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Project Planning & Identification on Kapsaret Constituency's NG-CDF performance

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Abstract: The study investigated project planning, project identification on performance of NG-CDF Projects in Kapsaret Constituency. The Anchor theory adopted was community participation theory and supported by system and stakeholder theory. A descriptive research design was used with 78 respondents were target population. The study employed a census method. The technique of gathering data involved the use of questionnaires. Ten randomly chosen Kapseret population members participated in the pilot project. SPSS version 28 was used to investigate the quantitative data. To demonstrate the relationships between the variables, inferential statistics such as regression analysis and correlation were employed. Documentation of ethical guidelines, including all correspondence, study dates, and data collection locations, shall be done. Project identification has a considerable impact on NG-CDF performance, according to the study, and there is a significant correlation between the two; hence, the project identification values are statistically significant. The model found that project planning and project identification, were predictor variables that had the most effects on how well NG-CDF performed. Due to the fact that they are the projects' beneficiaries and are fully aware of their advantages, the study suggests that stakeholders be involved in decision-making. In order to help constituents fully participate in CDF projects aimed at improving their standard of living, the study suggests that CDF office staff should inform them of developments. The study suggests that additional research be done on other aspects that are not covered in this analysis, such as monitoring and evaluation, management support, technology, and project members qualification, among others, to validate the findings of this study.

Keywords: *Project Planning, Project Identification, Performance of NG-CDF Projects, Kapsaret Constituency*.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Project performance is described as a two-level concept that includes a project's efficacy and efficiency. It is evaluated using the triple constraints of scope, cost, and time in addition to the value created for the stakeholders. In order to determine if a project is a success or a failure, we consider the satisfaction that the owner and other beneficiaries gain from it (Lönnefjord & Johansson, 2018). Mulwa (2008) points out that project managers' "near-hysterical" urge to begin a "project" of some sort as soon as possible is a significant barrier to high-quality project performance. The management would have to fight to gain support by satisfying donors' expectations for measurable outcomes that would validate the expenses; The sustainability agenda, however, would require that he or she stay in touch with the intended audience and guarantee local involvement and co-ownership. However, a project's performance—that is, its capacity to achieve its objectives—determines its success or failure. According to PMI (2014), projects are considered successful if they meet their cost, schedule, and quality objectives. People who don't are ineffective.

Mulwa (2008) notes that the "near-hysterical" demand of project managers to start a "project" of some sort as soon as possible is one of the primary barriers to high-quality project performance. The management would need to battle to win over donors by satisfying their demands for measurable outcomes that would make the expenses worthwhile, However, the sustainability agenda would demand that he or she ensure local participation and co-ownership, as well as stay up to date with the target audience. But in terms of performance, a project's success or failure is determined by its capacity to achieve its objectives. Projects are deemed successful, according to PMI (2014), if they reach their quality, cost, and schedule goals.

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Those that don't are useless. The success of a project can be evaluated using key performance indicators (Wambua, 2018). Performance indicators provide a quantitative evaluation of the project's performance if they are observed. Managers might anticipate future implementation behaviours by closely monitoring them (MacGillivray & Zadek, 2015). The five predetermined objectives are the source of indicators themselves. The amount of money and equipment allotted to community participation, the calibre of the deliverables reached, and how long it will take to finish the project were crucial performance metrics used in this study.

In contrast to African nations, nations like Pakistan, India, Jamaica, and Papua New Guinea have achieved significant strides in implementing devolution of resources as a key component of their national growth strategies (World Bank, 2019). Projects in Africa frequently face obstacles such politically connected disputes, inadequate leadership, and a lack of stakeholder commitment, according to Rwelamila and Purushottan (2022). Similar to Kenya's NG-CDF, regional devolution of resources to the grass roots has been embraced by Rwanda, Ghana, and Uganda. The Rwanda Development Board (2014) states that building initiatives have a major influence on the country's economic growth. During the 2014–2015 fiscal year, 784.1 billion Rwandan Francs were allotted to the country. In terms of the national budget, this amounted to 44.7% (Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, 2014). Resource devolution proponents contend that because it meets the expanding demands of rural communities never taken into account in national development programs—it is an effective tool for directing the development agenda (World Bank, 2015).

According to the CDF Board (2015), the fund was created in Kenya in 2003 by a parliamentary act. As of 2015, this fund is now known as the NG-CDF. It established the separation of powers and duties between municipal and national administrations and went into effect on February 19, 2016. According to Section 4 Subsection (2a) of the NG-CDF Act of 2015, at least two (2.5%) percent of the annual ordinary state revenue shall be allocated and distributed fairly across all constituencies in order to advance the development aim. The Constituency Development Money Board (CDFB) is responsible for overseeing the management and control of NG-CDF monies. Its duties include making sure that funds are allocated to all constituencies and upholding accountability and openness in their operations.. This fund was formed by the Kenyan government because local governance systems are more apt to understand community needs (NG-CDF, 2015).

- *Project Performance*

As per the definition provided by the Project Management Institute (2013), a project comprises tasks that are intended to achieve specific goals within a predetermined time frame and budget. A project has a budget (cost) and a performance that is specified, time beginning and finishing, and a scope (amount of work to be done). Initiatives can help recipients become self-sufficient (Sugal, 2019) is the culmination of work completed, objectives. Project performance has also been referred to as project success and project failure in the world of project management (Williams, 2019). The "iron triangle," also known as the triple constraint criteria, has long been the focus of research on how the criteria for project success or failure have evolved. Jugdev & Muller (2015), Ika (2019), and Atkinson (cited in Wachaiyu, 2016) are three examples of these studies. The constraints in these cases are time, cost, and quality. Managers can assess a project's performance based on how well it was completed the time allotted, the project's expected cost, and the calibre of the finished product. However, the critics of the triple constraint criteria have countered that project-specific estimates of time and cost are merely educated guesses. However, the attitudes and opinions of participants impact the project's scope, so using them alone to gauge performance is not very relevant. To attempt to understand the notion of project performance, some academics have concentrated on the components of client happiness and success criteria. According to Williams (2019), Agarwal & Rathod; Belout & Gauvreau examined the extent to which the predetermined objectives were met. Similarly, Jack & Samuel (2009) define system performance as the actions that a system takes. According to them, performance consists of a few interconnected elements, such as design, dependability, and reparability.

