

**DETERMINANTS OF SUSTAINABILITY OF DONOR FUNDED PROJECTS IN
KENYA: A CASE STUDY OF PIONEER NETWORK, EMBAKASI WEST
CONSTITUENCY**

^{1*} Ngumbao Alvin Munyao

^{2*} Dr. Samuel Thiong'o

¹MDS Student: Management University of Africa

² Lecturer: Management University of Africa

* Email: mkabili16@gmail.com; thiongosamwel@mua.ac.ke

ABSTRACT

Pioneer Network is a donor-funded project in Embakasi West Constituency that aims to improve residents' quality of life through empowering church development projects. This study aimed to evaluate elements influencing the sustainability of donor-funded projects in Embakasi West Constituency, Kenya. The study focused on monitoring and evaluation, donor funding levels, community participation, and capacity building. The projects include schools, health centers, water supply systems, and relief programs. The study used a descriptive research design and a proportional sampling method to gather primary data from 196 respondents. The findings showed a positive relationship between monitoring and evaluation, level of donor funding, community engagement and capacity building with project sustainability. The study recommends a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework throughout all stages of donor-funded projects to identify challenges and provide appropriate solutions. Monitoring financial sustainability is crucial for assessing long-term viability, and the contributions made by beneficiaries indicate overall system sustainability. Community participation should begin with proposal development, needs assessment, project site selection, planning, design, implementation, financial stage, and monitoring and evaluation.

Keywords: *Capacity Building, Community participation, Donor, Project, Sustainability*

INTRODUCTION

Sustainability is a development concern that refers to a project's capacity to have positive long-term effects. Sustainable development goals (SDGs) aim to improve the overall standard of living, protect the environment, and cultivate harmonious prosperity for the Earth. Project sustainability is defined as the continuous existence and delivery of services

to beneficiaries even after external support has ceased (Aarseth, Ahola, Aaltonen, Okland & Andersen, 2017). There are three perspectives on project sustainability: economic, social, and environmental. In the USA, donor-supported initiatives have shown notable levels of sustainability, persisting even in the absence of donor assistance. In Africa, supported programs have been implemented to address challenges such as poverty, but corruption and lack of commitment from leaders have led to most projects failing to achieve sustainability (Finscope, 2020).

Sustainable development requires the effective utilization of all available resources for the betterment of a country and its people. Successful implementation depends on productive agents and social dynamics (Armenia, Dangelico, Nonino, & Pompei, 2019). Project management plays a crucial role in achieving sustainable development by integrating sustainability factors into project implementation, meeting stakeholder needs (Kiara & Luketero, 2018). In developing countries, projects funded by donors can yield advantages like streamlined costs, enhanced service delivery, heightened scalability, more informed decision-making, heightened transparency, ethical practices, and amplified operational effectiveness (Kirigia, 2018). To pave the way for sustainability, it is key to holistically weigh the economic, social, and environmental dimensions.

Sustainability in development projects involves producing continuous outcomes and donor-funded effects, while building resilience to risk and implementing strategies for growth and development (Carvalho & Rabechini, 2017). It requires long-term planning that considers economic, social, and physical factors, as well as upholding a firm social structure and protecting the environment for future generations. Community-based initiatives are seen as ethical, sustainable, compassionate, and profitable. The long-term success of a project depends on consistently achieving its goals at both the institutional and community levels, even in the absence of essential resources.

Ensuring sustainability is a challenge due to complex registration procedures, donor policies, misappropriation of resources, and a lack of community ownership. Projects need to address ecological challenges, align with cultural and social aspirations, and bolster

economic well-being (Kivila, Martinsuo & Vuorinen, 2017). Financial viability and support are crucial for sustainability, and a well-thought-out departure plan is necessary to ensure enduring success. Sustainable projects achieve their immediate objectives without compromising long-term outcomes, and their success depends on being completed on time, within budget, and reliably producing expected results. Effective sustainability initiatives are important in international market competition and in addressing threats to human well-being.

