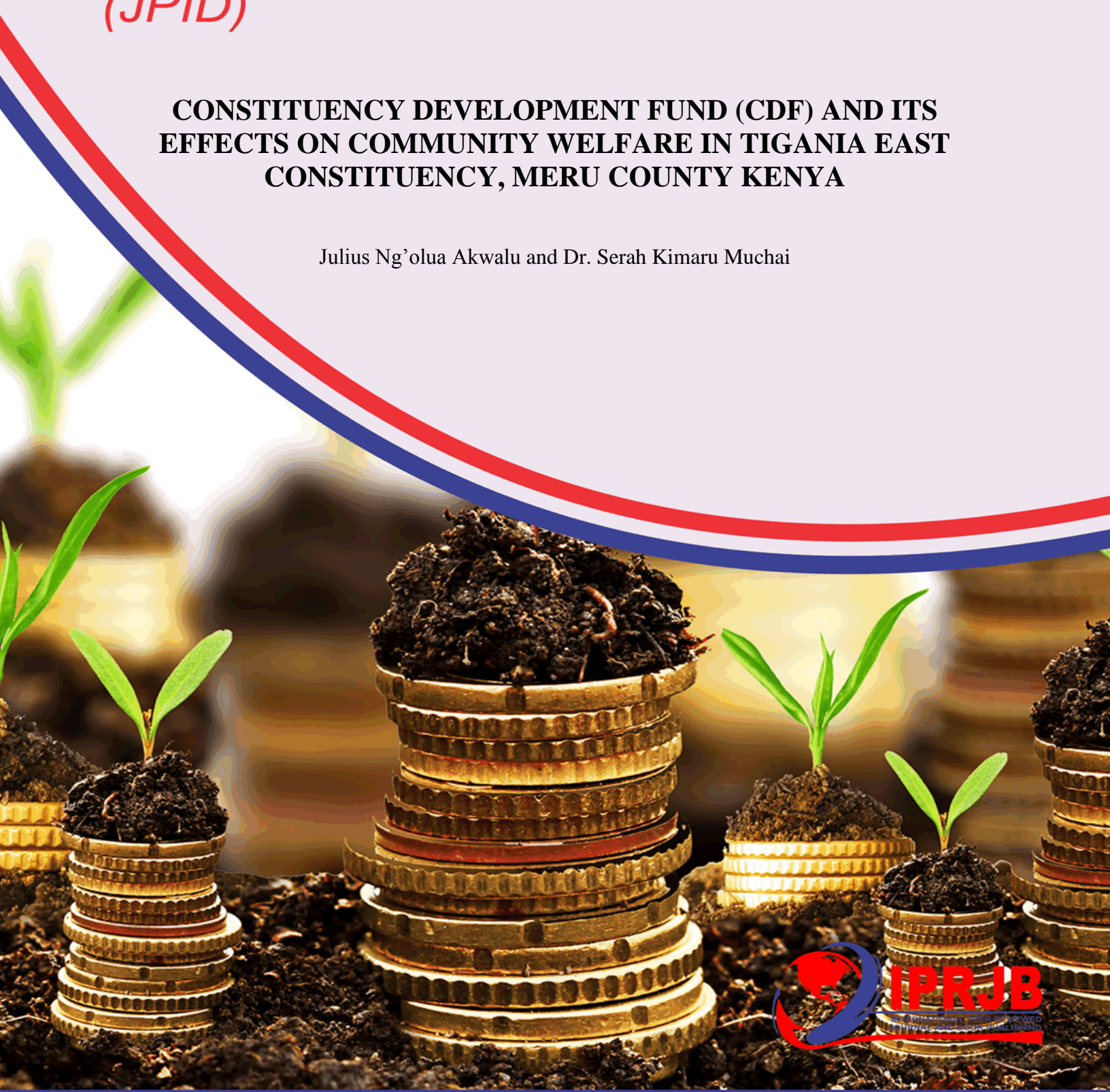


# Journal of Poverty, Investment and Development (JPID)

## **CONSTITUENCY DEVELOPMENT FUND (CDF) AND ITS EFFECTS ON COMMUNITY WELFARE IN TIGANIA EAST CONSTITUENCY, MERU COUNTY KENYA**

Julius Ng'olua Akwalu and Dr. Serah Kimaru Muchai



## CONSTITUENCY DEVELOPMENT FUND (CDF) AND ITS EFFECTS ON COMMUNITY WELFARE IN TIGANIA EAST CONSTITUENCY, MERU COUNTY KENYA

<sup>1</sup>\*Julius Ng'olua Akwalu

Corresponding Author Email: [akwalu@un.org](mailto:akwalu@un.org)

<sup>2</sup>Dr Serah Kimaru Muchai

Dean: School of Social Sciences: Mount Kenya University

### Abstract

**Purpose:** The objective of the study was to identify the effects of Constituency Development Fund (CDF) on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency.

**Methodology:** The study adopted descriptive design. The target population was the Constituency Development Fund beneficial groups and project leaders including project management committees (PMCs) of Tigania East Constituency currently implementing projects funded by the CDF. The population comprised of 500 project-member committee drawn from the ongoing CDF-funded projects in Tigania East Constituency. The study employed stratified sampling where the Constituency was divided into Sub Counties. This study utilized a sample size of 100. The study used structured questionnaire and semi structured interviews to collect data. Pilot study was done on ten randomly picked members, two from each sub county and would not participate in the actual study. The researcher used Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) Version to analyse data. Data analysis employed both descriptive and inferential statistics.

**Results:** The findings showed that devolved funding has impacted positively on the community welfare of the people of Tigania East constituency. The findings revealed that all the independent variables notably; (X<sub>1</sub>) youth projects, (X<sub>2</sub>) health programmes, (X<sub>3</sub>) infrastructure projects and (X<sub>4</sub>) educational programmes have a significance influence on community welfare. Youth projects, health programmes, infrastructure projects and educational programmes have p-value of 0.022, 0.004, 0.049, and 0.007 respectively. These p-values are statistically significant at 5% significant level. The study concludes that youth projects, health programmes, infrastructure projects and educational programmes had a significant positive relationship with community welfare in constituency offices. The findings show there are several projects that are being funded/ have been funded by the CDF. It also shows that there are positive outcomes to the community from CDF and that the level of community participation in the projects funded by devolved funds is high.

**Unique contribution to theory, practice and policy:** The study recommends that all stakeholders have to participate in ensuring sustainability of positive strategies adopted in the management of the fund so as to continue realizing their effects. The study also recommends that the national government should fasten the processes leading to disbursement of funds to local units so as not to delay the implementation of projects. The study further recommends that there is the need to train CDF Funds staff as well as the community representatives on issues of project prioritizing, choice and management.

**Key words:** *Constituency Development Fund, community welfare, infrastructure projects, health programmes, youth projects, educational programmes*

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Constituency Development Funds came into being in 2003 via Act of Parliament detailed in The Kenya Gazette Supplement 107 (Act No. 11). Amend to the act so far are the CDF (Amendment) Act 2007 in the Kenya Gazette Supplement 112 (Act No. 16) of 22 October 2007 (Tsubura, 2013). The rationale is to reduce regional development imbalances occasioned by patronage and politics. The fund was to alleviate poverty and stimulate equitable growth and development throughout the country in line with the Vision 2030. It focuses on constituency-level development schemes, which combat grassroots' poverty (Tsubura, 2013). The high poverty rate in the rural areas is mainly caused by low access to physical assets, less non-farm employment openings, limited access to health care and schooling, and low agricultural productivity (Wambugu, Kirimi, & Opiyo, 2011). The global challenge of high poverty rates has made governments to direct most public resources to poverty eradication. More than 1.3 billion citizens live in absolute poverty (less than \$1.25 per day). About a half of the world's population (more than 3 billion people) live on under \$2.50 every day (World Bank, 2015).

