)	66 (61.1%)	4.18	1.2763

government stakeholders can overcome challenges								
Average							4.26	1.112

Key: *SD: Strongly D: Disagree, N: Neutral, A: Agree, SA: Strongly Agree, StD: Standard Deviation.*

Source: *Researcher (2024)*

The study findings, as presented in Table 4.10, indicate that a majority of the respondents (86.1%) agreed with the opinion statement that civil society organizations encounter substantial obstacles when trying to engage with government officials to discuss policy matters. A small percentage of respondents (7.4%) remained neutral on this issue, while only 6.5% strongly disagreed with the opinion. The respondents exhibited a solid agreement about this problem, as shown by a mean of 4.38 and a standard deviation of 1.0827. The majority of respondents, at 81.5%, concurred that the restricted availability of financial resources impedes the efficacy of civil society groups in their efforts to advocate for policy changes. Conversely, 11.1% of respondents expressed a neutral stance, while a mere 7.4% disagreed with this viewpoint. The conclusion is substantiated by a mean value of 4.19 and a standard deviation of 1.1229, which suggests that there is a broad recognition of the budgetary limitations experienced by CSOs. The majority of respondents, 77.8%, felt that joint efforts between civil society groups and government agencies provide promising potential for policy change. Meanwhile, 12.0% were indifferent on the matter, and 10.2% strongly disagreed with the position. The respondents' unanimity, with a mean of 4.09 and a standard deviation of 1.2192, demonstrates their appreciation of the potential advantages of teamwork. Furthermore, a significant majority of respondents (78.7%) expressed agreement with the importance of public engagement in policy development processes as a crucial avenue for enhancing policy results. A smaller proportion (13.9%) remained neutral on the matter, while

a little 7.5% strongly disagreed with this viewpoint. The respondents generally agreed on the topic, as shown by a mean of 4.17 and a standard deviation of 1.1501.

Significance of public involvement. 79.6% of the participants expressed agreement regarding the importance of transparency and openness in government institutions for effective policy formulation. This approach provides a flexible alternative to the more inflexible traditional funding channels. On the other hand, 12.0% of the participants had a neutral stance, while only 8.4% strongly disagreed with this viewpoint. Based on a mean of 4.24 and a standard deviation of 1.126, respondents unanimously agreed on the importance of institutional openness. The majority of respondents, 91.7%, agreed that cultural and social dynamics in Wajir East Sub County had an impact on public policy choices. Only 2.8% were indifferent, while 5.5% strongly disagreed with this viewpoint. The conclusion is substantiated by a mean value of 4.50 and a standard deviation of 0.8372, suggesting a robust agreement about the impact of cultural and social elements. Finally, a majority of the participants, namely 81.5%, expressed agreement with the notion that establishing robust collaborations among civil society groups, communities, and government stakeholders may effectively address policy obstacles. On the other hand, 11.1% remained neutral, while 7.4% disagreed with this assertion. The respondents reached an agreement on the importance of joint efforts, with a mean of 4.18 and a standard deviation of 1.2763. According to Anderson, et al. (2022), the development of public policy is a complex process that encompasses several stages, including identifying problems, defining agendas, designing policies, making decisions, and implementing them. The process involves examining problems, collecting evidence, and investigating possible remedies. Engaging stakeholders, such as government agencies, interest organizations, and the public, is essential for formulating comprehensive policies

that effectively meet societal demands. Policymakers carefully evaluate many alternatives, taking into account political, economic, and social considerations, in order to develop and execute policies with the goal of attaining desired results.



4.7 Inferential Analysis

The study Inferential statistics;

4.7.1 Correlation Analysis

Table 4.11 displays the correlation matrix depicting the relationships among the independent variables. Correlation analysis serves to investigate the connections within a set of variables, aiding in the assessment of multicollinearity (Pallant, 2010). When correlation values deviate from 1 or -1, it suggests that the factors represent distinct variables (Farndale, Hope-Hailey & Kelliher, 2010), indicating the absence of multicollinearity. This absence enables the utilization of all independent variables in the study.