Sustainable projects ensure that beneficiaries can produce results independently without external support, addressing issues like poor governance, poverty, corruption, inefficiency, unemployment, and unequal resource distribution. A sustainable project should have four key elements: forward-looking perspective, outward focus, alignment with the environment, and a procedural outlook (Oina, Towett, Kirui & Luvega, 2015). Many development projects fail after funding organizations withdraw, raising concerns about factors affecting donor-funded projects' sustainability, especially in developing countries. Factors such as low community participation, lack of responsibility for allocated resources, and inconsistent financing contribute to project failure.

Enhancing community involvement can lead to a 40% increase in long-term sustainability. Poor maintenance and project failure are common outcomes of low finance, making the presence of donors or financial sources crucial. Monitoring financial sustainability aspects like net income, liquidity, and asset-to-debt ratio helps understand factors influencing a project's long-term sustainability. Capacity building is essential for project sustainability, ensuring knowledge remains within the community even after donor or financiers leave or terminate their support.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2017) reports that nearly 50% of rural Kenyans are poor, compared to 25% in urban areas. In Nairobi, 40% lack access to safe drinking water, health facilities, social amenities, or other services. The Kenyan government and donors collaborate to meet these needs, with the World Bank (2018) revealing that the

government receives substantial donor aid from multiple sources to finance development initiatives. Between 2013 and 2016, USD 61 million was allocated to various development initiatives, with 20 million from the Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Health Results Innovation (HRITF) and 41 million from the International Development Association (IDA). However, 63% of initiatives fail soon after implementation, making them unsustainable. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) also found that a significant proportion of development initiatives experience setbacks within a year of cessation.

Despite significant donor investment, the sustainability of donor-funded projects consistently falls short, leading to a continuous reliance on donor funding for new projects (World Bank, 2014). Addressing these challenges is crucial to ensure the sustainability of donor-funded projects and meet the objectives intended after donors withdraw. This study aims to establish the determinants of sustainability of donor-funded projects, focusing on pioneer network projects in Embakasi West Constituency, Kenya.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The general objective of this study is to establish the determinants of sustainability of donor-funded projects, with a focus on pioneer network projects in Embakasi West Constituency, Kenya.

The specific objectives of the current study are:

- i. To establish the effect of monitoring and evaluation on sustainability of donor funded projects in Embakasi west constituency.
- ii. To investigate how level of donor funding affects sustainability of donor funded projects in Embakasi west constituency.
- iii. To determine the influence of community participation on the sustainability of donor funded projects in Embakasi west constituency.
- iv. To establish the effect of capacity building on sustainability of donor funded projects in Embakasi west constituency.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The researcher thoroughly reviewed existing literature on project monitoring and evaluation, financial support from donors, community involvement, and capacity building for project sustainability.

Theoretical Literature Review

Sustainability Theory

The sustainability theory, developed by the International Union for Nature Conservation in 1972, emphasizes project sustainability as a long-term, globally viable economic and social structure. Laberge modified the sustainability theory in 2015, defining it as a human activity that continuously provides services and benefits to ensure the community's existence on earth. It focuses on the interconnection of natural and human systems, integrating economic health, ecological integrity, social justice, and future responsibility to address global issues within a moral society vision (Willis & Jenkins (2009). Sustainability theory examines the social and economic dimensions of long-term project development, emphasizing the role of financial and economic perspectives. The concept is frequently invoked in discussions surrounding climate treaties, free markets, social expenditures, and environmental preservation. A universally agreed-upon definition of sustainability is challenging, and it may be considered theoretically meaningless or politically unproductive.

However, it is important to recognize that conflicts occur due to the interaction between human and natural systems, showing that there are real differences in long-term sustainable practices. The emergence of sustainability has engendered a significant discursive realm that facilitates novel moral and political deliberations (Laberge, 2015). In project development, it is crucial for management to anticipate and acknowledge divergent viewpoints and conceptual discord, as these inquiries have inherent significance and critical nature.

Resource Dependence Theory

Resource Dependence Theory (RDT) was first proposed by Pfeffer and Salancik in 1978 as a framework for understanding organizational behavior. The theory focuses on the impact

of an organization's external resources on its behavioral patterns, aiming to understand the dynamics between organizations and their reliance on these resources. RDT posits that organizations depend on external resources for survival and development, with organizations often being significant contributors to the resource pool. Resources inherently confer power, establishing a nexus between resource availability and organizational interdependence.