- *Project Planning*

Within the context of a project, project management involves planning and monitoring progress using timetables like Gantt charts (Fewings, 2019). The optimal approaches to project completion are chosen, and the project's starting scope is established. This controlled activity involves completing the task layout, evaluation, and execution through a series of predetermined and assisted activities and procedures. The process of creating and updating a project plan that provides information to support endeavour definitions for resources, time, money, and schedules for standard and high-quality arrangements is known as project planning. It also demonstrates the rationale for project planning, which includes developing a method for outlining the objectives of the project and the fact that meeting time, cost, and quality as the primary performance metrics, and schedule is impossible without a project plan. Fewings (2019). Projects and operations can be guided by establishing operational standards and guidelines and including key stakeholders in the process. The special standards outline projects and endeavours, highlight the importance of vertical communication between program and task administrators regarding particular objectives and constraints, and highlight the value of an excellent program and project team in addressing specific challenges (Luvuga & Ngari, 2019)

- *Project Identification*

According to Meredith and Mantel (2011), project identification is the process of assessing a single project or a collection of projects and selecting those that will help the business accomplish its goals. Projects must be associated with appropriate objectives and address a minimum of one of the primary concerns of stakeholders, such as cost reduction, social

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impact, growth acceleration, or cash flow enhancement (Kumar, Saranga, Nowicki, & Rami´rez-Ma´rquez, 2019). Effective project identification is a process in and of itself, and recipients may gain much if it is done correctly (Pande, Neuman, & Cavanagh, 2020). Project identification may also have an impact on project implementation by enhancing both the organization's creation of project's success and its culture by improving process efficiency. Researchers have produced a range of models by proposing models, methods, and essential components for the project selection process in Six Sigma project selection (Breyfogle, Cupello, & Meadws, 2021). Numerous projects are frequently managed simultaneously, as the demands of the business world necessitate that we handle company operations as projects. Processes are just as important to successful businesses as results (Gošnik, 2018). The absence of product market elements might result in incorrect project objectives that do not prioritize beneficiaries, which can lead to unsuccessful end products (Gošnik, 2015). Several dangers are also associated with partial perspectives on the undertaking. Customer-focused project management heavily relies on the management of the company. It gives us the ability to link several essential components targeted at project performance and manage projects empowered by a high degree of information sharing.

➢ *Statement of the problem*

Numerous community projects in Kapseret Constituency have been installed either due to funding issues, poor selection of community projects, land conflicts or choices made after stakeholder consultation. Half of the projects initiated in the fiscal year 2020–2021 have been completed, and according to the auditor general report (2022), twenty percent of those projects have not yet started yet funds were allocated. Numerous litigations concerning the constitutionality of the Fund have cast doubt on its very existence and the performance of its projects. In view of the fact that the Fund is one of the best managed decentralised funds that touch on the lives of the most vulnerable in our society, there is a need to redouble efforts towards entrenching the Fund in the Constitution. It has been observed that in Kapseret Constituencies, the 40% threshold of the allocation for education bursaries is insufficient.

Findings by Nyangilo (2012) assert that most projects in Kenya don't perform up to expectations in terms of timeliness, quality, and cost. Over 70% of projects that are put into action will most likely result in a 50% increase in project duration. On the other hand, over 50% of projects that are put into action will likely result in a cost rise of more than 20%. From the standpoint of NG-CDF performance, the study highlights a contextual gap that requires investigation. A study by Nyawira (2017) examined the influence of project management on the performance of NGCDF projects in Kasarani subcounty maternity hospitals and established that a statistically significant correlation between project management skills and performance was found. According to the Project Performance and Community Participation Pearson chi-square, the two have a statistically significant relationship. The study provides an empirical gap that was determined by examining community participation on the performance of NG-CDF projects at the constituency level. This study seeks to establish the impact of community participation and the performance of NG-CDF projects in Kapseret constituency?

➢ *Objectives*

The objectives of the study provide a clear direction for investigating the research problem by outlining the specific aims the study seeks to achieve. They guide the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data, ensuring that the research remains focused and aligned with its purpose.

➢ *Objectives*

- To establish the influence of project planning on the performance of Constituency Development Fund Projects,
- To examine the effects of project identification on the performance of Constituency Development Fund Projects.

➢ *Significance of the Study*

The study conclusions could be particularly helpful in expanding existing and future knowledge of community participation. Because it would highlight the need of extensively used community engagement, this study may also benefit the national and Kapseret Constituency Development Fund. As government stakeholders and academics attempt to create work schedules that will support the organization's strategic goals, the findings might also be a useful reference manual. The results was important for the national government constituency development fund for Kapseret Constituency and other government agencies when determining whether to discuss the Kapseret Constituency Development Fund's community involvement.

For scholars, students, and researchers who will use this study as the basis for conducting further research by looking into the study gaps in community participation that are not addressed in this survey. The study offered valuable information that served as a reference. Additionally, students and academics will have a discuss regarding the function of community engagement in Kapsaret Constituency' generally and the desire to implement it at other institutions. Finally, the findings will function as a theoretical manual for project management and its core concepts.

Finally, the Kapsaret Constituency' leadership and other government institutions, as well as other private organizations, will have an improved comprehension of the function of community participation in community participation projects and possess the ability to identify efficient management strategies that can allow the organization to survive in a competitive environment.

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II. THEORETICAL LITERATURE REVIEW

- *Community Participation Theory (Anchor)*

David Wilcox created the theory in 1991, this was from the idea of Windle and Chibulka (1981). The theory presents a comprehensive plan for involvement, cooperation, and authority together with a dynamic paradigm shift in practical mobilization. In any progress endeavor, community support and participation are the most important procedures. It is unrealistic to expect to identify the problems, needs, and local desires for a particular network in the absence of community involvement. According to Harvey and Reed (2007), project participants' collaboration is of exceptional calibre since it increases people's sense of ownership. This is crucial because it guarantees that initiatives are carried out and maintained beyond the implementation stage.