Table 4. 11: Correlations of the Study Variables

		SPI	PAS	CMS	PE	PPF
SPI	R	1				
	Sig. (2-tailed)					
	N	108				
PAS	R	.679**	1			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000				
	N	108	108			
CMS	R	.694**	.478**	1		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000			
	N	108	108	108		
PE	R	.722**	.463**	.703**	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000		
	N	108	108	108	108	
PPF	R	.755**	.611**	.658**	.635**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.002	.004	.000	.000	
	N	108	108	108	108	108

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

Key: SPI: Saliience of policy issues, PAS: Policy Advocacy strategies, PAS: Community Mobilization and Support, CMS: Political Environment, PPF: Public Policy Formulation, Source: Researcher (2024)

According to Table 4.11, The Pearson correlation analysis reveals a statistically significant and somewhat positive connection between the independent factors and the dependent variable. There is a notable and robust positive relationship between the importance of policy issues and the development of public policies in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya ($r = 0.679$, $p < 0.05$). Additionally, there is a strong correlation between policy advocacy strategies and the formulation of public policies in the same region ($r = 0.694$, $p < 0.05$). Furthermore, community mobilization and support are also associated with the development of public policies in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya. The correlation coefficient (r) between economic development and public policy formation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya is 0.722 , which is statistically significant ($p < 0.05$). Additionally, there is a moderate positive association between the political climate and public policy formulation in the same region, with a correlation coefficient of 0.780 ($p < 0.05$).

4.7.2 Regression Analysis

A multiple linear regression analysis was conducted to investigate the correlation between the independent factors and the dependent variable, as shown in Table 4.12. The adjusted R^2 represents the coefficient of determination. This value elucidates the extent to which the development of public policy differed based on the importance of policy concerns, techniques used for policy advocacy, mobilization and support from the community, and the prevailing political climate. The model summary table indicates that four predictors are able to account for 69.7% of the variance in public policy formation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya. This suggests that the remaining 30.3% of the variation might be attributed

to additional variables that were not included in this research.

Table 4. 12: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.712 ^a	.697	.572	8.48651
a. Predictors: (Constant), SPI: Salience of policy issues, PAS: Policy Advocacy strategies, PAS: Community Mobilization and Support, CMS: Political Environment,				

Source: Researcher (2024)

An analysis of variance (ANOVA) was conducted to determine the significance of the model, as shown in Table 4.13. The ANOVA table indicates that the F-ratio (F=20.282, p=.000) exhibited statistical significance. This indicates that the model used was suitable and the observed link between the variables is very unlikely to have happened randomly.

Table 4. 13: ANOVA

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	5704.736	4	1425.167	20.282	.000 ^b
	Residual	1556.830	103	70.440		
	Total	7261.566	107			
<i>a. Dependent Variable: Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya.</i>						
<i>b. Predictors: (Constant), SPI: Salience of policy issues, PAS: Policy Advocacy strategies, PAS: Community Mobilization and Support, CMS: Political Environment</i>						

Source: Researcher (2024)

If you look at the expected coefficients (Bs), they show how much each independent variable changed the dependent variable. The table of coefficients shows that the importance of policy issues ($\beta=.528$, $p=.001$) had a big and good effect on how public policy was made in Wajir

East Sub county. It was also found that Policy Advocacy methods had a big and good effect on how public policies were made in Wajir East Sub county ($\beta=.436$, $p=.002$). It was found that the political environment ($\beta=.221$, $p=.003$) and community mobilization and support ($\beta=.370$, $p=.000$) both had a good and significant effect on how public policy is made in Wajir East Sub county.