According to Kimenyi (2007), economic growth is the formation of value from resources (Kimenyi, 2007). Increased levels of venture, developments in technology and improvements in the human capital are some of the measures which improves economy. Kimenyi (2007) posited that implementing the fundamentals right that includes macro-economic stability, inflation, interest rates and openness to trade are very crucial in attaining and sustaining economic growth. Value creation needs some core fundamentals that offer the necessary motivation to market actors to get into productive transactions, thus a beginning point for Kenya to attain high rate of economic growth. Good policies are key to the achievement of economic growth since growth requires quality institutions (Kimenyi, 2007). Economic improvement is considered key in enhancing quality of life and enabling person to have economic empowerment, develop and maintain the local assets, overcome market failures, and the strengthening of cohesive projects that deliver the grass-root development projects (Aduda, 2008). Jouen et al. (2010), such initiatives are commonly region-based integrated strategies geared toward mobilizing local stakeholders.

Main causes of the world poverty include uneven distribution of income and internal conflicts in some countries (World Bank, 2013). In the East African context, absolute poverty rates remained high by the year 2012. There were 67 per cent of Ugandans, 65 per cent of Tanzanians, 44.9 per cent of Rwandan people and 45.9 per cent of Kenyans living under absolute poverty (World Bank, 2015). The Government of Kenya has been focusing on economic growth and development since independence. Rapid economic growth is key in reducing poverty in Kenya (Wambugu & Munga, 2009). National Poverty Eradication Plan (1999 – 2015) and Vision 2030 emphasize rapid and continued economic growth as a way of alleviating poverty. Achieving high levels of economic growth is the main objective of the Government of Kenya (Kenya Vision 2030). In its effort to achieve economic growth and development, the Government has over the years embarked on fiscal decentralization strategies with a bias towards devolved finance. The government has been doing this to achieve the objectives of equitable development and addressing poverty in these areas. The expectation has been that with the attainment of these two goals, the economy will grow.

Equity contemplations informed the fight for independence in Kenya, and definitely in most African countries in and after the colonial era. As witnessed in the second National Development Plan for Kenya (1966 - 1970), the main aim was to accomplish high and quick development and equivalent share of assets. The imbalances from the past were achieved because of the bad relationship that existed before freedom and to date, the imbalances and provincial incongruities are generally between Kenyans themselves.

According to Aduda (2008), CDF was to engage the people from the grassroots in making informed expenditure decisions that directly affect their welfare. Such projects are in the infrastructure, education, and health sectors that have lagged since independence (Kimenyi, 2005). To reduce poverty and improve development in Africa requires handling of cultural, and socio-economic issues. Empowerment programmes, with the funding of productive international communities will help Sub Sahara Africa grow (Roe, 2006). Narayan-Parker (2002) supported that empowerment projects initiated by the government should be directed towards development success by supporting pro-poor growth patterns that eradicate disparity through participating in poor people's capabilities in areas such as education and to access to basic healthcare, increased access to land, financial capital, and markets.

In Kenya, the majority inhabitants of most constituencies are the low-income households. The introduction of constituency development funds is one of the government efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The MDGI aim at reduction of poverty level from the current level of 56.1% to less than a half by 2015 (Republic of Kenya 2003), secondly achieving the universal free primary education with an aim of increasing enrolment in primary school with an aim of reducing illiteracy, increasing access to health facilities and combating chronic diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV / AIDS and generally increasing the general welfare of people through increase in Agricultural and trade activities. Most of the CDF projects are geared towards achieving most of the millennium development goals (Chweya, 2006).

The effect of governance on development of growth can be appraised by determining a growth model that entails country specific characteristics, policies, and pointers of the quality of institutions. According to the World Bank governance pointers gathered by Kaufman et.al. (2000), there is a positive correlation between governance and policy variables. This implies that quality of policy improves with the quality of governance. According to Kaufman, a study carried out in sub-Saharan countries, South America and Middle Asia, shows that those countries with strong governance systems showed a strong and impressive economic growth and development. One strong aspect of good governance is the issue of devolution. Devolution comes in form of empowering the people at the grass root with an opportunity to make decision concerning their welfare (Oloo, 2006). Other terms used for devolution include decentralization which is a broader term. The case of CDF program involves redistribution of decision-making responsibilities for project planning and implementation from the central government ministries and department to the constituencies.

Tigania East Constituency is in Meru County in the Eastern part of the Republic of Kenya. It is an electoral constituency represented by a member of parliament elected every five years to Kenya's National Assembly. The constituency has five Sub-counties and each sub-county has

CDF management committee offices. The five wards are Karama, Kiguchwa, Mikinduri, Muthara and Thangatha.

### **1.1 Statement of the Problem**

Governments have different reasons for embarking on decentralization programmes such as CDF. The rationale is to equitably allocate resources, improve service delivery, and support the local people to realize and experience development (Boex & Martinez-Vazquez, 2006). Initially, CDF projects were involved in controversy that made it less cost effective (Manda, Kimenyi & Mwabu, 2001). Inequalities in economic development in the country are manifested in exceptional bureaucracy, considerably: profits, land, education, fitness, and infrastructure and can be described in terms of outcomes and opportunities. The consequences, which include stages of wealth, education and employment, are easily determined. However, a sustained aspect of inequality in people's instances do replicate differences in opportunities with people favoured or disfavoured consistent with in which they stay, parental occasions and gender (SID, 2004). The report reveals differences in share of income and social services across regions and specific segment of the Kenyan population. It reveals that of the country's 10 percentage families manage 42 percentage of overall income even as the bottom 10 percentage, manage 0.76 percent of total income (Ochieng & Ruth, 2013).

Tigania East Constituency is one of the constituencies characterized by public complains over the utilization of the CDF (Constituency Development Fund CDF, 2014). A Self-Commissioned Report (2013) by the new CDFC team indicated that of the 50 CDF funded projects initiated in the previous 2 years, less than 10 projects, were successful while the rest are standing precariously in their unfinished and dilapidated states. For instance, Muthara Polytechnic project was allocated Kshs 1,000,000 for the construction of the administration block during the financial years 2012/2013 and 2013/2014. The funds were released in full and used to procure building materials. However, the project was left with no more funds to proceed. Furthermore, the material procured are now exposed to deterioration and loss. In another case, construction of classrooms in ten primary schools that were funded by Kshs 7,200,000 in 2012/2013 and earlier years were stalled. The projects did not have any funds in 2013/2014 casting doubts on the value of investment already made. As a result, it was not possible to confirm that residents of Tigania East Constituency will obtain value for money invested of Kshs 7,200,000 in projects.

Van de Walle (2000), in his research on physical wealth and human associations in rural Vietnam, examined the financial impacts of infrastructure projects in county side restoration supported by the World Bank from 1997 to 2001. The World Bank had planned to increase trade and development by improving road connectivity for the rural networks. Van de Walle (2000), established that the populations in that region suffered from poor services and ease with entry to markets in contrast to the areas that did not gain from this project. The areas documented improved employment in services region and a change of the labour drive from the agriculture sector. Marin (2009), studied the impact of CDF in reducing poverty levels in Nairobi Province. The census study focused on CDF in all the constituencies of Nairobi Province. Data collected was from CDC members and selected slum dwellers in all the 8 constituencies. The results were evident that with proper fund management and additional allocations will result in significant improvements in the lifestyles of the urban poor measured by the changes in Social Economic Status indicators (SES) such as education, health facilities, and housing among others.

Studies by Kimani, Nekesa and Ndungu (2009), on best practices of CDF indicated that CDF has improved accessibility to health care services by most Kenyans especially those who reside in the countryside, and fewer women are giving birth at home because they can easily access maternity services. Crucial to note is that CDF significantly funded the upsurge in health facilities from 4,557 in 2003 to 4,912 in 2005. Previous studies ignored the relationship between restructuring CDF projects and community welfare, especially in the context of Tigania East Constituency. This therefore informed the necessity for this research study, which investigated the influence of Constituency Development Fund projects on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency.

### **1.2 Purpose of the Study**

The drive of the study was to establish the effects of CDF educational programmes, infrastructure projects, health programmes, and CDF youth projects on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency.