Organizations, despite their legal autonomy, can find themselves reliant on one another due to their shared reliance on resources. This interdependence is crucial for their survival and sustainability. To address resource depletion, strategies linking economic development, environmental preservation, and social inclusion have been developed by private firms, non-profit organizations, and local governments (Fadare, 2013). These interrelated aspects embody sustainability principles. Resource dependency theory emphasizes the significance of resources for an organization's success and viability. It states that an organization's viability is closely tied to its ability to access and utilize necessary resources.

The relevance of this theory lies in community engagement, where external resources, such as knowledge and materials, are exchanged between community members and the organization, fostering a sustainable source of support. Access to and effective use of resources, particularly financial capital, is crucial for project sustainability, especially in projects funded by donors. This theoretical framework addresses the challenge of sustainability by examining the accessibility of resources in donor-funded initiatives.

Stakeholder Theory

The stakeholder theory emphasizes the importance of active engagement of stakeholders in development initiatives, as it yields substantial benefits to the community receiving the initiatives (Harvey & Reed, 2007). This involves understanding the challenges, constraints, and specific goals of the community, and involving project beneficiaries in the project implementation stages. This collaborative participation fosters meaningful connections and promotes the overall success of community-based initiatives.

Community engagement is crucial for addressing community needs, fostering ownership, and promoting collective responsibility among all parties involved. It serves as a catalyst for inclusive and equitable development, enabling the realization of shared goals and aspirations. Community involvement is a powerful strategy to address the physical, interpersonal, and cultural aspects of individuals' environments, involving the entire community rather than individual involvement (Khwaja, 2004).

The research highlights the crucial role of involving stakeholders throughout the entire project lifecycle, from conception and planning to implementation, oversight, and assessment. This approach ensures the enduring viability of the project, fosters a sense of ownership, accountability, and continued sustainability of project advantages, even after external funding sources have ended their support. Involving stakeholders in strategic planning for financial resource allocation ensures transparency, accountability, and mitigates potential conflicts. Implementing monitoring and assessment practices by all stakeholders' fosters collective accountability for outcomes, benefits, and shortcomings, ensuring transparency and accountability in project expenditures.

Realistic Evaluation Theory

The realistic evaluation theory, developed by Pawson and Tilley in 1997, suggests that a successful project depends on the interaction between context (C) and mechanism (M) and the final outcome (O). Mechanisms outline the elements of a project that influence cognitive processes and explain how available resources influence cognitive processes. The theory emphasizes the importance of collaboration and active involvement of various stakeholders, including donor agencies, policy architects, project personnel, and target populations. Contextual differences and mechanisms impact project outcomes, with realists acknowledging that projects have a social system foundation and that entire systems of social relationships impact them. The implementation process must consider various aspects of social reality, such as events, behaviors, and social situations.

The theory suggests that project resources can stimulate change, but the extent depends on the socioeconomic context of society. Successful ongoing initiatives require stakeholder

understanding, as understanding their interpretations is crucial for project outcomes. The theory emphasizes the importance of community interpretations in project success, acknowledging that initiatives are fluid and dependent on individual resources. It also emphasizes the need for individual participation in projects and the role of stakeholders in project planning and delivery.

Empirical Literature Review

In this section, the researcher delineates earlier investigations undertaken by diverse authors relevant to the outlined variables being examined in this research. The variables under scrutiny comprise monitoring and evaluation, donor funding, community participation, and capacity building, all of which serve as independent variables in this study.

Monitoring and Evaluation on Project Sustainability

Tengan and Aigbavboa (2017) did a study on the investment of partners and employees involved in monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of development projects in Ghana. The research employed structured interview guides and questionnaires to collect data, along with an evaluation of relevant literature. The study specifically investigated a local government project in Ghana, highlighting six key partners or workers.

The findings revealed a high level of commitment to the project but identified poor cooperation in monitoring and evaluating public projects at the local government level, primarily due to limited knowledge, insufficient involvement, and time constraints. Additionally, the survey uncovered various challenges affecting the delivery of local government projects in Ghana, including procurement issues, noncompliance with project requirements, project delays, lack of adherence to safety and health regulations, customer dissatisfaction, and unethical activities within the construction sector. The study recommends participatory M&E through partnering with the project at the community level to address these issues.