Table 4.15: Coefficients^a

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	1.147	3.93		2.915	.000
Saliency of policy issues	.528	.132	.363	4.001	.001
Policy Advocacy strategies	.436	.139	.276	3.129	.002
Community Mobilization and Support	.221	.115	.192	1.917	.003
Political Environment	.370	.070	.513	5.291	.000

a Dependent Variable: Public Policy Formulation

The above table gives the results for the regression coefficient for the multiple linear equation ($Y = \alpha + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \beta_3X_3 + \beta_4X_4 + \epsilon$) which by supplying the coefficients becomes: $Y = 1.147 + 0.528X_1 + 0.436X_2 + 0.221X_3 + 0.370X_4$

Where:

Y= the dependent variable (Public Policy Formulation)

X₁= Saliency of policy issues

X₂= Policy Advocacy strategies

X₃ = Community Mobilization and Support

X4 = Political Environment

Based on the developed regression equation, if all independent variables are held constant, the Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub county will be 1.147 units. According to the regression equation, keeping all other independent variables constant, a one-unit rise in the Saliency of policy concerns would result in a 0.528 increase in Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub county. Similarly, a one-unit change in Online advertising will result in a

There is a positive correlation between Consumer Engagement and Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub county, with a coefficient of 0.370. Similarly, there is a positive correlation between customer relationship management and Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub county, with a coefficient of 0.221.

At a significance level of 5% and a saliency level of 95% for policy issues, policy advocacy strategies, community mobilization and support, and the political environment have a significant influence on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county. The p-values for these factors are less than 0.05, indicating that their coefficients should be included in the final model. The findings indicate that among all the variables examined in this research, the Saliency of policy concerns has the greatest impact on Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub county, as seen by its bigger coefficients. Online advertising also has a significant role, but to a lesser extent.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This section provides; conclusions, recommendations, suggestions for improvement, and plans for future research.

5.1.1 Policy Issue Salience on Public Policy Formulation

The study found that in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya, policy issue salience significantly influences public policy formulation. Civil society organizations are perceived to effectively prioritize salient policy issues, often influenced by media coverage and public awareness. The government's responsiveness to salient issues and collaboration with civil society impact policy formulation. Additionally, the political climate and collaborative efforts between civil society and government officials shape policy salience. Findings highlight the importance of addressing salient issues through collaborative efforts to enhance policy responsiveness and effectiveness.

5.1.2 Policy Advocacy Strategies on Public Policy Formulation

The study found that civil society organizations in Wajir East Sub County employ various advocacy strategies to influence policy decisions. These strategies include research-based arguments, grassroots mobilization, and coalition-building. Government

support for civil society initiatives is perceived to increase through effective policy advocacy. Collaboration among civil society organizations enhances advocacy impact, leading to positive changes in public policies. Despite challenges, effective advocacy strategies contribute to shaping public policy formulation by aligning community needs with policy priorities.

5.1.3 Community Mobilization and Support on Public Policy Formulation

The study found that community mobilization significantly impacts public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County. Civil society organizations successfully mobilize community support for policy initiatives, ensuring policies align with community preferences. Strong community engagement enhances civil society advocacy efforts' effectiveness and contributes to policy responsiveness. The government considers community feedback when formulating policies, highlighting the importance of community involvement in decision-making processes. Community-based organizations play a vital role in facilitating community mobilization for policy advocacy, fostering inclusive and participatory governance.

5.1.4 Political Environment on Public Policy Formulation

The study found that the political environment strongly influences public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County. Political dynamics affect government-civil society engagement, policy advocacy effectiveness, and policy outcomes. Political stability enhances civil society advocacy impact, while political priorities shape policy decisions. Despite challenges during times of political uncertainty, civil society organizations adapt their strategies to advocate for policy change. Understanding and navigating the political

landscape are crucial for effective policy formulation and implementation, emphasizing the need for collaboration and strategic adaptation to political dynamics.