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

#### **1.3.1 General Objective**

The study's objective was to identify the effects of Constituency Development Fund (CDF) projects on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency

#### **1.3.2 Specific Objectives**

- i. To assess the influence of CDF educational programmes on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency
- ii. To find out the effect of infrastructure projects by the CDF on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency
- iii. To identify how CDF health programmes influence community welfare in Tigania East Constituency
- iv. To establish how youth projects by CDF affect community welfare in Tigania East Constituency

## **2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Theoretical Review**

#### **2.1.1 Accountability Theory**

Accountability necessitates an explanation of the achievement of objectives sponsored by a given resource allocation. Such accountability is an agreement between an “agent and a principal”, and it emanates from a duty upon the agent and the rights of the principal (Bebbington, Gray, Thomson, & Walters, 1994). According to Ebrahim (2003), agency accountability is a dynamic model and perhaps more engaging than simply requiring agents to be open and allowing checks and balances, and at the same time taking care of stakeholder interests. Entities have to meet the needs of primary stakeholders before trying to appeal and satisfy the secondary stakeholders. Brown and Moore (2001), argue that since entities are incoherently aligned to others, they have to prioritize their interested parties. Striking a balance between meeting the needs of interested parties must meet the dictates of those sponsoring the interests.

Slim (2002), surmising agency accountability literature, outlines types of accountability for agents: performance accountability and voice accountability. The former needs agents to be answerable for their actions. This theory is applicable to the management of the CDF kitty within the constituencies by the CDF committee members, the Member of Parliament, and the project coordinators. These members act as the agents of the community and should to their best interest in allocating the funds to the projects in the constituency. The society requires them therefore to be accountable and to act with discretion in governing, authoritative allocation of resources and exercising control and coordination. This theory was relevant to the study because it brings out the need for explanations on the achievement and objectives of CDF projects.

### **2.1.2 Stakeholder Theory**

The stakeholders' theory suggests that managers must be aware of a shared sense of the value that they are positioned to create, thereby bringing all the stakeholders to a round table. It requires that managers be clearly aware on their obligations to business and the type of relationships that they do create with other stakeholders along the way as they steward the business vision and mission (Pedersen & Bartholdy, 2004). It urges on the happiness of all the people at stake with equal benefits sought. This calls for a representation of different individuals and groups who have an impact on the achievement of the set goals. Each of the stakeholders have different levels of influence and interest with the sole aim of enhancing the satisfaction of stakeholders.

Freeman et al. (2010) develops a pragmatic model in which stakeholders can use to strategically manage resources and prioritizing decisions regarding how much effort should go into investing to their needs while enhancing effective communication. This involves planning specific projects and initiatives with stakeholders as per their needs. From a stakeholder point of view, it is important to actively engage stakeholders in identifying their needs. Monitoring is also important to ensure the projects invested are successful and stakeholders recognize value for money. The theory provides a lens for stakeholders to connect money and strategy. Leaders however need to avoid certain mistakes that could be costly, for instance lack of effective stakeholder participation and value addition to the investment. Stakeholder involvement is key for CDF success because it is in this that the vision, mission and goals of CDF will be seen to be accomplished, thereby creating value to its intended beneficiaries (Simiyu et al., 2014). The study applied the stateholders theory because managers of CDF projects must be aware of a shared sense of the value that they are positioned to create, thereby bringing all the stakeholders to a round table to discuss and implement projects.

## **2.2 Empirical Review**

### **Infrastructure Projects and Community welfare**

Infrastructure projects empower the individuals in organizing and choosing actions that affect their life curve. Empowerment happens when people are able to take control of their own lives (Eyben et al., 2008). Since the enablement is an ingredient of community welfare, it is crucial to develop sound policies and make investments required to grow economic opportunities for the poor, support pro-poor progress, and deal with the various scopes of poverty (World Bank, 2012). According to Eyben et al. (2008), economic empowerment takes poor people beyond subsistence and allows them to take charge and ultimate control of their resources and resource utilization, improving community welfare. It gives people a chance to be in charge of decisions

in their households, decisions on investing in their health and education, and improving their incomes by being productive. The progress made by Sierra Leone government is an evidence of empowerment. Sierra Leone progressed rapidly after the 2002 Civil War by improving on its development indicators to be one of the most fast-rising economy.

Kwon (2005), noted that road infrastructure reduces poverty, improving on community welfare. Van de Walle (2000), in his research on physical wealth and human associations in rural Vietnam, examined the financial impacts of infrastructure projects in county side restoration supported by the World Bank from 1997 to 2001. The World Bank had planned to increase trade and development by improving road connectivity for the rural networks. Van de Walle (2000), established that the populations in that region suffered from poor services and ease with entry to markets in contrast to the areas that did not gain from this project. The areas documented improved employment in services region and a change of the labour drive from the agriculture sector. The amount of families dependent on the agriculture as the source of wages reduced while the portion of those reliant on the area that is based on public services increased.

### **Health Programmes and Community welfare**

At the centre of worldwide health priorities are the attainment of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and reinforcement of fitness systems, which is to improve community welfare. The MDGs puts emphasis on a worldwide development timetable that reduce excessive poverty and enhance fitness, training, and human rights by way of 2015. Concurrently, the World Health Organization (WHO) is underscoring the need to construct health-device ability, a worldwide assignment usually elusive in rural and aid-bad regions. Meeting global health wishes requires deep inter-sectorial techniques (Leatherman & Dunford, 2010). According to Reeves, (1998) and Howitt, (2005), health is related with key benefits. Nutritious children learn better, and healthy adults perform better; people prioritize health. The lack of health services among the poor in developing countries coupled with the amassed disease burden has much more to do that enabling them obtain health from the private sector. Governments award less subsidies to the health of the poor. The policies, friendly to the well to do especially, are obvious in the hospital segment, which gains from the sizeable element of government expenditure. Nonetheless, some developing countries have achieved pro-poor deliveries of public outlay on health care including Costa Rica and Malaysia (Wagstaff, 2002).

According to Peters et al. (2008), inadequate financial means or information are an obstacle to access to services. When health care is required but delivery delayed, people's health degrades, which sequentially implies lost incomes and greater health care costs, which lead to a decline in economic development. The correlation between poverty and access to health care form the cycle in which scarcity of resources leads to ill health and ill health sustains poverty. Even with positive changes made to take health care services to the poor in such countries, most of the population still have limited access. It is a fact that the poor in such nations are sickly, unlike the rich, when it comes to physical access to health care facilities, availability, costing, and quality as well as acceptability. Nonetheless, new researches indicate that such a disparate outcome is inevitable even with massive investments in the health sector. For the investments to reach the measurable targets, those in charge have to appreciate and take into account, in their interventions, the local dynamics and determinants of health care access. Numerous innovations in the areas of health care, financing, service provision, and guidelines of care point towards a possible improvement across the board (Peters et al., 2008).



Marin (2009), studied the impact of CDF in reducing poverty levels in Nairobi Province. The census study focused on CDF in all the constituencies of Nairobi Province. Data collected was from CDC members and selected slum dwellers in all the 8 constituencies. The results were evident that with proper fund management and additional allocations will result in significant improvements in the lifestyles of the urban poor measured by the changes in Social Economic Status indicators (SES) such as education, health facilities, and housing among others. Studies by Kimani, Nekesa and Ndungu (2009), on best practices of CDF indicated that CDF has improved accessibility to health care services by most Kenyans especially those who reside in the countryside, and fewer women are giving birth at home because they can easily access maternity services. Crucial to note is that CDF significantly funded the upsurge in health facilities from 4,557 in 2003 to 4,912 in 2005. Malika (2016) studied the extent that funding influence sustainability of CDF health projects in Ruaraka Constituency. Majority of the respondents (27.7%) agreed that the money disbursed for health facilities was enough. However, most respondents expressed the need for funding to increase in order to speed up the progress of projects undertaken by CDF kitty. Global expenditure on health keeps rising as record resources allocated go to disease specific MDG 6 that cover HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria (Oomman et al, 2008).

William (2013), examined the influence of Constituency Development Fund on Small and Medium Size Enterprises in Kajiado North Constituency. The study noted that, 23.33 % of the respondents agreed that the level of Health facilities and support using CDF Funds as most important and has increased the number of regions with high healthy inhabitants. The research further found out that there have been increases in productivity and reduced unemployment of citizens, which created new avenues of employment in the SMEs.