According to network participation theory, external organizations will have less influence on what has been decided upon when a large number of individuals own the process and participate in decision-making. The approach focuses on communities' role in actualizing organizations, not simply the workforce. A community-focused or cooperative association between the implementing organizations and task beneficiaries is how community participation is accomplished (Khwaja, 2004). Since the majority of the research questions touch on important facets of the community involvement theory, this study was adopted as its theoretical framework. The theory guided the research on how Kenya's constitution-enshrined public engagement is essential to the implementation of NG-CDF initiatives.

- *System Theory*

The scientific history of system theory begins in 1868. Several authors have connected it to Von Bertalanffy, despite the fact that its genesis is uncertain. Ludwig von Bertalanffy and colleagues will construct a theoretical foundation for comprehending some of the numerous dimensions of community development initiatives. This is one of the numerous disciplinary domains that are analyzed to understand a problem. His theory holds that any approach to problem solving, including community development initiatives, must consider systematic thinking, which sees all living things as susceptible to influence from a variety of internal and external sources (Midgley, 2003). Advocates of system theory contend that in order for community growth to occur, the numerous environmental elements that interact must be taken into account. In the context of this study, community participation consists of logical and systematic procedures that involve several interactions, particularly the projects' structures, identification, planning, monitoring, and evaluation in relation to their capacity to supervise their development plans. People, groups, organizations, and other organs—whether created by nature or by humans—cannot exist in isolation, according to a system theory (Midgley, 2003).

System theory and this study both emphasize how important it is to comprehend the way a project works as a system within other systems. It is possible to address the community's capability, involvement, and development structure in relation to the sustainability of development projects. There are many contacts and logical, methodical procedures involved in community engagement. According to the system theory applied in this study, no person, group, organization, or institution—natural or artificial—exists in a vacuum. They live in an area with numerous, intricate connections since they are environmental occupiers. Understanding how a project works as a system inside other systems is essential to addressing community capacity issues in project management (Beata, et al, 2014).

System theory is supported by Beata, et al (2014), who assert that leaders and project management teams must have the contextual competency of methodical development thinking. Some of the primary concerns in community participation, like assessing power and influence, comprehending intergroup dynamics, and taking changes into account while planning development projects, can be understood and expressed using system theory (Mendes, 2008). NG-CDF projects are open systems that have every characteristic Mendes (2008) lists, and when system theory is considered, one is in a good position to understand the difficulties associated with community participation in community development initiatives. This study's presentation of the core concepts of system theory makes an instant connection between them and community development programmes. Whitehorse makes reference to a few core concepts in their writings that provide as the basis for the application of system theory in community development initiatives. They emphasise that the majority of community development initiatives consist of a series of systematic steps, including identifying the needs of the community, figuring out capacity, selecting development goals, setting goals, taking action to reach those goals, and other associated tasks that evaluate progress and apply findings to subsequent actions.

All community development initiatives requires logical and methodical thought. The ability of the community to manage initiatives and, eventually, the durability of the project's results must be taken into account while organising and carrying out any major community development initiative. Other authors in this study agree that by organizing data and identifying patterns in intricate community activities, these principles might assist people who plan and implement community development programs. According to the system theory argument, project management and its phases of development align with system theory. The stages of NG-CDF projects could provide particular capacity-related difficulties, particularly when people expect community involvement to be present throughout the entire project.

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➢ *Stakeholders Theory*

The shareholder concept first surfaced in Freeman's 1984 study. The hypothesis is well-liked because researchers have shown that any entity's mission is impacted by the outside world, which is dictated by institutional responsibility. Since institutions and organizations are now seen in a societal context rather than just as tools of shareholders, the obligation also lies in the public interest (Lange & Bundy, 2018). There are two components to the theory that pertain to project management practices: An illustration of the abuse of stakeholder models and executive power. Anglo-American performance standards for development projects, according to Lange and Bundy (2018), show that communities have too much power and can abuse it to serve their own interests at the detriment of other stakeholders, including society.

Members of the national assembly and the pay of project managers has grown rapidly, leading to a highly fragile link between performance and compensation, making executive power abuse inevitable. Rather, they favour legislative modifications to project management procedures that favour merit-based executive officer appointments and do not interfere with hostile takeovers. The reason for this is that academics who endorse this model don't think that changes that engage shareholders and non-executive participation in decision-making are appropriate methods of monitoring systems (Miles, 2019). Assertion that wealth maximization is the primary determinant of any project's performance has been the basis for the bulk of stakeholder theory critiques. Jensen and Murphy (2004) have criticized the theory for assuming a single-valued goal and propose that other factors, such as the flow of information from upper management to lower-level staff, the workplace, and interpersonal relationships, should also be considered when assessing how well an organisation predicts performance. External environment influences community involvement work, which is determined by project identification and institution accountability, the research adopts the theory. Thus, by integrating the impacts of project implementation, project planning, decision-making, and monitoring as elements for the performance of Kapsaret Constituency', the theory was adopted as a supporting theory in this study.

III. EMPIRICAL LITERATURE REVIEW

➢ *Project Planning and Performance*

Wanjau, Namusonge, and Lango (2024) investigated the effectiveness and planning of project teams in Kenyan housing projects. Research strategy was a mixed-methods approach.. In the Nairobi metropolitan area of Kenya, 675 strategic registered contractors working on housing projects. 251 respondents chosen out of 675 contractors using purposive sampling. The respondents included site supervisors, engineers, architects, contractors, and project managers. SPSS analyzed data, yielding both descriptive and inferential analyses. Results of the inferential analysis, project team planning significantly and favourably affected Kenyan housing projects' performance ($p<0.05$). This suggests that project team efficacy, communication strategy, experience, and skills are critical to the success of housing initiatives. To ascertain whether the model is significant and exhibits a good data, the study employed analysis of variance. Project team planning accounts for 51.3% of housing project performance, Although the validity of the competency theory that was employed in this study was confirmed, the study suggests that, as most contractors have noted, project team planning is a crucial component of housing projects in Kenya. The report suggests that the government adopt suitable regulations for the ministry of housing's housing implementation that encourage the formation of all-encompassing project teams with professionals, including project management, engineering, architecture, and finance.