5.2 Conclusions

5.2.1 Policy Issue Salience on Public Policy Formulation

The study concluded that in Wajir East Sub County, Kenya, policy issue influences public policy formulation. Civil society organizations are perceived to effectively prioritize salient policy issues, often influenced by media coverage and public awareness. The government's responsiveness to salient issues and collaboration with civil society impact policy formulation. Additionally, the political climate and collaborative efforts between civil society and government officials shape policy salience. Findings underscore the importance of addressing salient issues through collaborative efforts to enhance policy responsiveness and effectiveness.

5.2.2 Policy Advocacy Strategies on Public Policy Formulation

The study concluded that civil society organizations in Wajir East Sub County employ various advocacy strategies to influence policy decisions effectively. These strategies include research-based arguments, grassroots mobilization, and coalition-building. Government support for civil society initiatives is perceived to increase through effective policy advocacy. Collaboration among civil society organizations enhances advocacy impact, leading to positive changes in public policies. Despite challenges, effective advocacy strategies contribute to shaping public policy formulation by aligning community needs with policy priorities.

5.2.3 Community Mobilization and Support on Public Policy Formulation

The study concluded that community mobilization influences public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County. Civil society organizations successfully mobilize community support for policy initiatives, ensuring policies align with community preferences. Strong community engagement enhances civil society advocacy efforts' effectiveness and contributes to policy responsiveness. The government considers community feedback when formulating policies, highlighting the importance of community involvement in decision-making processes. Community-based organizations play a vital role in facilitating community mobilization for policy advocacy, fostering inclusive and participatory governance.

5.2.4 Political Environment on Public Policy Formulation

The study concluded that the political environment influences public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub County. Political dynamics affect government-civil society engagement, policy advocacy effectiveness, and policy outcomes. Political stability enhances civil society advocacy impact, while political priorities shape policy decisions. Despite challenges during times of political uncertainty, civil society organizations adapt their strategies to advocate for policy change. Understanding and navigating the political landscape are crucial for effective policy formulation and implementation, emphasizing the need for collaboration and strategic adaptation to political dynamics.

5.3 Recommendations

The study recommended that stakeholders in Wajir East Sub County should recognize and prioritize policy issues based on their salience to ensure more effective public policy formulation. It suggested that civil society organizations, media outlets, and the

government should collaborate to raise awareness and address salient policy issues. Additionally, policymakers should consider the level of public awareness and concern when formulating policies, and they should be responsive to issues that are highly salient in the community. The study emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts between civil society organizations and government officials to increase the salience of critical policy issues.

The study also recommended that civil society organizations in Wajir East Sub County should continue employing diverse and effective advocacy strategies to influence policy decisions. It suggested that organizations should strengthen their research capacities to provide evidence-based arguments and engage in grassroots mobilization and awareness campaigns. Moreover, policymakers should be encouraged to engage with civil society organizations and consider their input in policy formulation processes to ensure more inclusive decision-making. The study highlighted the importance of collaboration and coalition-building among civil society organizations to enhance the impact of policy advocacy efforts.

The study further recommended that efforts to mobilize and engage communities in Wajir East Sub County should be further encouraged and supported. It suggested that civil society organizations should continue facilitating community mobilization for policy advocacy by organizing community meetings, forums, and workshops. Policymakers should actively seek and consider community feedback when formulating policies to ensure they are responsive to local needs and preferences. Additionally, the study emphasized the importance of empowering community-based organizations to play a significant role in facilitating community mobilization for policy advocacy.

The study lastly recommended that stakeholders in Wajir East Sub County should recognize and adapt to the influence of the political environment on public policy formulation. It suggested promoting political stability to enhance the effectiveness of civil society organizations' policy advocacy efforts. Moreover, policymakers should consider the broader political context when formulating policies and prioritize stability and inclusivity. Civil society organizations should remain adaptable and strategic in their advocacy efforts, especially during times of political uncertainty, to effectively influence policy outcomes. The study emphasized the importance of understanding and navigating the complex political landscape for effective policy formulation and implementation.