### **Youth project and Community welfare**

According to Chune (2003), the average unemployment rate of 23% is real problem in Kenya. The problem is more prevalent among school dropout youth and women, at about 25 percent both incidents. Consequently, many young Kenyans graduating from the secondary schools and universities are unable to get employment since job openings have been on the decrease. Decentralization and Local Government restructuring programs, which are component of economic recovery strategy, aim to avail public services close to the people, increase economic governance, boost delivery, institute economic efficacy, and improve responsibility and openness (Mitulla, 2005). CDF program is playing a role in empowerment of both economically and politically in poverty reduction at the grassroots.

William (2013), studied on the role of constituency development fund on small and medium Size Enterprises' Returns in Kajiado North Constituency. The respondents had to rank the water and sanitation factor in the order of most important to least important for CDF funding and satisfaction. From above data analysis, 20 % of the respondents which are 12 respondents agreed that the level of water/sanitation facilities and support using CDF Funds as most important/important and has increased the number of regions with highly healthy inhabitants in the constituency which has increased the number of productive unemployed citizens. Due to improved water/sanitation even the interior farmers and pastoralists can use modern methods of farming and animal rearing as small-scale businesses without depending on rain waters and to satisfy the existing markets and better their success in SMEs.

Mangeni (2010), studies the factors of youth participation in CDF development projects in Funyula constituency. The youth from rural areas stated the different factors that influence their willingness to participate in CDF and government funded projects. There is a substantial relationship between expertise in planning for the project, demographic, economic, political factors and what they aspire to gain from the project. Despite the benefits the community seeks to benefit from the project, their willingness to participate in the planning and development of the project is bent on other factors. This calls for leaders to find the means to actively engage the youth in the projects as an opportunity for them to make a positive contribution in the society and own the project. This is a means for the community to keep track of the progress the project is making in both short and long term.

David and Wycliffe (2016), noted that CDF leads to social welfare programs which enhance socio-economic development at 65% from a study on influence of Constituency Development Fund on Socio-economic Growth in Mbeere South Constituency. The test items used to determine whether job creation has enhanced socio-economic development were business and entrepreneurship development, award of tenders for supply of materials and direct employment. According to the study direct employment has the greatest impact on development. The linear relationship between job creation and social welfare projects was 65.01% and infrastructure projects at 56.98%. The linear relationship between social welfare projects and job creation projects is 73.95% and 56.70% respectively. There is a positive relationship between social welfare programs and socio-economic development. The central idea behind achieving socio-economic development through the CDF projects is enhancing the welfare of community.

### **Educational Programmes**

Economic status of the society influences a child's growth and educational outcomes that begin from a young age, both directly and indirectly through facilitated, moderated, and transactional developments. School readiness, or the child's aptitude to utilize and benefit from school, plays a special role towards avoiding poverty in the United States, and such realization is evident in developing nations. As a crucial element, it requires accentuation from other factors of economic development strategy, such as enriched opportunity and enabling of families (Engle & Black, 2008).

Poverty influences student enrolment, retention and completion rate. Poverty has been described as the failure of individuals to get necessities (Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper 2001-2004). It can be noted in relation to access to education, health and even benefits of political rights and representation. Poverty continues to be the obstacle for many Kenyans. In the year 1992, about 44% of the Kenyan population existed under the poverty line. This figure rose to 52% and 56% in 1997 and 2002 correspondingly. This has consequences on school admission with students from deprived household more than those from non-poor households quoting the failure to pay for school fees as a justification for non- attendance of school (30.3% versus 21.8%) (Engle & Black, 2008).

Studies done by Atieno (2006) and Kabubo – Mariara (2003) found education to be a crucial factor in determining involvement in the different classifications of the labour market. Both studies found that effort to address the problem of access to the labour market and improve economy should concentrate more on developing human capital. This is a policy exhibition to cover the elementary side of the Kenyan labour market in addition to the factors expected to

explain labour market participation. Maglad (1998) highlighted the significance of human capital in improving and increasing labour force collaborations and shows the expected own wage, spouse's earnings, the number of children, and age were important determinants of participation in the labour market. Asset ownership, however, affects work decisions negatively. Spouses expected wage, affected both participation and labour supply negatively. Card and Krueger, (1996) showed that the estimated pay off of an additional year of education increases with school quality. That is, the benefit of education is enhanced if each additional year of education results in a larger increase in the stock of skills and hence of human capital. This is done through training.

Free education has an advantageous effect in Kenya. The program noticed a big influx of students enrolling in college. That resulted in overcrowded lecture rooms, extreme understaffing, and insufficient studying materials (Avenstrup, Liang, & Nellemann, 2004). Similarly, many over-age students, who have been better off taking up adult training, enrolled in colleges, disadvantaging their young counterparts. In addition, congestions in public schools, caused students to study beneath trees, others used stones out of class, and in poorly constructed structures (Shangai, 2004). The introduction of CDF was a response to the slow implementation of the normal government projects and is meant to improve the flow of funds from the exchequer to the communities directly without the impediments posed by bureaucracy. The CDF Act, 2003 mandates the transfer, to the constituency level, of an amount of money equal to not less than 2 – 5 percent.

Kimani, Nekesa, and Ndungu (2009) did a study on the top practices of CDF and concluded that the fund played the important directive of expanding education facilities by funding the building of new schools across the country, which improved education access at elementary and advanced levels. Parents also got reprieve from contributing to the construction classrooms, in rural areas where the muddy walls needed constant repairs; students are currently taught in improved conditions. The improvements of schools' infrastructure and peripheral learning facilities facilitated the growth of enrolment rates and reduced congestion in public schools (GoK, 2007). The CDF bursary fund allocated to needy students made them afford secondary school education.

### **CDF and Community Welfare**

Community welfare aims at providing assistance programs which enhance the well-being of citizens. This is often defined in terms of access to basic services and amenities and improvement in the general quality of life. The devolved functions in Kenya are meant to improve community welfare by prioritizing on their needs, boost rural development, encourage effective participation and ownership of projects by the community and improve the general welfare. CDF has unveiled numerous agendas and improved lives of people in rural and urban settings without discrimination of any groups. The aim of boosting development at different levels is to reduce inequalities among different groups, reduce poverty, change social structures and accelerate overall economic growth. This has been done with a target of encouraging participation so as to meet different needs of people.

Samwel and Peter (2013) did a study on the role of constituency development fund in rural development in North Mugirango constituency. The findings indicate that CDF projects have helped improve the livelihoods of people in rural areas. CDF funds go directly to the local levels