Maimula (2017) did a study to examine workers' understanding of institutional frameworks in monitoring and evaluating water projects in Mkuranga, Tanzania. The aim of this study

was to identify the obstacles related to information that water projects face while carrying out monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities. Moreover, the present study sought to investigate the correlation between monitoring and evaluation (M&E) endeavors and the efficacy of water delivery initiatives within the specified geographical area. The study suggests that improving M&E systems requires capacity-building and training programs, M&E planning, and enhancing data sharing on project performance.

In Uganda, Gamba and Tukei (2020) conducted research to investigate the impact of implementation variables on the usage of monitoring and evaluation results in malaria control programs. The study used a cross-sectional research methodology, with data gathered from 120 randomly chosen workers participating in malaria control program execution, and a multiple regression model was fitted in SPSS Version 20. The research discovered that assessment quality, capability, and communication had no significant influence on monitoring and evaluation utilization, but timeliness did. Monitoring and evaluation data were found to be seldom utilized by implementing organizations in the execution of malaria control activities.

Mukaria (2021) did a study on the effect of monitoring and evaluation procedures used in community-based programs in Embu County, Kenya, with a focus on sustainability. Two specific initiatives, the Makima wash project and the rehabilitation and empowerment of street children, were studied. A study in Embu County, Kenya, involving 71 participants, aimed to examine the impact of project planning on community-based initiatives. The participants were chosen through stratified random sampling, ensuring representation from various strata. Data was collected using a purposeful instrument designed to capture relevant variables, ensuring reliability and validity. Descriptive and multiple regression analyses were performed on the data. The results showed that project planning positively influenced the prevalence of community-based initiatives. Positive feedback and budget allocation also played a role in the effectiveness of these programs. Additionally, staff training was found to have favorable outcomes for sustaining community-based projects in Embu County, Kenya.

Donor Funding and Sustainability

Mazibuko (2007) provided a unique perspective on project sustainability, conducting a study in South Africa that went beyond donor support and involved a sample size of 46 respondents. The research used surveys and conducted Chi-square analysis to examine the relationship between factors, acknowledging the inherent challenges and uncertainties connected with projects that hinder accurate predictions of sustainability. The researcher emphasized the importance of good government approaches to prepare impoverished individuals and assist them in controlling resources instead of providing short-lived projects. Ochieng (2016) study also found that many donor-funded projects in Kenya fail to benefit the intended community for an extended period, emphasizing the need for staff training and community collaboration from the project's outset.

Muriithi (2014) research also found that good financial management positively contributed to the long-term viability of nonprofit organizations in Kenya, with a sample size of 92 participants. The findings showed that strong budget management has a positive effect on sustainability, taking government regulations and competition from other non-profits into account. Gordon et al. (2010) provided a list of five exceptional practices for NGO annual reports, including completeness, accessibility, transparency, relevance, and accuracy. The reports should provide both discretionary and fundamental information that allows the user to accurately evaluate the data and understand the organization's activities. While it is crucial to maintain financial stability, the presence of surpluses may suggest that the organization may have potentially offered extra program services. Furthermore, contributors are typically more inclined to make additional donations when the organization successfully accomplishes its objectives.

Apeli (2015) conducted a study to assess the sustainability of donor-funded water projects in Kenya. The research had four main objectives and employed primarily quantitative methods. The sample consisted of 67 participants selected through the strata sampling method. The collected data underwent descriptive and inferential analyses, including regression analysis, to examine variable relationships. The results revealed that, despite the

presence of numerous ongoing projects in Bungoma County, water scarcity persisted, indicating a lack of sustainability despite substantial investments.

Community Participation and Sustainability

Yusuf, Adekunmi, and Ayanda (2020) did a study on the relationship between community participation and the sustainability of community and social development programs in Kwara State, Nigeria. They used a multistage sampling technique to select 120 participants and collected data through structured interviews. The analysis of the data revealed a significant level of community engagement in organizing meetings and providing financial support. However, there was less engagement in other aspects of the project. Age, estimated monthly income, and perceived sustainability were significant factors influencing community participation. In contrast, an inverse relationship was shown between community involvement and the execution of the initiative. The findings of the study indicated that there was a typically low degree of community engagement seen across many aspects of the project. However, an observed association was found between community involvement and increased monthly earnings, a decrease in the number of continuing initiatives, and an enhanced perception of sustainability.