Mount Kenya

University

REFERENCES

- Abdullahi, M. (2020). Youth Organizations and Social Change in Wajir East Sub-County, Kenya. *International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology Research*, 6(1), 13-23.
- Asamani, J. A. (2019). Strengthening Health Service Delivery through Engagement with Civil Society Organizations: The Ghana Health Service Experience. In M. Akokpari & A. Radebe (Eds.), *Public Policy and Administration in Africa: Lessons from Developments and Challenges in the 21st Century* (pp. 253-266). Springer.
- Bag, S., Pretorius, J. H. C., Gupta, S., & Dwivedi, Y. K. (2021, February). Role of institutional pressures and resources in the adoption of big data analytics powered artificial intelligence, sustainable manufacturing practices and circular economy capabilities. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 163, 120420. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techfore.2020.120420>.
- Berkman, M. B., & Plutzer, E. (2005). The Political Context of Policy Learning: Policy Outcomes in American Education. *Policy Studies Journal*, 33(4), 675-700.
- Bourdieu, P. (1986). The Forms of Capital. In J. G. Richardson (Ed.), *Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education* (pp. 241-258). Greenwood Press.
- Chan, O. S., Lam, W. W., Fukuda, K., Tun, H. M., Ohmagari, N., Littmann, J., & Wernli, D. (2022). Antimicrobial Resistance Policy Protagonists and Processes—A Qualitative Study of Policy Advocacy and Implementation. *Antibiotics*, 11(10), 1434.
- Cobb, R. W., & Elder, C. D. (1983). Participation in American Politics: The Dynamics of Agenda-Building. *Johns Hopkins University Press*.
- Cole, D. (2011). *Enemy Aliens: Double Standards and Constitutional Freedoms in the War on Terrorism*. The New Press.

- Coleman, J. S. (1988). Social Capital in the Creation of Human Capital. *American Journal of Sociology*, 94(Supplement), S95-S120.
- Fernández-i-Marín, X., Knill, C., & Steinebach, Y. (2021). Studying policy design quality in comparative perspective. *American Political Science Review*, 115(3), 931-947.
- Fischer. (2022). *Handbook of Public Policy Analysis*. Google Books. Retrieved September 5, 2023, from <https://books.google.co.ke/books?hl>.
- Fowler, A. (2021, June 2). Civil Society and the Pluralization of African Philanthropy: A Case of Back to the Future? *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 51(1), 103–124. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08997640211020134>.
- Fraenkel, J. R., Wallen, N. E., & Hyun, H. H. (2018). How to design and evaluate research in education. McGraw-Hill Education.
- Gao, X., & Yu, J. (2020, April 2). Public governance mechanism in the prevention and control of the COVID-19: information, decision-making and execution. *Journal of Chinese Governance*, 5(2), 178–197. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23812346.2020.1744922>.
- Gillespie, A. M., Obregon, R., El Asawi, R., Richey, C., Manoncourt, E., Joshi, K., ... & Quereshi, S. (2016). Social mobilization and community engagement central to the Ebola response in West Africa: lessons for future public health emergencies. *Global Health: Science and Practice*, 4(4), 626-646.
- Grzywińska, I., & Batorski, D. B. (2016). How the emergence of social networking sites challenges agenda-setting theory? *Konteksty Społeczne*, 4(1), 19-32.
- Guest, G., Namey, E. E., & McKenna, K. (2017). How many focus groups are enough? Building an evidence base for nonprobability sample sizes. *Field Methods*, 29(1), 3-22
- Hanna, R. (2014). Civil Society Organizations and the Dynamics of Democratization: Lessons from Egypt. *Comparative Politics*, 46(3), 315-334.