Wafula, Makokha, and Namusonge (2019) investigated how project planning affected CDF construction projects' completion. The objectives of the study were to ascertain the effects of cost estimation, stakeholder satisfaction, and timely project completion on the performance of the construction of health facilities. This inquiry is grounded in the theories of resource-based view, complexity, constraint, and utility. There was a descriptive design applied. The health facility was one of the respondents who were specifically chosen through a mix of stratified and deliberate sample approaches. These respondents are closely associated with the construction projects. main stakeholders in the projects and are in charge of the facilities. data were gathered using semi-structured, self-administered questionnaires. After that, 86 questionnaires were given to the study's real sample frame.

Among the respondents who were hand-picked combining deliberate and stratified sampling techniques was the health facility. These responders have a close connection to the building initiatives. The primary parties involved in the projects The on-site contractor, public health officers, and community members acting on behalf of the Committee are in charge of the facilities. Twenty questionnaires was issued as part of a pilot research to evaluate the instruments' validity across the five sub-counties. The results suggest that stakeholder satisfaction, cost estimation, and timely project completion are important metrics that can be used to assess how well a project is performing, particularly one involving the government. These metrics can be used as a benchmark by any mwananchi who is waiting to benefit from the projects. Additionally, it is advised that all projects financed by both the federal and local governments be meticulously organized, has skilled and knowledgeable, use certified contractors and skilled labourers who have received accreditation, and give priority to funding projects adequately from the National Budgetary Committee's allocation of funds from the beginning to the end.

Kitur (2019) investigated the effects of project planning and assessment on project performance that was supported by constituency development. 356 head teachers, their assistants, and the chairman of the BOG, and the chair of the committee

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overseeing school projects, a survey design that is descriptive. The investigation used a strict random sample approach. The study's sample consisted of 185 head teachers, their deputies, the chairman of the BOG, and the chair of the committee responsible for school initiatives. The collection tool , was a structured questionnaire, whose validity and reliability was determined by peer review and pilot testing. Using descriptive statistics, the study analyzes the data that define the variable. The study discovered that, on the one hand, there was no correlation between project performance and project planning in Rongai District public schools, but that performance and project evaluation was strongly positively correlated. This suggests that, in public schools, projects are evaluated primarily on their intended outcomes rather than their implementation strategies, project designs, or even the coherence of stakeholder participation.

- *Project Identification and Performance*

The performance of road infrastructure development projects in Kenya was investigated by Kirima, Minja, and Njoroge (2024) in relation to project identification procedures. The notion of constraints served as the study's foundation. To collect information from the 199 target individuals, who were dispersed over 15 road infrastructure construction projects around the nation, The study's methodology was mixed-methods. The study used primary and secondary data sources. which included an explanatory and descriptive survey research approach. To get further understanding of the research questions, the study also employed a structured interviewing technique. In order to summarize data and evaluate hypotheses, the study mostly used descriptive statistics and inferential statistics, particularly multilinear regression, data, which were analyzed using statistical software. According to the study, project identification significantly and favourably affected Kenyan road projects' performance. Project identification guarantees that a project presented for project clearance is suitably developed and examined within the project context, it was critical to determine the issue that needed to be resolved in relation to the project, the stakeholders who needed to be involved, the project goals that needed to be met, and all of the pertinent tasks that were essential to reaching the project's outcomes.

Gitau and Kimencu (2019) looked into how project selection factors affected the way NG-funded projects performed in Kenya's Ruiru Constituency and Kiambu County. Because of their measurement's objectivity and the direct economic consequences of exceeding them, According to research, clearest and most important measures of project performance are project cost, completion time, and output quality. NG-CDF-funded projects in Kiambu County's Ruiru constituency performed regarding strategy alignment, community participation, project feasibility, and implementation capacity. The ideas of rational choice, strategic alignment theory, and limitations formed the foundation of the investigation, and the quantitative design of the study employed inferential statistics to gather and evaluate data and draw conclusions on how selection factors affected project performance. The 131 representatives of the units of observation comprised leaders of the sub-county ministries of social services, education, water, health, project identification , and the environment, in addition to regular members of each of these committees and executive members of the project management and constituency committees. A checklist for observations and a questionnaire were used to gather data. Using the SPSS, descriptive statistics, regression, and correlation analysis. To assess the questionnaire's dependability, the researcher employed a test-retest method.

According Gitau and Kimencu (2019), were found to be affected by the independent variable's alignment with strategy, feasibility of project, capacity to implement projects, and community participation. 66.1% of project performance was described by the regression model, according to its R square value of 0.661. It was discovered, meanwhile, that the constituency lacked a strategic plan, which caused the development efforts to be incompletely coordinated. Certain initiatives were recognized in some cases but not in others. It is challenging to monitor projects without schedules and budgets due to inadequate record-keeping of project approvals and information sharing with stakeholders; as a result, there is no standard by which to gauge how expenses and timetables are progressing. Communities were frequently left out of project management procedures, and many of the individuals in charge of overseeing the projects had the necessary training, which made it challenging to make the right decisions. The constituency should develop the ability to carry out projects; CDF-funded projects should be assessed for viability; the community should be adequately involved in project identification and prioritization; and a deliberate attempt should be made to match project goals with organisational strategy.

- *Research Design*

Research design, according to Bickman and Rog (2018), is the way the procedure and goal of the study are structured; as a result, a theoretical framework is used to conduct the investigation. Accordingly, a descriptive design was used for this study. This design is the best since it guarantees that the data collected will yield relevant answers to the study's goals. The design was employed to characterise the population's traits or analyse issues. One benefit of this approach is that it can assist researchers in organizing and conducting studies that offer a comprehensive understanding of the subjects, settings, or particular issues (Bickman & Rog, 2018). Converting research questions into a project is the main goal of research design.