Mlage (2014) conducted research to assess the long-term viability of community development initiatives that received funding from external donors in Tanzania. The study focused on farmer groups and their sub-projects in the Morogoro region. Data was collected from 80 individuals affiliated with the farmer group investment community, as well as insights from extension agents, key informants, and supplementary sources. The research used SPSS software for analyzing quantitative data and content analysis for examining qualitative data. It found that evaluating different aspects and involving all relevant parties is crucial for the sustainable feasibility of investment sub-projects undertaken by farmer groups. It recommended empowering local communities to plan for their development, fostering commitment and ownership, thereby ensuring social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

Ochieng (2016) did a study to examine the impact of community involvement on the long-term sustainability of the MaMaSe water program in the Mara Basin area of Kenya. The researcher conducted a study on the long-term sustainability and impacts of the MaMaSe sustainable water program. They used census sampling to select community leaders and purposive sampling to select project managers. The study involved 61 participants, including 50 community leaders and 11 project managers. Questionnaires and interviews were used to collect data, which was analyzed using SPSS V21. The study used descriptive statistics, content analysis, and inferential statistics to understand the data. The results showed that community participation is important for the sustainability of the water initiative. Measures like water security, basin conservation, dispute mediation, and water allocation were implemented to promote self-sufficiency and communal action. The study also found a correlation between community engagement and project sustainability.

Osman (2018) examined the influence of community engagement on the long-term efficacy of development initiatives carried out by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Kenya. The research primarily focused on the SHOFCO Organization's activities inside the Mathare informal settlement. The study used a mixed-methods approach, including the administration of questionnaires and conducting interviews to collect data from both neighbourhood people and officials associated with Shining Hope for Communities. The research findings indicated a notable positive correlation between community engagement and the sustained feasibility of initiatives.

Capacity Building and Sustainability

Franco and Tracey (2019) conducted research on community capacity-building for sustainable development: effectively pursuing local community sustainability goals. Individual interviews, questionnaires, focus groups, literary evaluations, and policy analysis were all used in the study's qualitative approach. According to the study, improving priority areas for sustainable development (CSD) in line with the SDGs is the most effective strategy for local communities to overcome sustainability challenges, with SDGs 9, 4, 15, 16, 17, and 8 being the most important areas for practical capacity building.

Aigbavboa (2017) delved into the dedication and engagement of partners and personnel in the oversight and evaluation (M&E) of developmental endeavors within Ghana. In tandem with scrutinizing pertinent literature and online resources, the study employed structured interviews and surveys for data gathering. The results unveiled a notable degree of dedication exhibited by partners and staff, albeit hindered cooperation in the observation and evaluation of local government initiatives, primarily owing to limitations in information access, organizational challenges, and time constraints. As a strategic step forward, the research advocated for the involvement of partners at the project level, advocating for a participatory M&E approach to amplify dedication and foster cooperation in the Ghanaian context.

Oganga, Olala, and Odima (2017) did a study analyzing the relationship between capacity-building and sustainability dimensions of women's development projects in Kisumu County, Kenya. The research employed a technique based on surveys and utilized a correlational approach to evaluate the sustainability of 10 women's development projects in the Kisumu Central Constituency. The poll encompassed a total of 124 participants, comprising both program leaders and beneficiaries. The research conducted revealed a statistically significant positive and weak association between project sustainability and capacity development. The study aimed to investigate the impact of capacity development on project sustainability, and the results rejected the null hypothesis, indicating a positive influence of capacity development on project sustainability. The findings suggest that building capacity within women's development programs can contribute to their long-term sustainability.