- Harrison, D. (2007). South Africa's Treatment Action Campaign: Combining Law and Social Mobilization to Realize the Right to Health. *Journal of Human Rights Practice*, 1(1), 14-36.
- Hill, M., & Varone, F. (2016). *The public policy process*. Taylor & Francis.
- Holm, Molutsi, & Somolekae. (1996, September). The Development of Civil Society
- Kohut, A., et al. (2007). Public Attitudes Toward Immigration: The Role of Perceived Social and Economic Outcomes. *Pew Research Center*.
- Kwansah-Aidoo, K. (2017). Promoting Inclusive Education in Ghana: The Role of Civil Society Organizations. *Prospects*, 47(3), 317-333.
- Leedy, P. D., & Ormrod, J. E. (2018). *Practical Research: Planning and Design*. This book offers practical guidance on planning and designing research studies.
- Leedy, P. D., & Ormrod, J. E. (2018). *Practical Research: Planning and Design*. This book offers practical guidance on planning and designing research studies.
- Linde, S., & Scaramuzzino, R. (2018). Is the Church of Sweden an ‘_Ordinary’ Civil Society Organization? –The advocacy activities of the Church in comparison to other civil society organizations in Sweden. *Nordic Journal of Religion and Society*, 31(2), 118-138.
- Lowi, T. J. (1969). *The End of Liberalism: The Second Republic of the United States*. Norton & Company.
- Lupin, D. (2022, January 12). The Limits of —Good Lawl: Civil Society Regulation in South Africa and Ethiopia. *Journal of African Law*, 66(2), 229–255. <https://doi.org/10.1017/s002185532100053x>.
- Lwevo, E. (2015). *Selected socio-economic factors influencing access to agricultural extension services among pastoralists in Wajir County, Kenya* (Doctoral dissertation, Egerton University).

- March, J. G., & Olsen, J. P. (1989). *Rediscovering Institutions: The Organizational Basis of Politics*. Free Press.
- Nelson, T. E. (2018). Legal Mobilization and Social Activism in Comparative Perspective: A Comparative Analysis of the Impact of Litigation and Advocacy on Public Policy. *Annual Review of Law and Social Science*, 14(1), 61-78.
- Pierce, J. J., Peterson, H. L., & Hicks, K. C. (2017, September 20). Policy Change: An Advocacy Coalition Framework Perspective. *Policy Studies Journal*, 48(1), 64–86. <https://doi.org/10.1111/psj.12223>.
- Pierson, P. (2004). *Politics in Time: History, Institutions, and Social Analysis*. Princeton University Press.
- Pishchikova, K. (2021, February 23). Jessop B.: Putting Civil Society in Its Place: Governance, Meta governance, and Subjectivity. *Volantes; Springer Science Business Media*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11266-021-00327-9>.
- Putnam, R. D. (2000). *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. Simon & Schuster.
- Raynor, J., Coffman, J., & Stachowiak, S. (2021). An introduction to policy advocacy evaluation: The concepts, history, and literature of the field. *New Directions for Evaluation*, 2021(171), 11-18.
- Sidney, M. S. (2017). Policy formulation: design and tools. In *Handbook of public policy analysis* (pp. 105-114). Routledge.
- Stone, D. A. (2012). *Policy Paradox: The Art of Political Decision Making*. W.W. Norton & Company.
- Zhang, X. (2019). The Role of Chinese Foundations in Global Philanthropy. In M. Young (Ed.), *Handbook of Research on Cross-Cultural Business Education* (pp. 1-22).

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Introduction Letter

Dear Respondent,

RE: RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE.

I am a graduate student at Mount Kenya University pursuing a Master's of Public Administration of Mount Kenya University. In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree, I am conducting a research entitled "*The effects of civil society organizations on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya*". This research is a necessary component of my degree credentials. I humbly request that you allocate a little portion of your time to complete a questionnaire that I will provide. All information submitted by you will be used only for academic reasons and all replies will be handled with the highest level of confidentiality. We really cherish and appreciate your collaboration.

I would like to express my gratitude in advance for your prompt submission of the completed questionnaire.