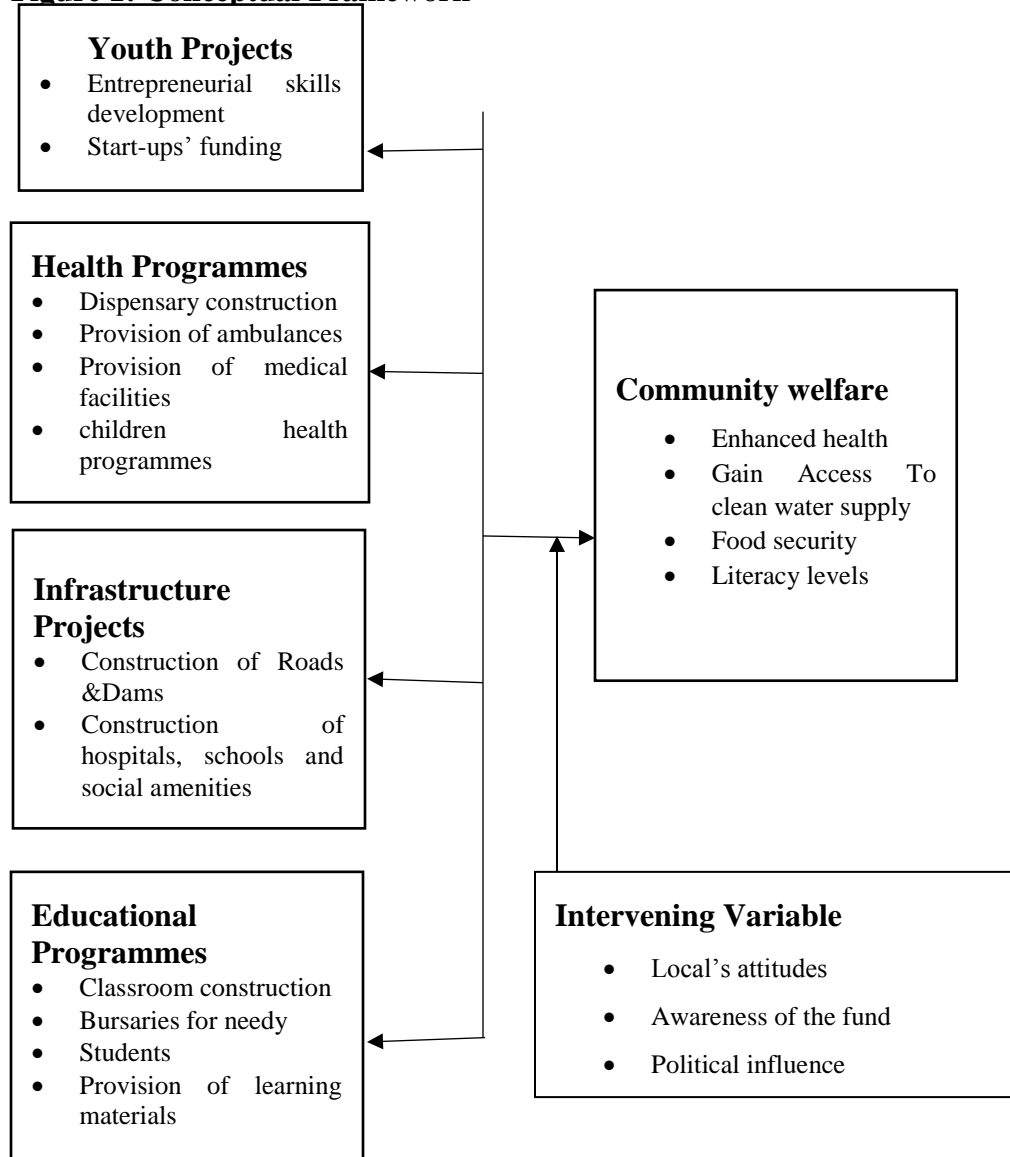
unlike other development funds that go through different administrative units. This makes it possible for people at grassroots to make decisions regarding the projects that improve community welfare. Education and health are the priorities people in rural areas give since they impede community development. Since the introduction of CDF, there have been numerous projects initiated and the participation at grassroots has led to the improvement in wellbeing. Decentralization has empowered local communities to exploit the diverse complexities of their conditions and adapt to their situations as they developed innovative solutions that improve their wellbeing.

A study by Mwangi (2009) on impact of constituency development fund in reducing levels of poverty in Nairobi, indicated that community welfare has improved with the introduction of the CDF projects. Social Economic Status Indicators used were education, health facilities and housing which indicated that there were significant changes in lifestyles of the urban poor. The findings also indicated that there was a positive relationship between CDF projects and reduction of poverty. The provision of housing, security, infrastructure, health facilities, education and regulation of sanitation are some of the things which improve community welfare. Collaboration among the different stakeholders is key in making the CDF funded project more efficient.

### **2.3 Conceptual Framework**

The conceptual framework (illustrated in figure 2.1) illustrates the relationship between CDF and community welfare. For this study, CDF is the independent variable while community welfare is the dependent variable. CDF projects include youth projects, health programmes, infrastructure projects, and education programmes. The parameters for measuring community welfare are improved health, access to clean water supply, food security and improved literacy levels.

**Figure 1: Conceptual Framework**



**Independent Variables**

**Dependent Variable**

**Source: Researcher (2018)**

### **3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

According to Burns and Grove (2003), descriptive design gives a precise profile of individuals, events, or description of the characteristics such as behaviour, sentiments, aptitudes, principles, and awareness of an individual, condition, or group. The descriptive design was preferable as it ensured a broad description of the situation (in depth study of customer retention strategies), ensuring minimum bias in during data collection. For this study, the target population was all Project Management Committees (PMCs) of Tigania East Constituency currently implementing projects funded by the CDF. This population comprised of 500 project committee members drawn from the ongoing CDF-funded projects in Tigania East Constituency (County Government of Meru, 2018).

The study employed stratified sampling where the CDF projects was selected to form strata based on project area. The stratus was the educational programmes, infrastructure projects, health programmes, and youth projects. The study utilized a sample size of 100. The use of 100 respondents in the study was adequate because such a figure is line with the recommendations of Mugenda and Mugenda (2009) who directed that a descriptive study should consist of at least 30% of the total population. The study found it appropriate that a sample size of 100 is a true representative of 20% of the population. Furthermore, the sample size would allow the researcher to collect data from respondents. The sample size distribution appears in Table 3.1 below. In addition, the study used purposive sampling to pick youth leaders, School board management and community leaders. Purposive sampling was used because it allowed the researcher to choose respondents who dealt with CDF projects and had detailed information useful for the study.

#### **Data Collection Instruments**

The study used semi -structured questionnaire to arrive at study's objectives. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), questionnaires are an appropriate tool that, if used properly, yields crucial information about a population in question. Each item in the questionnaire must reflect specific study themes. A five-point Likert scale was also apt for this study. A Likert scale fits when a behaviour requires an evaluation on a continuum (Leedy & Ormrod, 2011). The researcher also used Semi structured interviews as a way of offering flexibility on information flow for accurate information or data. It would allow unstructured interviewers and researchers to get more information, since they would get an opportunity to ask follow-up queries or clarifications to the questions they prepared. The researcher also conducted interview with Project Management Committees, two from each project area, in order to get clear information.

#### **Data Processing and Analysis**

Data analysis used both descriptive and inferential statistics, which included linear regression. Frequency, mean, mode, and percentages will be used for descriptive statistics. The study used Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) Version 21.0 to analyse data. The results have been presented in form of tables, figures, charts, and graphs. The data was coded, assigned labels to variables categories and fed to the computer program. Pearson's Correlation Coefficient and regression established the significance of the correlation between CDF and community welfare in Tigania East Constituency.

In this study, the regression equations below were used to test the significance of the study hypotheses. The study used the 5% significant level.

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

Where Y is the Community welfare,  $\beta_0$  is constant, and  $\varepsilon$  is the error term of the model.

$X_1$	=	Youth projects
$X_2$	=	Health Programmes
$X_3$	=	Infrastructure Projects
$X_4$	=	Educational Programmes

## 4.0 FINDINGS,

### 4.1 Descriptive Statistics

#### 4.1.1 Educational Programmes and Community Welfare

This section of the questionnaire sought to establish the influence of educational programmes on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency.

**Table 1: Educational Programmes**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
CDF has implemented and expanded educational facilities and infrastructure	89	4.03	1.222
CDF has improved development through educational facility projects	89	3.87	1.138
CDF has led to improved literacy levels, which in turn results into improved community welfare	89	3.67	1.233
Through CDF bursaries awarded to needy students in the community, community welfare has improved.	89	3.92	1.198
Valid N (listwise)	89		

The findings depicted in tables shows that the respondents agreed overwhelmingly that CDF has implemented and expanded educational facilities and infrastructure (Mean = 4.03, SD = 1.222), Through CDF bursaries awarded to needy students in the community, community welfare has improved (Mean = 3.92, SD = 1.198), CDF has improved development through educational facility projects (Mean = 3.87, SD = 1.138), and that CDF has led to improved literacy levels, which in turn results into improved community welfare (Mean = 3.67, Sd = 1.233).

Furthermore, the interviews revealed that CDF has promoted literacy in constituency through the award of bursaries and school fees for students, construction of classrooms, purchase of textbooks and equipment, and starting up vocational colleges. The increase in the number of schools and classrooms has increased enrolment rates and reduced crowding in schools. The overall effects of these projects sponsored by CDF being access to education by majority of students and improved quality of learning. The courses offered in the vocational colleges has enabled the youths to acquire technical skills needed to create self-employment and curbing crimes among the youth.

