

PARTICIPATORY COMMUNICATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF WATER
PROJECTS: A CASE OF ELANGATA-WUAS, KAJIADO COUNTY

by

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APPROVAL

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DECLARATION

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I declare that this is my original work and has not been submitted to any other college or university for academic credit.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CCF	Christian Child Fund
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NACOSTI	National Commission for Science, Technology, and Innovation
UN	United Nation
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United National Environmental Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between participatory communication and the sustainability of water projects in Elangata-Wuas, Kajiado County. The objectives of the study were to find out the relationship between resources, time and labor provided by the community and the sustainability of water project, determine the influence of participation in decision making in the sustainability of water projects, and establish the relationship between the selection of technology and selection of management structures on the sustainability of water projects. A descriptive exploratory research design and purposive sampling technique were used. Data were collected using focus group discussions and analyzed using thematic analysis approach. Research findings indicated that residents of the Elangata-Wuas were, from inception to evaluation, actively involved in decision-making process of the water projects. Beneficiaries' opinions were discussed and incorporated in the development of the projects. Based on these findings, the study concluded that community participation and involvement could only be effective through the provision of resources, time labor, participation in decision-making, selection of technology and management structures. In addition, participatory communication influenced the sustainability of the water projects in Elangata-Wuas in Kajiado County. The study, therefore, recommended that donors, agencies, and county governments intending to support communities need to involve the community at all stages of a project development and allow beneficiaries to actively participate and own the project. That way, the communities will have control over the projects, and this would translate to project sustainability.

DEDICATION

I dedicate this research to my late grandfather Mr. Joseph Nkiyiaa Tinene for believing in me and encouraging me to aim and soar higher. To my God given, loving and adorable daughter and greatest cheerleader Tehillah, may this research be an inspiration for you to aim higher than I have. Be rest assured that God has set time for everything in our lives, including blessings, our calling, and our purpose. We just need to trust His timing. You are always in my prayers.

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