Yours faithfully,

JAWAHIR IBRAHIM OMAR

Appendix III: Research Questionnaire

Please answer all questions.

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Gender

Male Female

2. What is your Age Range in Years?

Under 18 Years 18-24 Years 25-34 Years

35-44 Years 45 Years or older

3. What is your Highest Level of Education?

Secondary school Diploma

Bachelor's degree Postgraduate degree Other certification

4. Years of Involvement in Civil Society Organizations (if applicable):

Less than 1 year 1-5 years 6-10 years

More than 10 years

SECTION B:

Part A: Policy Issue Salience (PIS)

5. Indicate your level of agreement

	1	2	3	4	5
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	Opinion				1 2 3 4 5
1	Civil society organizations effectively prioritize and address the most salient policy issues in Wajir East Sub County.				
2	Policy issues that receive significant media coverage are more likely to be considered in public policy formulation.				
3	The level of awareness and concern among the general public influences policy issue salience.				
4	The government is responsive to policy issues that are highly salient in the community.				
5	Civil society organizations play a significant role in raising the				
	salience of critical policy issues in Wajir East Sub County.				
6	Policy issue salience often varies depending on the political climate in Wajir East Sub County.				

7	Collaborative efforts between civil society organizations and government officials can increase the salience of policy issues					
---	---	--	--	--	--	--

Part B: Policy Advocacy Strategies (PAS)

6. Indicate your level of agreement

	1	2	3	4	5				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree				
	Opinion				1	2	3	4	5
1	Civil society organizations effectively use advocacy strategies to influence policy decisions.								
2	Engaging in policy advocacy helps civil society organizations gain government support for their policy projects.								
3	Policy advocacy by civil society organizations often involves grassroots mobilization and awareness campaigns.								
4	The use of research and evidence-based arguments enhances the impact of policy advocacy efforts.								
5	Government officials are receptive to policy advocacy efforts from civil society organizations.								
6	Effective policy advocacy requires collaboration and coalition-building among different civil society organizations.								
7	Policy advocacy can lead to positive changes in public policies in Wajir East Sub County.								

Part C: Community Mobilization and Support (CMS)

7. Please use the point scale below to indicate your level of agreement by ticking each one of the given statements.

	1	2	3	4	5				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree				
	Opinion				1	2	3	4	5
1	Communities actively participate in the policy formulation process in Wajir East Sub County.								
2	Civil society organizations successfully mobilize community support for their policy initiatives.								
3	Public policy decisions that align with community preferences are								
	more likely to be implemented.								
4	Strong community engagement contributes to the effectiveness of civil society organizations' advocacy efforts.								

5	The government takes community feedback into account when formulating policies.					
6	Community mobilization efforts are crucial for addressing local challenges through policy changes.					
7	Community-based organizations play a significant role in facilitating community mobilization for policy advocacy					

Part D: Political Environment (PE)

8. Please Indicate your level of agreement

	1	2	3	4	5
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Opinion					
1	The political climate in Wajir East Sub County affects the willingness of government officials to engage with civil society organizations.				
2	Political stability enhances the effectiveness of civil society organizations' policy advocacy.				
3	Civil society organizations often adapt their strategies based on the political dynamics in the region.				
4	The government's responsiveness to policy projects is influenced by political factors.				
5	Civil society organizations face challenges in advocating for policy changes during times of political uncertainty.				
6	The alignment of civil society organizations' goals with political leadership can impact policy outcomes.				
7	Public policies in Wajir East Sub County are influenced by the political priorities of the region.				

Part E: Public Policy Formulation (PPF)

9. Please Indicate your level of agreement

	1	2	3	4	5
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Opinion					
1	Civil society organizations face significant challenges in accessing government officials to discuss policy issues.				
2	Limited financial resources hinder the effectiveness of civil society organizations in policy advocacy.				
3	Collaborative efforts between civil society organizations and				
	government agencies offer promising opportunities for policy reform.				