#### 4.1.2 Infrastructure Projects and Community Welfare

This section of the questionnaire sought to establish the influence of infrastructure projects on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency.

**Table 2: Infrastructure projects**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
CDF has implemented water and electricity connection projects	89	3.60	1.229
CDF has improved development through water and electricity connection project	89	3.69	1.106
CDF has built access roads and bridges	89	3.74	1.181
CDF has improved local development through roads and bridge construction projects	89	3.82	1.141
The security projects facilitated by CDF has improved community welfare	89	3.39	1.229
Valid N (listwise)	89		

A significant majority of the respondents are in agreement that CDF has improved local development through roads and bridge construction projects (Mean = 3.82, SD = 1.141), CDF has built access roads and bridges (Mean = 3.74, SD = 1.181), CDF has improved development through water and electricity connection project (Mean = 3.69, SD = 1.106), and that CDF has implemented water and electricity connection projects (Mean = 3.60, SD = 1.129). On the other hand, the respondents were undecided when asked if the security projects facilitated by CDF has improved community welfare (Mean = 3.39, SD = 1.229).

A major milestone of the CDF infrastructure projects mentioned by the respondents is the upgrading of roads which has led to increased accessibility to various parts of the constituency opening markets for farm products. Bridges have been put up and ICT facilities have been built through Constituency Development Fund. The respondents acknowledged that these projects have improved the quality of life by mitigating infrastructural problems and enhancing community welfare. In strive to provide access to clean water; Tigania East constituency through CDF has supported various water projects which include piped water, digging of bore holes, springs protection, dams' rehabilitation and erection of water tanks in schools. From the findings these projects we reported to be providing access of both clean and readily available water further reducing the vulnerability of locals to waterborne diseases. The availability of water has reduced time to fetch water thus spending more time in productive activities.

The findings agreed with Kwon (2005), who noticed that road infrastructure reduces poverty, improving on community welfare. Van de Walle (2000), in his paper on physical capital and



human associations in rural Vietnam, examined the impacts of infrastructure projects in county side restoration supported by the World Bank from 1997 to 2001. The World Bank had planned to increase trade and development by improving road connectivity for the rural networks. Van de Walle (2000), determined that the communities in that region have better services and can access markets better than those in underdeveloped regions. In addition, this leads to improving on the community welfare. The communities generated more agricultural produce, increased employment in services industry and a shift of the labour force from the farming sector. The number of households depending on the farming as the basis of wages decreased while the share of those dependent on the sector that is based on services got bigger.

#### 4.1.3 Health Programmes and Community Welfare

This section of the questionnaire sought to establish the influence of health programmes on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency.

**Table 3: Health Programmes**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
CDF has implemented and expanded health facilities and infrastructure	89	3.75	1.207
CDF has improved development through health facilities and infrastructure projects	89	3.64	1.092
The health and nutrition projects facilitated by the CDF improved community welfare	89	3.49	1.088
Valid N (listwise)	89		

The findings as exhibited by Table 3 shows that CDF has implemented and expanded health facilities and infrastructure (Mean=3.75, SD=1.207), CDF has improved development through health facilities and infrastructure projects (Mean=3.64, SD=1.092), and that the health and nutrition projects facilitated by the CDF improved community welfare (Mean=3.49, SD = 1.088).

Through CDF, various projects have been initiated to address health challenges in Tigania East Constituency. These include provision of ambulance services, construction of dispensaries, and addition of maternity wards to the dispensaries. The respondents also mentioned that the health projects have reduced the amount of money that constituents spend seeking medical services in expensive private hospitals hence that money is channelled to other economic activities.

The findings agreed with Malika (2016), who studied the extent that funding influence sustainability of CDF health projects in Ruaraka Constituency. Majority of the respondents (27.7%) agreed that the money disbursed for health facilities was enough. However, most respondents expressed the need for funding to increase in order to speed up the progress of projects undertaken by CDF. Kimani, Nekesa and Ndungu (2009), who did a study on best practices of CDF indicated that CDF has improved accessibility to health care services by most Kenyans especially those who reside in the countryside, and fewer women are giving birth at home because they can easily access maternity services. Crucial to note is that CDF significantly funded the upsurge in health facilities from 4,557 in 2003 to 4,912 in 2005. Global expenditure on health keeps rising as record resources allocated go to disease specific MDG 6 that cover HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria (Oommanetal, 2008).

#### 4.1.4 Youth Projects and Community Welfare

This section of the questionnaire sought to establish the influence of youth projects on community welfare in Tigania East Constituency. The results are shown in Table 4 below.

**Table 4 Youth Projects**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
The business and entrepreneurship projects facilitated by the CDF have improved development	89	3.96	1.142
CDF has awarded tenders for supply of materials for its projects to residents	89	3.83	1.138
The award of tenders for supply of materials for CDF projects to residents of this area has improved development	89	3.72	1.220
The employment creation by CDF through direct employment has improved community welfare	89	3.79	1.168
Valid N (listwise)	89		

The findings in table 4 shows that respondents are in agreement that the business and entrepreneurship projects facilitated by the CDF have improved development (mean = 3.96, SD =1.142), CDF has a awarded tenders for supply of materials for its projects to residents (mean = 3.83, SD =1.138), the employment creation by CDF through direct employment has improved community welfare (mean = 3.79, SD =1.168), and the award of tenders for supply of materials for CDF projects to residents of this area has improved development (mean = 3.72, SD =1.220).

Employment has been created to the locals though in a smaller scale. Specific areas where employment has been created through CDF include CDF office staffs, local residents have been hired to provide labour in various CDF projects. Socio-economic development is boosted by the job creation and enhancement of community welfare. The aim of creating the CDF kitty was to enhance infrastructural and socio-economic development as devolved functions. Major challenge in employment creation and income generation is that major projects go to non –locals due to lack of capacity by constituency members. Many times, contractors come with their work force limiting job creation for the locals and by extension income levels. This could impact the reception of the project by people especially when tenders awarded do not favour them in terms of job creation.

#### 4.2 Inferential Statistics

Table 5 presents the results of the test of unstandardized beta coefficients which indicates the equation of the linear model.

**Table 5 Beta Coefficients**

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	
1	(Constant)	.250	.309		.807	.422
	Youth projects	.215	.092	.219	2.339	.022
	Health programmes	.319	.106	.307	3.010	.004
	Infrastructure projects	.155	.106	.150	2.460	.049
	Educational programmes	.248	.090	.288	2.772	.007

a. Dependent Variable: Community welfare

The prediction equation is  $Y = 0.250 + 0.215X_1 + 0.319X_2 + 0.155X_3 + 0.248X_4 + \epsilon$

Youth projects, health programmes, infrastructure projects and educational programmes have p-value of 0.022, 0.004, 0.049, and 0.007 respectively. These p-values are statistically significant at 5% significant level. Therefore, these four independent variables have a positive influence on community welfare. In addition, t-test for these independent variables confirm that they are statistically significant if t-values is greater than 2.

As presented in Table 4.5, all the coefficients are found to be positive suggesting that an increase of a unit of youth projects, health programmes, infrastructure projects, or educational programmes leads to an increase in community welfare. The higher the coefficient values of beta, the more influential the independent variable. As evident from the study, health programmes have the most influence on community welfare and infrastructure projects has the least influence.

## 5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 Summary of the findings

From the findings of the study, the mean and standard deviation of responses of each independent variable discovered that in Tigania East constituency; the educational programmes are adequate to influence community welfare (overall mean=3.87), the infrastructure projects have been implemented adequately (overall mean = 3.65), there are health programmes (overall mean = 3.63). And finally, there are job creation initiatives (overall mean=3.83). The results of regression analysis reveal that four of the independent variables notably youth projects, health programmes, infrastructure projects and educational programmes have a significance influence on community welfare. Since the P value < 0.05 level of significance, there is sufficient evidence to conclude that these independent variables significantly influence community welfare.