Wanjiru (2021) did a study on the role of capacity building in the sustainability of youth empowerment projects, with a focus on the Mathare Youth Sports Association. This study aimed to explore the impact of resource mobilization, human resources, and training on the long-term sustainability of youth enterprises. It analyzed the performance of 106 employees at Mathare Youth Sports Association using a descriptive research approach. Data was collected through a questionnaire and analyzed using SPSS. The results showed that organizations primarily rely on donations for support but face challenges in obtaining

sufficient funding due to rising expenses. The study findings provide valuable insights into the challenges faced by youth enterprises. Human resources are crucial for the sustainability of youth organizations, with employee training significantly impacting their sustainability. Training ensures effective project implementation, and technology plays a critical role in capacity development initiatives in the community. Overall, these factors contribute to the success of youth organizations.

2.3 Summary and Research Gaps

Author(s)	Title of Study	Methodology	Findings	Knowledge gap	Focus of current study
Oino et (2015)	Influence of monitoring and evaluation practices on sustainability of donor funded agricultural projects	The study employed a mixed methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative data collection methods like surveys, focus group discussions, and key informant interviews, to gain a comprehensive understanding.	The study highlights challenges in donor-funded agricultural projects, such as inadequate funding, technical capacity, and limited stakeholder participation, emphasizing the need for effective monitoring and evaluation practices.	The study did not provide information about whether the recipients were given the chance to track or observe the progress of the project.	This study will monitor the progress of the project and give report on it progress
Kule (2016)	Role of M&E on project sustainability in the EASSDP of Rwanda.	Descriptive strategy for his work. The author applied Slovin's formula in obtaining the sample of study.	The study found that project sustainability in Rwanda's EASSDP program is significantly influenced by M&E, adequate information, planning, and supportive supervision.	The study only focused on Rwanda while the current study focuses on Kenya	The current study will focus on projects in Kenya hence the results will be more accurate to the my study findings
Author(s)	Title of Study	Methodology	Findings	Knowledge gap	Focus of current study
Mazibuko (2007)	Enhancement of project sustainability beyond donor support in South Africa	Data was obtained through questionnaires. Chi-square was used in data analysis	The study emphasizes the importance of government policies empowering impoverished individuals to manage their assets, rather than solely focusing on short-	The researcher emphasized the significance of effective government policies in equipping poor individuals with resources and	This research will be focused on the long term solutions of various project being carried out

Ochieng (2016)	Factors impacting donor funded projects in Kenya	The researcher utilized a descriptive research design to investigate the target population and identify factors, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative research approaches	term projects, to ensure sustainability. Many projects fail midway, and those completed do not provide the expected long-term benefits to the intended community.	empowering them over short-lived projects. Donor agencies are increasingly focusing on arid and semi-arid regions with inadequate government service delivery, but there is limited effort to identify the root causes of project termination.	The study will focus to capacity building as one of the objective
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Source: Research 2022

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Mugenda (2008) elucidates a conceptual framework as a succinct portrayal of a phenomenon, complemented by visual representations of pivotal variables. Young, (2009) defined onceptual framework as a graphical illustration embodying the interaction between dependent and independent variables.