4	Public participation in policy formulation processes is a key opportunity for improving policy outcomes.					
5	The transparency and openness of government institutions are essential for effective policy formulation.					
6	Cultural and social dynamics in Wajir East Sub County influence public policy decisions.					
7	Building strong partnerships between civil society organizations, communities, and government stakeholders can overcome policy challenges					

Thank you for your assistance



Appendix IV: Interview Guide

Dear respondent,

The researcher is a student undertaking a degree course in Masters of Public Administration of Mount Kenya University, carrying out a research on *The effects of civil society organizations on public policy formulation in Wajir East Sub county, Kenya.*

Influence of Policy Issue Salience:

How do you perceive the level of awareness and concern among the general public regarding policy issues in Wajir East Sub County? Do you believe this awareness influences policy formulation processes?

.
.
.

Can you provide examples of policy issues in Wajir East Sub County that gained significant media coverage and how this coverage affected their consideration in public policy formulation?

.
.

Influence of Policy Advocacy Strategies:

Could you describe the advocacy strategies employed by civil society organizations in Wajir East Sub County to influence public policy decisions? In your opinion, which strategies have been the most effective?

.
.
.
.
.

From your perspective, how responsive are government officials in Wajir East Sub County to the policy advocacy efforts of civil society organizations, and what factors contribute to this responsiveness or lack thereof?

.
.
.

Community Mobilization and Support:

Can you share your observations or experiences regarding the level of community participation and mobilization in the policy formulation process in Wajir East Sub County? How does this engagement impact policy decisions?

.
.
.
.

In your view, what role do community-based organizations and civil society organizations play in facilitating community mobilization for policy advocacy, and how does this influence the policy formulation process?

.
.
.

Influence of Political Environment:

How do you believe the political climate in Wajir East Sub County influences the willingness of government officials to engage with civil society organizations on policy matters? Can you provide specific examples?

.....
.....

....

From your experience, how do civil society organizations adapt their policy advocacy strategies during times of political uncertainty or change in Wajir East Sub County, and how does this impact their effectiveness?

.....

....





DIRECTORATE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

MPAM/2022/52333

18th January, 2024

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

Dear Sir/Madam,


RE: JAWAHIR IBRAHIM OMAR - REGISTRATION NO. MPAM/2022/52333

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

The title of the research is "**Influence of Civil Society Organizations on Public Policy Formulation in Wajir East Sub-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 **January, 2024 and March, 2024.**

Any assistance accorded to the student will be highly appreciated.

Thank you.


Dr. Samuel M. Karenga, Ph.D.
Director, Graduate Studies
Enc.

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

Mount Kenya University



REF: MKU/ISERC/3393
TO: JAWAHIR IBRAHIM OMAR

Date: 19 January 2024

REG: MPAM/2022/52333

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: INFLUENCE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ON PUBLIC POLICY FORMULATION
IN WAJIR EAST SUB COUNTY, KENYA**

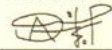
This is to inform you that **Mount Kenya University** has reviewed and approved your above research proposal. Your application approval number is **2437**. The approval period is **19/01/2024 - 18/01/2025**.

This approval is subject to compliance with the following requirements;

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

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

Yours sincerely,



The Chairman
Mount Kenya University
Ethics Review Committee
P. O. Box 342 - 0100, Thika

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



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

RefNo: 894080

Date of Issue: 24/January/2024

RESEARCH LICENSE



This is to Certify that Ms.. JAWAHIR IBRAHIM OMAR 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 Wajir on the topic: INFLUENCE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ON PUBLIC POLICY FORMULATION IN WAJIR EAST SUB COUNTY, KENYA for the period ending : 24/January/2025.

License No: NACOSTI/P/24/32669

894080

Applicant Identification Number

Walter Kimani

Director General NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Verification QR Code



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

Mount Kenya University