Regression analysis reveals job creation initiatives coefficient of 0.215 and p-value of 0.022 was found to be significant at 5% significant level and this indicates that youth projects has a positive influence on community welfare, health programmes coefficient of 319 and p-value of 0.004 was found to be significant at 5% significant level and this indicates that health programmes has a positive influence on community welfare, infrastructure projects coefficient of 0.155 and p-value of 0.049 was found to be significant at 5% level of significant and this indicates that infrastructure projects has a positive influence on community welfare, educational programmes coefficient of 0.248 and p-value of 0.0047 was found to be significant at 5% significant level and this indicates that educational programmes has a positive influence on community welfare. This clearly demonstrates that youth projects, health programmes, infrastructure projects and educational programmes significantly influenced community welfare.

### 5.2 Conclusion

The study concluded that youth projects, health programmes, infrastructure projects and educational programmes have a significant positive relationship on community welfare in constituencies not only in Tigania East Constituency but also in Kenya. The findings showed that several projects are being funded by CDF. From the findings, the projects have positive effect on community welfare. However, considering the many challenges still affecting CDF, it means the fund can have greater effects than the ones currently experienced. Thus, the central government

has to assist in the formulation of policies and institutional framework that maximize both locals' participation and socio-economic effects of devolved funds. It also needs to develop strategies that enhance the participation of the community in planning and decision making of projects. Effective participation is comprehensive in the long-term as people monitor and evaluate their projects after completion without leaders necessarily dropping in to check the progress made years later.

Inspired by the reported positive effects of CDF in Tigania East constituency, various challenges were cited to be limiting the socio-economic effects of the CDF. Some of these challenges include: Lack of technical capacity among management committees, political interference in management and utilization of the funds, changing fund management committee members frequently, some fund management committee members being not fully conversant with the policies guiding their specific devolved fund, inadequate funding, delayed funding, poor selection and prioritization of projects, illiteracy of the locals, lack of strategic plan, Irregular monitoring and evaluation of projects and high poverty level limiting the locals. These challenges require intervention in the short and long term to enhance sustainable development.

Projects that lead to creation of jobs influence socio-economic development which implies that policy makers and other stakeholders should allocate funds to invest in sectors that enhance creation of employment. Education and health are important pre-requisites in enhancing development in emerging economies hence the need for policies that are geared towards development in the long term. The CDF kitties can do much in investing in youth projects and enhancing social welfare of the communities in order to speed up development. The national government has a responsibility as well to develop policies that ensure devolved functionalities at different levels to enhance social welfare of the communities while accelerating development. There is a need to involve other partners such as NGOs and faith-based organizations to complement the government efforts by prioritizing efforts towards creation of jobs and working with communities to enhance their social welfare.

There are projects that require continuous funding for some time till they can fully sustainably manage their resources. Projects on health facilities for instance, do not stop with the completion of buildings rather more funding is still required after that. Health facilities require medicine, equipment and personnel to keep it running for some time. When there is no consideration for the funding after completion of the structures, the health facilities could lie idle hence no value for money in the long run. Infrastructure such as roads require maintenance after a certain period whereas education facilities require books, desks and other things at the onset. The success of the CDF projects depends on consideration of management and funding in the long term to avoid wastage and lack of return on value.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

The findings have shown that devolved funding has impacted positively on the community welfare of the people of Tigania East constituency and that these have some effects on the development and economic empowerment of the community in the constituency. Therefore, the researcher recommends that all stakeholders have to participate in ensuring sustainability of positive strategies adopted in the management of the fund so as to continue realizing their effects.

The researcher recommends that the national government should fasten the processes leading to disbursement of funds to local units so as not to delay the implementation of projects. Delayed funding can be avoided by advanced planning. The amount of funding should also be raised as some projects are left unfinished and funds are just wasted. The stakeholders who seek to benefit from the project should take the upper hand in tracking progress of project and how the funds allocated are used in order to avoid wastage. There are many projects that need funds and in order to ensure their completeness and in time. Projects should be prioritized based on the needs of the community at different administrative levels to avoid some people feeling left out. Monitoring and evaluation of projects is very crucial and should be done regularly and by professional people.

There is the need to train CDF Funds staff as well as the community representatives on issues of project prioritizing, choice and management. A trained force is an effective and efficient force that will be accountable and thus the central government should allocate certain percentage of the funds for training relevant staff prior to release of the funds. There is also need for community sensitization on the availability of funds and what the fund is directed towards solving so as to help maintain or increase their level of participation in the projects funded by the devolved funds in the constituency. It is important for communities and executives to have the momentum for personal and local activity and make their positive impact as desired.

The researcher recommends that the community should have capable representatives who not only present themselves in meetings but participate actively in decision making and making their voices heard. The community should not only be involved in identification of projects but also be involved in all other stages of the projects' life cycle including final audit of the finances and project benefits. Community engagement remains a vital part of several projects with better outcomes among all concerned stakeholders and lower project costs. The two-way street of engagement provides an opportunity for stakeholders to express their ideas and get feedback, from an academic and technical experience perspective. Community engagement can be one-sided with community members who have strong opinions airing their input. This could lead leaders to make decisions based on the loud voice of minority individuals. The more capable the representatives, the better the project will turn out. Engagement at all levels make it easy to develop a strategic plan and establish direction for the project in advance.

Further, the researcher recommends that the leaders who allocate funds to the various CDF projects should not stop at completion of the buildings. It is important for them to allocate funds for proper offset of the projects and avoid wastage when buildings lie idle. This requires review of sectoral policies to accommodate the limitations of funds after completion of projects. This requires an integration of the decentralized funds at the constituency and ward level in order to improve their effectiveness and delivery. Integration can enhance the opportunity for complementing other services provided at national level. Finding the right balance for different projects marks the onset of sustainable development through improved service delivery. There is need for strategic planning that enable projects receive adequate resources which allow them to generate immediate benefits rather than continuous funding.

The national and local government should enhance policy-based approaches to poverty reduction among the locals. Thus, can best be established through the redistribution of productive resources with a focus on improving the quality of life of majority poor. Some of the activities that can be done at the national government include promoting societal welfare projects and

policies geared towards the rural and informal sector development. The strident call towards poverty reduction and inclusion is based on resource allocation meant to steer development in different regions. The growing disparities in access to services undercut the living and health conditions. Some of the recent strategies geared towards poverty reduction can only be achieved when resources are allocated based on poverty levels within a community. There are numerous policies by the government to deal with poverty however the lack of proper enforcement and inadequate funding hinders the achievement of set goals. The government needs to have independent structures at constituency levels to monitor progress of planned and implemented projects.

### **Limitations of the Study**

The respondents were regularly very busy and therefore they required a lot of time in order to fill in the questionnaires. The challenge was overcome by giving the respondents the questionnaires early and picked them later. This allowed the respondents to fill the questionnaire at their own time. The respondents were uncontrollable as some respondents feared expressing the correct rating of some variables in the constituency offices for fear of victimization. The respondents were sensitised that the information would only be used for academic. This allowed them to be confident that they would not be disciplined of the information they gave. The research was concerned only with the effect of job creation initiatives, health programmes, infrastructure projects and educational programmes. It did not take into account other factors that affect community welfare.

### **Suggestions for Further Research**

The study was restricted to constituency offices and never studied other variables; therefore, the study proposes that related study be undertaken specially to investigate the intervening consequence of variables like leadership style and competence of constituency committee members. Such studies should consist of larger samples sizes than 100 which this study applied to increase result reliability for further generalization.

### **REFERENCES**

- Aduda, J. (2008). Performance Evaluation Framework for Constituency Development Fund Construction Projects in Kenya. *African Journal for Project Planning and Management*, 1.
- Ajakaiye, D. O. I., & Akinbinu, A. F. (2000). *Strategic issues in Nigerian development in a globalising and liberalising world*. Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research.
- Alemayehu, G., Niek Elejong, Mwabu, G. and Kimenyi, M.S. (2001). Determinants of Poverty in Kenya: *Household Level Analysis*. KIPPRA, 9(3), 34-42.
- Auya, S., & Oino, P. (2013). The role of constituency development fund in rural development: Experiences from North Mugirango Constituency, Kenya. *International Journal of Science and Research*, 2(6), 306-312.
- Avenstrup, R., Liang, X., & Nellemann, S. (2004). Free primary education and poverty reduction: the case of Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi and Uganda. *processed*, Africa Region Human Development Department, The World Bank, Washington DC.