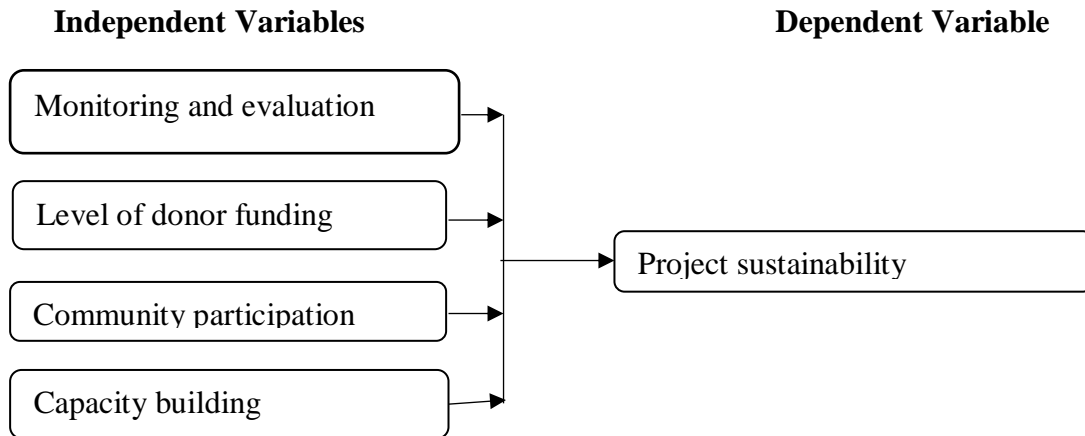


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study utilized a descriptive design and case study approach to analyze the Pioneer Network project, focusing on its behavior without affecting it. The study focuses on the Embakasi West constituency, examining two programs: COVID Relief Response and Capacity Building for Churches. The target population includes 384 participants, including program directors, project managers, finance officers, field officers, and beneficiaries, with 10 projects excluded due to recent launch and lack of data. In this study, Krejcie and Morgan (1970) suggest a sample size of 196 respondents out of 384 is sufficient for generalizations. For smaller populations, a minimum of 30% is recommended, while larger populations require a range of 10% to 40%. Chuan and Penyelidikan (2006) suggest a representative sample size. The data was categorized, organized into statistical tables, and analyzed using descriptive statistics and inferential methods like Pearson correlation and multivariate regression analysis, using SPSS Version 21.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Response Rate

The study surveyed 196 participants from a target population of 384 to understand factors affecting the sustainability of donor-funded programs in Kenya, specifically the Pioneer Network in the Embakasi West Constituency. The results show a high return rate, as shown in Table 5.

Table 1: Response Rate

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Responded	145	74
Non response	51	26
Total	196	100

The study found that 74% of the 196 respondents completed and returned the questionnaire, indicating their interest and involvement in the research. This high response rate may be attributed to the data collection strategy, which involved an assistant giving surveys and allowing respondents to fill them out through phone calls. The study also accommodated any clarifications needed. A response rate of 50% is considered appropriate for analysis and reporting, while a response rate of 60% is considered praiseworthy. Non-response to surveys was due to time constraints and lack of affirmative responses. The response rate indicates the level of interest and willingness to participate in a survey.

Inferential Analysis

The study utilized inferential analytic approaches, such as Karl Pearson's coefficient of correlation, regression analysis, model summary, and multiple regression analysis, to ascertain the correlation between the dependent variable and the independent variables.

Pearson's Coefficient of Correlation

The study employed the Karl Pearson's coefficient of correlation (r) to demonstrate the relationship between the study variables.

Table 4: Coefficient of Correlation

		Project Sustainability	Monitoring and Evaluation	Level of Donor Funding	Community participation	Capacity building
Project Sustainability	Pearson Correlation Sig. (2-tailed)	1				
Monitoring and Evaluation	Pearson Correlation Sig. (2-tailed)	0.523	1			
Level of donor funding	Pearson Correlation Sig. (2-tailed)	0.614	0.341	1		
Community participation	Pearson Correlation Sig. (2-tailed)	0.740	0.120	0.0621	1	
Capacity building	Pearson Correlation Sig. (2-tailed)	0.520	0.340	0.0000	0.160	1
		0.012	0.001	1.000	0.001	

The study reveals a strong positive correlation between monitoring and evaluation, donor funding level, community participation, and capacity building on the sustainability of donor-funded projects. The correlation coefficients are 0.523, 0.614, 0.740, and 0.520, indicating a strong relationship between these variables and the sustainability of donor-funded projects.

Regression Analysis

The researcher utilized regression analysis and multiple regression analysis to understand the factors affecting the long-term sustainability and continuity of donor-funded projects. The study used SPSS software for data collection and analysis, examining the relationship between multiple independent variables and a single dependent variable.

Table 2: Regression Coefficients

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	1.308	0.342		1.623	0.036
Monitoring and Evaluation	0.558	0.310	0.172	4.342	0.028
Level of donor funding	0.731	0.156	0.210	3.532	0.029
Community participation	0.785	0.322	0.067	3.542	0.020
Capacity building	0.620	0.245	0.148	3.458	0.025

As per the SPSS results in the table above, the following multiple regression equation was generated:

$$(Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \beta_3X_3 + \beta_4X_4 + \varepsilon)$$

$$Y = 1.308 + 0.558X_1 + 0.731X_2 + 0.785X_3 + 0.620X_4$$

The study reveals that donor-funded projects' sustainability is estimated to be 1.308 when all factors are constant. Increasing monitoring and evaluation by one unit leads to a 0.558 improvement in project sustainability. Increasing donor funding level also leads to a 0.731 increase. Community participation have the strongest impact, with a one-unit increase resulting in a 0.785 increase while capacity building leads to 0.620 increase in project sustainability.