- *Target Population*

Target population is defined by Cooper and Schindler (2018) as the entire group of variables that one intends to generalize from the findings. Saunders, et al (2018), define a population as the whole assembly of factors that the study conclusion should be generalized. Table 1, shows the study's

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population. Included community leaders, NG-CDF board members, and political leaders.

Table 1 Target population

Category	Number	Percentage
Community Leaders	30	3
NG-CDF Board Members	40	15
Political Leaders	8	82
Total	**78**	**100**

➢ *Sample and Sampling Technique*

A census method was used in the study was employed because, as stated by Creswell and Creswell (2018), Data is gathered from every single unit of the population. Kothari and Garg (2015) define census as a technique where an investigator gathers information on the issue, they are looking into by covering every member of the population or universe. This approach is typically better when the population is tiny, the objects in the population are highly diversified, the investigation calls for a high level of accuracy and reliability, or the inquiry necessitates a thorough analysis of several items. The sample was 78 respondents.

➢ *Research Instruments*

The questionnaire was the tool for gathering data. Since it has been used by other researchers in the same field and is believed to be more accurate in terms of labour, money, and time, as well as to help gather both qualitative and quantitative data and provide more structure than interviews, the questionnaire was used. Thornhill, Lewis, and Saunders (2018). Despite this, questionnaires are thought to be less expensive data collection tools, and the researcher can collect large volumes of data (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). According to Saunders, et al (2018), the researcher employed questionnaires since they make correlational, descriptive, and inferential statistical analysis possible and easy. These questions also help to effectively enrich the qualitative methodology (Saunders, Lewis, & Thornhill, 2018).

➢ *Pilot Study*

Using a pilot, one can identify unclear questions and undistinguishable instructions in an instrument (Hamed, 2016). Ten members of Ainamoi Constituency' board members was part of the pilot and purpose was determine if responses from instruments offered the essential feedback. Another reason why pilot study holds great importance is that it establishes the authenticity and dependability of the tools used to acquire study data (Cooper & Schindler, 2018). The pilot research was performed with 10 participants from the target population, as advised by Kothari and Grag (2015), Who suggested that 10% of the overall sample size is adequate.

➢ *Validity*

Saunders et al. (2018), the capacity of a data tool to provide expected results is known as validity. This was done during the instrument's piloting period (Saunders et al, 2018). The process's objective is to ascertain whether the instrument responses supplied the necessary input to support the study in achieving its objectives as stated in the methodology (Cooper & Schindler, 2018). With the help of field experts and supervisors, content validity was implemented. Face validity is important because it simplifies the process of assessing a test's or method's general validity. It's a quick, simple, and straightforward way of determining if a new statistic is beneficial at first glance (Cooper & Schindler, 2018).

➢ *Reliability*

The constancy of a metric is what reliability is all about. According to Saunders et al. (2018), the ratio used to assess the consistency of research questionnaires is known as dependability. The Cronbach Alpha value, which is 0.7, was used to assess the study's reliability. According to Kothari and Garg (2015), research instruments should offer the same results as the pilot study when delivered to the actual sample size if they are dependable, and this is supported by Cooper and Schindler (2018).

➢ *Data Collection Procedure*

Data collection, according to Kothari and Garg (2015), is the methodical process of obtaining observations or measurements. Data collection was made easier with the help of an authorisation permission from NACOSTI and a letter of introduction from the university and Nandi county administration. A research tool suited for measuring respondents' perspectives is necessary, and the author prefers to employ questionnaires in this study (Appendix ii) (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). The questionnaire also enables anonymity, as most respondents do not want their identities known (Bordens & Abbott, 2019).

➢ *Data Analysis and Presentation*

According to Kothari and Garg (2015), quantitative data was analysed using SPSS version 27 as part of their process for categorising and organising raw data utilising research data collection procedures in order to extract relevant information. The uncoded raw data from the field was analysed before the results were generalised. Tables will be used to display the results of the analysis, which was conducted using descriptive statistics. Using inferential statistics, the relationship between the variables was displayed. An analysis of variance and a two-tailed correlation test with a 5% level of significance were used. A comparison was made between the tabulated and computed f

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statistics. The P-value of 0.05 was used to evaluate whether the entire model is significant. The independent variable, which is a composite score of project planning, and project identification describes the viability of project performance when the linear effect of the predictor variables is not enough.

➢ *Ethical Consideration*

In order to protect the rights and welfare of study participants while maintaining the integrity of the research process, researchers follow a set of guidelines known as ethical considerations. Voluntary engagement, informed consent, confidentiality, and reducing potential harm are some of these principles.

IV. FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Out of 72 questionnaires a total of 67 respondents. The research study had a very high response rate. As supported by Kothari and Garg (2019), responses that were taken into consideration for analysis were from men. Most respondents were between 31 and 35. Following respondents that were between 40 and 45, a wide range of ages is represented in the responses from the respondents. Kothari and Garg's (2015) most participants had attained a degree and have been working for six to ten years, then 1-5 years, 11-15 years, and 16 years or more. This proves that the information provided was reliable and that the company had an experienced employee. Cooper and Schindler (2018) corroborate the results, claiming that employees' higher comprehension and years of company experience give the necessary competence.