- Bagaka, O. (2008). Fiscal decentralization in Kenya: The constituency development fund and the growth of government.
- Bebbington, J., Gray, R., Thomson, I., & Walters, D. (1994). Accountants' attitudes and environmentally-sensitive accounting. *Accounting and Business Research*, 24(94), 109-120.
- Boex, J., Heredia-Ortiz, E., Martinez-Vazquez, J., Timofeev, A., & Yao, G. (2006). Fighting poverty through fiscal decentralization.
- Chweya, L. (2006), "Constituency development funds: a critique", *The African Executive*, 7 14 June, Nairobi.
- David, M., & Wycliffe, N. (2016). Effect of Constituency Development Fund on Socio-economic Development in Mbeere South Constituency, Kenya. *International Journal of Economics, Finance and Management Sciences*, 4(4), 182-189.
- Dudin, M., Lyasnikov, N., Kuznecov, A., & Fedorova, I. (2013). Innovative transformation and transformational potential of socio-economic systems.
- Ebrahim, A. (2003). Accountability in practice: Mechanisms for NGOs. *World development*, 31(5), 813-829.
- Engin-Demir, C. (2009). Factors influencing the academic achievement of the Turkish urban poor. *International Journal of Educational Development*, 29(1), 17-29.
- Eyben, R., Kabeer, N., & Cornwall, A. (2008). Conceptualising empowerment and the implications for pro-poor growth: a paper for the DAC Poverty Network.
- Frazer, H., & Marlier, E. (2013). *Assessment of the Implementation of the European Commission Recommendation on Active Inclusion: A Study of National Policies: Synthesis Report*. EUR-OP.
- Freeman, S. H., Andrew, C., Bidhan, P., & Simone, C. (2010). *Stakeholder Theory: The State of the Art*. Cambridge University Press
- Gidley, J. M., Hampson, G. P., Wheeler, L., & Bereded-Samuel, E. (2010). From access to success: An integrated approach to quality higher education informed by social inclusion theory and practice. *Higher Education Policy*, 23(1), 123-147.
- Government of Kenya: Economic Recovery Strategy for wealth and Employment Creation (2003-2007).
- Government of Kenya (1998). Master Plan on Education and Training, 1997 -2010, Nairobi: Government Printer.
- Government of Kenya (1996). Welfare Monitoring Survey 11, 1994 Basic Report, Nairobi. Government Printer
- Gray, C., & Larson, E. W. (2013). *Project management: The managerial process with MS project*. McGraw-Hill.
- Gidley, J. M., Hampson, G. P., Wheeler, L., & Bereded-Samuel, E. (2010). From access to success: An integrated approach to quality higher education informed by social inclusion theory and practice. *Higher Education Policy*, 23(1), 123-147.

- Guthrie, J., & Parker, L. D. (1990). Corporate social disclosure practice: a comparative international analysis. *Advances in public interest accounting*, 3, 159-175.
- Howitt, P. (2005). Health, human capital and economic growth: A Schumpeterian perspective. *Health and economic growth: Findings and policy implications*, 1, 19- 40.
- Ikiria, G.K (1997). 'Economic Restructuring and Poverty in Kenya'. Structural Adjustment: *Towards Indigenizing the Policy Debate*. Nairobi: Institute of Policy Analysis and Research, 10(2), 23-29.
- Kanua, J. K. (2009). An assessment of the role of community participation in successful completion of CDF projects in Imenti constituency. *Unpublished MA project. University of Nairobi*.
- Kaufmann. Kraay, A. and Pablo (2000). Governance Matters: From Measurement to Finance and Development: A quarterly magazine of IMF. Washington DC. Action:
- Kimani, F., Nekesa, P., & Ndungu, B. (2009). Best practices in Constituency Development Fund (CDF). *A paper prepared for the collaborative centre for Gender, Development, and International Development Research*.
- Kimenyi, M. S. (2005). Economic rights, human development effort and institutions.
- Kimenyi, M.S. (2007). Institutional Infrastructure to Support “Super Growth” in Kenya; Governance Thresholds Reversion Rates and Economic Development
- Leatherman, S., & Dunford, C. (2010). Linking health to microfinance to reduce poverty. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 88(6), 470-471.
- Manda, D. K., Kimenyi, M. S., & Mwabu, G. M. (2001). *A review of poverty and anti-poverty initiatives in Kenya* (No. 3). Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis.
- Mangeni, B. (2012). *Determinants of Youth Participation in CDF Development Projects: A Case of CDF projects in Funyula Constituency*. (Master Thesis)
- Moore, K. A., Lippman, L., & Brown, B. (2004). Indicators of child well-being: The promise for positive youth development. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 591(1), 125-145.
- Mwabu. G. Kimenyi, M.S. P. Kimalu N. Nafula and D.K. Manda (2002). Predicting Household Poverty: A Methodological note with a Kenyan Example. KIPPRA DP NO. 12.
- Mwangi, M. (2009). *The Impact of Constituency Development Fund in Reducing Levels of Poverty in Nairobi Province*. (Doctoral dissertation)
- Narayan-Parker, D. (Ed.). (2002). *Empowerment and poverty reduction: A sourcebook*. World Bank Publications.
- Ochieng, F., & Ruth, T. (2013). Factors influencing management of CDF projects: A case of Ainamoi Constituency, Kericho County. *International journal of Science and technology*, 2(1), 1-15.



- Olinto, P., & Uematsu, H. (2013). The State of the poor: Where are the poor and where are they poorest. *Draft. Washington DC* [http://goo. gl/jzV8sy](http://goo.gl/jzV8sy) (24.9. 2013).
- Oloo, A. (2006), Devolution and Democratic Governance: Option for Kenya 40p.
- Oxoby, R. (2009). Understanding social inclusion, social cohesion, and social capital. *International Journal of Social Economics*, 36(12), 1133-1152.
- Oyeranti, O., & Olayiwola, K. (2005). Policies and programmes for poverty reduction in rural Nigeria. *African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)*, 1-51.
- Roe, D. (2009). *Community management of natural resources in Africa: Impacts, experiences and future directions* (No. 18). IIED.
- Samwel, P., & Peter, O. (2013). The Role of Constituency Development Fund in Rural Development: Experiences from North Mugirango Constituency, Kenya. *International Journal of Science and Research*, 2(6), 306-312
- Slim, H. (2002). Claiming a humanitarian imperative. *NGOs and the cultivation of humanitarian duty Refugee Survey Quarterly*, 21, 113-25.
- Simiyu, R. S., Mweru, J. N., & Omete, F. I. (2014). The Effects of Devolved Funding On Socio Economic Welfare of Kenyans: A Case of Constituency Development Fund In Kimilili,(Kenya). *European Journal of Accounting Auditing and Finance Research*, 2(7),31-51.
- Tsubura, M. (2013). The Politics of Constituency Development Funds (CDFs) in Comparative Perspective.
- Wamae, D. N. (2009). An evaluation of the contribution of implementation of CDF projects inemployment creation in Kenya. The case of Abothuguchi central division, Meru Centra l District. *Unpublished MA project. University of Nairobi*.
- Wambugu, S., Kirimi, L., & Opiyo, J. (2011). Productivity trends and performance of dairy farming in Kenya. *Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development*.
- The World Bank. (2001). *World Development Indicators 2000*. Oxford University Press, USA.
- The World Bank. (2012). *World Development Indicators 2000*. Oxford University Press, USA
- The World Bank. (2013). *World Development Indicators 2000*. Oxford University Press, USA
- The World Bank. (2016). *World Development Indicators 2000*. Oxford University Press, USA
- Zablon, E. (2008). *Factors influencing the efficiency and efficacy of Kenya's constituency development fund: a case study of Sabatia constituency* (Doctoral dissertation).