Model Summary

Table 3: Model Summary

Model	R	R-Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	0.815	0.664	0.314	0.4211

The coefficient of determination (R²) reveals that four independent variables, monitoring and evaluation, donor funding level, community participation, and capacity building, account for 66.4% of project sustainability variability. However, 33.6% of overall sustainability is not considered, indicating the need for further research on these additional factors.

ANOVA

The significance of the regression model is demonstrated through the use of the statistical technique of analysis of variance (ANOVA), as illustrated in Table 18, which determines the significance of the variance explained by the regression model.

Table 4: ANOVA

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	9.495	4	7.374	823.774	.000
	Residual	1.772	140	.0013		
	Total	31.267	144			

The F-statistic for the analysis of variance is 823.774, with a p-value of 0.000. This indicates that there is significant evidence to reject the null hypothesis that the parameters of the model predictors are collectively equal to zero. At least one of the predictors in the model has a statistically significant parameter, suggesting that the characteristics examined in this study contribute to the sustainability of donor funded projects. Additionally, the F-calculated (823.774) is more than mean square (7.374) indicating that the model is fit and can be used to explain the contribution of the selected factors on the sustainability of donor funded projects.

SUMMARY OF RESEARCH FINDINGS

Effect of monitoring and evaluation on sustainability of donor funded projects

The study found that diligent application of monitoring and evaluation practices significantly increased project durability by 55.8% in Embakasi West constituency, with frequent audits and regular reviews ensuring the long-term sustainability of donor-sponsored projects. Regular reviews, feedback sessions, and audits significantly impacted the long-term sustainability of donor-sponsored initiatives.

Effect of level of donor funding on sustainability of donor-funded projects

The level of donor funding also had a positive association with the sustainability of donor-funded projects. Each unit increase in financial backing from donors resulted in a 73.1% surge in program sustainability. Insufficient project financing led to suboptimal upkeep and a curtailed lifespan for the projects. Stakeholders played an active role in resource allocation, and there were ample financial reservoirs available for all projects endorsed by donors.

Effect of Community Participation on sustainability of donor funded projects

Community participation was found to have a significant positive relationship with the sustainability of donor-supported projects. A unit increase in community participation led to a 78.5% improvement in sustainability. Effective communication of project implementation guidelines during the commissioning phase ensured comprehensive understanding and adherence to principles. Community involvement in various stages of project development significantly impacts the sustainability of donor-funded projects.

Effect of Capacity Building on Sustainability of Donor Funded Projects

The study found a significant correlation between capacity building and the sustainability of donor-funded projects. A one-unit enhancement in capacity building led to a 62% increase in sustainability. Community members were trained in record-keeping and management skills, empowering them to take charge post-donor departure. They also participated actively in decision-making processes and contributed to cost-sharing approaches. The findings highlight the importance of capacity building activities in ensuring the success of donor-funded initiatives.

CONCLUSION

The study found a positive correlation between monitoring and evaluation, donor funding, community participation, and capacity building on the sustainability of donor-funded projects in Embakasi West constituency. Monitoring tools improved project sustainability by 55.8%, while donor funding led to a 73.1% increase. However, inadequate funding was identified as a challenge. Community involvement improved sustainability by 78.5%, and capacity building improved sustainability by 62%. Effective communication of project guidelines and active participation in decision-making and cost sharing were crucial for long-term success.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The study emphasizes the importance of monitoring and evaluation processes in donor-funded projects for sustained progress. It suggests involving beneficiaries and stakeholders, implementing a robust feedback system, and aligning control plans with project plans. It also emphasizes the need for standardized procedures, sufficient resources, community involvement, and capacity building efforts. Regular meetings, committees, partnerships, and citizen control can facilitate community engagement. Funds should also prioritize capacity building to ensure long-term sustainability and alleviate administrative challenges faced by developing countries.

Suggestions for Further Studies

The research highlights the need for further exploration in various regions to ensure sustainable projects backed by donors in Kenya. Future studies should explore community human capital effectiveness in project management and expand geographical scope beyond Nairobi.

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