➢ *Project Planning*

Table 2: Project Planning

Project Planning	SA	A	N	D	SD	M	Std Dev
The performance and success of the project are impacted by the resources allocated to it during public participation.	43%	52%	4%	0%	0%	3.30	1.415
Estimates of the duration of each activity aid in quantifying evaluations of the number of work periods needed to finish the project selected by the community.	54%	40%	6%	0%	0%	4.54	1.545
It is essential to identify and record the precise actions that must be taken to create the project deliverable.	36%	38%	4%	16%	6%	3.10	1.175
Members of the community take part in the resource review for the project.	43%	51%	3%	3%	0%	4.20	1.155
Community is involved on how project resources are distributed.	57%	40%	3%	0%	0%	4.01	1.262
Average						**3.83**	**1.310**

The study aimed to determine how project planning affects the performance of NG-CDF. Table 2 presents the responses, and the findings are discussed using descriptive statistics. The first research question examined whether the resources allocated to a project during public participation influence its performance and success. Results indicated that 43% strongly agreed, 52% agreed, 4% were neutral, and none disagreed or strongly disagreed. The mean response was 3.30, with a standard deviation (SD) of 1.415. The second question assessed whether estimating the duration of each activity helps quantify the number of work periods required to complete community-selected projects. Findings showed that 54% strongly agreed, 40% agreed, and 6% were neutral, with no disagreement recorded. The mean score was 4.54, and the SD was 1.545. Regarding whether identifying and documenting precise project activities and involving community members in the resource review process enhance project delivery, 16% disagreed, 6% strongly disagreed, 36% agreed, 38% strongly agreed, and 4% were neutral. The mean score was 3.10, with an SD of 1.175. The final question explored whether communities are involved in decisions regarding the distribution of project resources. Results revealed that 57% strongly agreed, 40% agreed, and 3% were neutral, with none disagreeing. The mean score was 4.01, and the SD was 1.262. Overall, project planning recorded a mean of 3.83 and an SD of 1.310, indicating that respondents perceived project planning as having a significant impact on NG-CDF performance.

These findings are consistent with previous studies. For instance, Wanjau, Namusonge, and Lango (2024) examined the effectiveness and planning of project teams in Kenyan housing projects using a mixed-methods approach. Their inferential analysis showed that project team planning significantly and positively influenced project performance ($p < 0.05$). The study further established that project planning accounted for 51.3% of housing project performance, emphasizing that team efficiency, communication strategies, experience, and skills are critical to project success. Similarly, Wafula, Makokha, and Namusonge

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(2019) investigated the impact of project planning on the completion of CDF-funded construction projects. Their findings highlighted that stakeholder satisfaction, accurate cost estimation, and timely completion are key indicators of project performance, particularly in government-funded initiatives. They recommended that all government-funded projects be meticulously planned, executed, and monitored by skilled and certified project teams, ensuring adequate funding from initiation to completion. On the other hand, Kitur (2019) studied the relationship between project planning, evaluation, and performance in CDF-supported public schools in Rongai District. The study revealed no significant relationship between project planning and performance but identified a strong positive correlation between project evaluation and performance. This suggests that, in educational projects, evaluation practices focus more on outcomes rather than on implementation strategies, project design, or stakeholder coherence. project planning involves developing and continuously updating a comprehensive plan that outlines key elements such as resources, timelines, budgets, and quality standards. It forms the foundation for effective project execution by providing a structured approach to defining project objectives, determining optimal completion strategies, and establishing a coherent project scope. Without effective project planning, meeting key NG-CDF performance metrics—time, cost, quality, and scheduling—is nearly impossible.

- *Project Identification*

Table 3: Project identification

	SA	A	N	D	S D	M	Std Dev
A sufficient budget for the execution of community initiatives is considered during project development, with local engagement from the locals.	51%	40%	7%	2%	0%	3.76	1.367
The NGCDF is using community members to determine project performance indicators.	47%	38%	9%	4%	2%	3.10	1.405
The community identify which projects are given priority	54%	40%	6%	0%	0%	4.54	1.468
The community determines the risks and obstacles that could impact the project and plans to reduce or eliminate them.	55%	40%	3%	2%	0%	4.10	1.635
Based on the team members' strengths and flaws, the community selects good initiatives.	46%	51%	3%	0%	0%	4.22	1.249
Average						**3.764**	**1.424**

The project identification effect on performance of NG-CDF results is in Table 3, and the study's conclusions are discussed. These were the results of the investigation. If a sufficient budget for the execution of community initiatives is considered during project development, with local engagement from the locals, the researcher asked in this study variable. 51% strongly agreed, 40% agreed, 7% were neutral, and 2% disagreed. 3.76 was the mean, and 1.367 was the SD, respectively. "The NGCDF is using community members to determine project performance indicators?" mean of 3.10 and SD of 1.405, and 47% strongly agreed, 38% agreed, 9% were neutral, 4% disagreed, and 2% strongly disagreed. Whether the community identifies which projects are given priority: A mean of 4.54 and an SD of 1.468 indicate that 54% strongly agree, 40% agree, 6% are neutral, and none strongly disagree or disagree at all. If the community determines the risks and obstacles that could impact the project and plans to reduce or eliminate them. With a mean of 4.10 and an SD of 1.635, 55% strongly agreed, 40% agreed, 40% agreed, 3% were neutral, and 2% disagreed. The study's project identification mean was 3.764 and SD of 1.424, with an average value of 3.76 for project identification. The respondent thought it had an effect on the performance of NG-CDF.

The study's findings are consistent with those made by other researchers in their various studies, such as those by Kirima, Minja, and Njoroge (2024) in relation to project identification procedures. The notion of constraints served as the study's foundation. In order to gather data from the 199 target populations, who were dispersed over 15 road infrastructure construction projects around the nation, the study's methodology was mixed-methods. The study used Performance of NG-CDF and secondary data sources, which included an explanatory and descriptive survey research approach.. To get further understanding of the research questions, the study also employed a structured interviewing technique. In order to summarize data and evaluate hypotheses, which were analyzed using statistical software. According to the study, project identification significantly and favorably affected Kenyan road projects' performance. Project identification guarantees that a project presented for project clearance is suitably developed and examined within the project context it was critical to determine the issue that needed to be resolved in relation to the project, the stakeholders who needed to be involved, the project goals that needed to be met, and all of the pertinent tasks that were essential to reaching the project's outcomes.

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Gitau and Kimencu (2019) looked into how project selection factors affected the way NG-funded projects performed in Kenya's Ruiru Constituency and Kiambu County. Because of their measurement's objectivity and the direct economic consequences of exceeding them, according to research, clearest and most important measures of project performance are project cost, completion time, and output quality. constituency performed regarding strategy alignment, community participation, project feasibility, and implementation capacity. The ideas of rational choice, strategic alignment theory, and limitations served as the study's pillars. found to be affected by the independent variable's alignment 66.1% of project performance was described by the regression model, according to its R square value of 0.661. It was discovered, meanwhile, that the constituency lacked a strategic plan, which caused the development efforts to be incompletely coordinated. Certain initiatives were recognised in some cases but not in others. It is challenging to monitor projects without schedules and budgets due to inadequate record-keeping of project approvals and information sharing with stakeholders; as a result, there is no standard by which to gauge how expenses and timetables are progressing. Communities were frequently left out of project management procedures, and many of the individuals in charge of overseeing the projects had the necessary training, which made it challenging to make the right decisions.

- *Performance of NG-CDF*

Table 4: Performance of NG-CDF

	SA	A	N	D	S D	M	Std Dev
Project meeting the targeted needs of the community	43%	51%	3%	3%	0%	4.20	1.155
Project carried out by initial plans and designs.	47%	38%	9%	4%	2%	3.10	1.405
Project completed on schedule or early.	43%	52%	4%	0%	0%	3.30	1.263
How many project deliverables (objectives) were fulfilled	43%	51%	3%	3%	0%	4.20	1.155
Kapsaret Constituency''s Project are within budgets	38%	47%	9%	4%	2%	3.25	1.415
Average						**3.61**	**1.2767**

When asked if the project was meeting the targeted needs of the community with 4.20 mean and SD of 1.155, 43% strongly agreed, 51% agreed, 3% disagreed, and were neutral. The second enquiry focused on whether the project was carried out by initial plans and designs. by 3.10 with a mean and SD of 1.405; 47% strongly agreed, 38% agreed, 9% were neutral, 4% disagreed, and 2% strongly disagreed. The project was completed on schedule or early, and 43% strongly agreed, 52% agreed, and 4% remained neutral, with a mean of 3.30 and an SD of 1.263. How many project deliverables (objectives) were fulfilled? with a mean of 4.20 and SD of 1.155, and if Kapsaret Constituency''s Project is within budgets, and, 43% strongly agreed, 51% agreed, 3% were neutral, and 3% disagreed. and 3.25 mean and a SD of 1.415, 38% strongly agreed, 47% agreed, 9% were neutral, 4% disagreed, and 2% strongly disagreed.

The mean of 3.61 and SD of 1.277 show that the performance of NG-CDF is influenced and determined by project planning, and project identification, The findings are in line with others. scholars such as Mulwa (2008) point out that project managers' "near hysterical" urge to begin a "project" of some sort as soon as possible is a significant barrier to high-quality project performance. The management would have to fight to gain support by satisfying donors' expectations for measurable outcomes that would validate the expenses; the sustainability agenda, however, would require that he or she stay in touch with the intended audience and guarantee local involvement and co-ownership. However, a project's performance, that is, its capacity to achieve its objectives—determines its success or failure. According to PMI (2014), projects are considered successful if they meet their cost, schedule, and quality objectives. People who don't are ineffective.

Mulwa (2008) notes that the "near-hysterical" demand of project managers to start a "project" of some sort as soon as possible is one of the Performance of NG-CDF barriers to high-quality project performance. The management would need to battle to win over donors by satisfying their demands for measurable outcomes that would make the expenses worthwhile. However, the sustainability agenda would demand that he or she ensure local participation and co-ownership, as well as stay up to date with the target audience. But in terms of performance success is determined by its capacity to achieve its objectives. Projects are deemed successful, according to PMI (2014), if they reach their quality, cost, and schedule goals. Those that don't are useless. The success of a project can be evaluated using key performance indicators (Wambua, 2018). Performance indicators provide a quantitative evaluation of the project's performance if they are observed. Managers might anticipate future implementation behaviours by closely monitoring them (MacGillivray & Zadek, 2015). The five predetermined objectives are the source of the indicators themselves. The amount of money and equipment allotted to community participation, the calibre of the deliverables

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reached, and the amount of time needed to complete the project were crucial performance metrics used in this study.

Table 5: Model Summary for Project Planning

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.632 [a]	.499	.394	.60908

a. Predictors: (Constant), Project planning

The DV in Table 5 is the performance of NG-CDF, while the predictor factor is project planning. Regression analysis showed a positive correlation between project planning and performance of NG-CDF (R = 0.632), 49.9% of the variation in performance of NG-CDF projects can be explained by variation in the project planning activities, and the remaining variables (R^2 = 0.499), and the remaining 51.1% accounts for other variables that are included.

Table 6: ANOVA[a] Results for Project planning

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	27.875	1	27.875	75.141	.000 [b]
	Residual	41.920	64	.730		
	Total	**69.796**	**67**			

a. DV: Performance
b. Predictors: (Constant), Project planning

Table 6 illustrates that project planning has an effect on performance, as indicated by values of F = 75.141. This implies that project planning influences NG-CDF performance and that the model fits. A significance level of.000, which is less than 0.05, indicates that the regression model significantly predicted the DV. Table 6 provides a summary of the findings.

Table 7: Regression Coefficients[a] for Project Planning

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	95.0% Confidence Interval for B	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			Lower Bound	Upper Bound
(Constant)	1.095	.331		3.309	.001	.439	1.751
Project planning	.688	.079	.632	8.668	.000	.531	.845

a. DV: Performance of NG-CDF

Performance of NG-CDF significantly improved by project planning, as Table 7 demonstrates. Results show a significant correlation between project planning and performance (p 0.05 P = 0.01). An increase in project planning activities should improve Performance of NG-CDF by 0.688 units because project planning is statistically significant (t = 8.668, p.=0.05). Regression model explains the findings in Table 7. Performance of NG-CDF is equal to 1.095 + 0.688 (project planning). This shows that project planning influence performance of NG-CDF at 68.8%.

- *Project Identification*

Table 8: Model Summary for Project Identification

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.575 [a]	.331	.325	.64274

a. Predictors: (Constant), Project identification

Regression analysis results showed a fundamental relationship (R = 0.575, indicating a positive correlation) between NG-CDF performance and a unit change in project identification, accounting for 33.1% of the variation in NG-CDF performance (R2 = 0.331) and the board operations. (R^2 = 0.331), and the remaining 67.9% accounts for other variables that are included or not included in the study.

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Table 9: ANOVA[a] Results for project identification

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	23.114	1	23.114	55.950	.000[b]
	Residual	46.682	66	.431		
	Total	**69.796**	**67**			

a. DV: Performance
b. Predictors: (Constant), Project identification

NG-CDF performance is significantly impacted by the project identification, as seen by the values of F = 55.950. This suggests that the model successfully fits the data and that project identification has an impact on NG-CDF performance as well. At a significance level of.000, P<0.05, Table 9 shows that the regression model predicts the DV with great accuracy. The project identification regression model shown in Table 9 results is as follows:

Table 10: Regression Coefficients[a] for Project identification

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	95.0% Confidence Interval for B	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			Lower Bound	Upper Bound
(Constant)	1.379	.345		3.993	.000	.695	2.063
Project identification	.644	.067	.575	7.480	.000	.473	.814

a. dv: Performance of public
Performance of NG-CDF = 1.379 + .644 (Project identification)

Results indicate that adding a project identification greatly enhances NG-CDF's performance in the Kapseret Constituency. The findings show a strong relationship ($p < 0.05$, $p = 0.01$) between NG-CDF's performance and board management strategies. An increase in the project identification mean index should result in a positive value of.644 (R2 =.644) in NG-CDF performance since the project identification values are statistically significant ($t = 7.480$, $p <.05$).and the remaining 35.6% accounts for other variables that are included or not included in the study. This is the regression model that explains the results in Table 9. Performance of NG-CDF is equal to 1.379 + 0.644 (project identification). And NG-CDF's performance is determined by 64.4% by project identification.

- *Overall Multivariate Analysis*

Table 11: Model Summary Multivariate Analysis

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.684[a]	.468	.449	.58089

a. Predictors: (Constant), project identification, and project planning.

All of the predictor characteristics provided in Table 11 may explain 46.8% of the variation in NG-CDF performance, according to the results, which show a positive correlation of R = 0.684 and R2 = 0.468.and the remaining 42.2% accounts for other variables that are included or not included in the study.

Table 12: ANOVA[a] Results for Model Summary

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	33.768	2	8.169	13.869	.000[b]
	Residual	37.118	65	.589		
	Total	**69.796**	**67**			

a. DV: Performance of NG-CDF
b. Predictors: (Constant), project identification and project planning

As demonstrated by the values of F = 13.869, it demonstrates how each predictor factor has a statistically significant impact on performance of NG-CDF. The data was likewise well-fitted by the model. Table 12 shows that the overall regression model strongly predicts the DV at the 0.000 level of significance, < 0.05.

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Table 13: Regression Coefficients[a] for Multivariate Analysis

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	95.0% Confidence Interval for B	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			Lower Bound	Upper Bound
(Constant)	.552	.367		1.504	.136	-.176	1.281
Project planning	.458	.118	.329	3.027	.003	.123	.592
Project identification	.407	.114	.274	2.697	.008	.081	.532

a. DV: Performance of NG-CDF

A unit change in project identification, and project planning increase performance of NG-CDF projects by 55.2 %. The results show a significant correlation ($p < 0.05$, $P = 0.01$) between NG-CDF performance and community participation. Consequently, the predictor factor values are statistically significant at the $p < 0.05$ level, indicating that NG-CDF performance should be enhanced by increasing the mean index of the predictor variables.

V. CONCLUSION

The findings showed that project planning significantly impacts NG-CDF performance, suggesting that both project planning and the model's ability to fit data are well-established. They concluded that project planning has a statistically significant impact on NG-CDF performance. According to the study, there is a substantial link between project identification and NG-CDF performance, and project identification has a considerable impact on NG-CDF performance. As a result, the project identification values are statistically significant. The model shows that project identification positively affects the performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The performance of CDF projects are impacted by community involvement and participation, according to the study. Due to the fact that they are the projects' beneficiaries and are fully aware of its advantages, the study suggests that stakeholders be involved in decision-making. In order to help constituents fully participate in CDF projects aimed at improving their standard of living, the study suggests that CDF office staff should inform them of developments.

Suggestions regarding policy implications the study suggests that the project steering committee and the NGCDF committee encourage social accountability in managing NGCDF projects in order to increase efficiency and production, since ongoing strengthening of social accountability structures is linked to better NGCDF project delivery. This can be accomplished by making audit reports, financial reports, termly development reports, and requesting public participation available to the public for convenient reading and constructive critique. Since it has been determined that sustained public participation in budgeting is linked to a notable enhancement in the completion of NGCDF projects, It suggests that the NGCDF committee and the project steering committee encourage participatory budgeting in NGCDF projects. This can be accomplished by setting up mechanisms to guarantee that the stakeholders participate in identifying projects of priority in their regions, providing information urging participatory budgeting, distributing resources for projects that have been identified, identifying projects through participation, and providing public forums for the exchange of helpful information about project costs.

The study recommend that NGCDF Committee should involve all interested parties in the constituency planning procedure. The NGCDF Committee and the government as a whole will be able to properly plan and manage its budgetary resources as a result. The government would be able to fund and carry out priority-based activities and projects with the aid of such involvement. To find and fix excessive budget deviations that could impair the success of NGCDF education programmes, the NGCDF Committee should conduct a budget review on a regular basis. In order to guarantee that it allots enough money to each educational project and prevent project failures, the committee should also focus more on the budgetary planning, coordination, control, and evaluation procedures. For appropriate financial procedures at every step of the development of educational initiatives, appropriate and effective structures for budget planning and evaluation should be in place.

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