

EFFECTS OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PRACTICES ON IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNTY INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CIDP) IN KENYA: A CASE OF TAITA TAVETA COUNTY, KENYA

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ABSTRACT

The County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP), a domesticated version of the Integrated Development Planning (IDP) utilized in other nations, serves as the foundation for county government activities in Kenya. The Kenyan government acknowledges and mandates that all counties in the nation establish and adopt the CIDP as their framework for development and fair resource allocation in its devolution policy. However, finance, formulation, and public engagement have all been highlighted as reasons why the implementation of the CIDPs has frequently only been partially effective. In particular, it sought; to determine the effects of informing, consultation, collaboration and empowerment in participation on implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County. This study was guided by the Participatory Democracy Theory and the Effective Community Participation Model. The study used descriptive research design and targeted administrators in and local residents of Voi Sub County drawn from key groups such as religious organizations, youth groups, women groups, business people, educators and persons with disability. From these, a sample size of 64 comprising of 18 administrators in and target 46 residents was obtained and selected through purposive sampling. Structured questions made up the instrumentation used. The Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 21.0 was used to analyze the data using both descriptive and inferential statistical approaches. The results of the study showed that empowerment practices, cooperation practices, informing practices, and consultation practices all substantially influenced the implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. Therefore, the study recommended that; there is need to consistently publish the outcome of the public deliberations so as to encourage future public participation and also use media that is highly accessible to all residents of the county for public participation. Also, there is need to try and involve citizens in all levels of consultations until the final decisions are made. The study also recommended that there needs to be a solid framework for partnering with citizen groups in the area and also structured agreements with citizens on their involvement in public participation. Lastly, it was recommended that the county management should put more emphasis on empowerment in public participation and, particularly, by implementing public participation bills that give citizens more power in the deliberations.

Key Words: County Integrated Development Plan, Consultation, Collaboration, Empowerment, Public Participation Practices

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INTRODUCTION

An integrated development plan (ID) is a better strategy for an area that offers a comprehensive foundation for growth (Khumalo, 2015). In order to raise the standard of life for everyone who lives in a region, it tries to bring together the efforts of local and other levels of government into a cohesive policy. It should consider the circumstances, problems, and development-related resources that are in effect now (Musyoka, 2010). The general economic and social growth of the area should be taken into account in the plan. It must lay forth rules for the efficient use of resources, the necessary infrastructure and services, and the preservation of the environment. Through the process of integrated development planning, people have the opportunity to identify and rank their needs, find resources in their neighborhoods, and participate in the creation, implementation, and evaluation of IDs.

Typically, the "ID" is a strategic plan intended to be implemented in a public context. This competitive strategy connects to broader pattern operations and offers a company a sense of direction, according to Johnson, Whittington, and Scholes (2011). The plan connects the organization's strategic advantages to environmental concerns through an integrated, thorough, and coordinated blueprint. Plans are chosen in order to achieve a desired future, such as the achievement of a goal or a fix for an issue (Espedes & Ircy, 2010). Additionally, Thombsen and Strickland (2005) acknowledge that the plan's design is one means to ensure that the organization's primary goals are met through effective execution on its part. However, the implementation issues with such plans arise when their actualization fails, at least partially, and their intended beneficiaries and the stakeholder organizations that developed and/or adopted them fail to achieve the planned goals.

Globalization, competition, and technological changes in the environment have recently forced organizations to adjust their methods of operation. One of the factors that affect how well organizations perform while pursuing their development objectives is the adoption of a clear strategic perspective in organizations (Schaap, 2006). Consequently, it has become more crucial for organizations to develop actionable plans, such as Integrated Development Plans (ID), to enable them to strategically implement their development strategy. For instance, in Kenya, the operations of the county governments are measured against the country-integrated development plans (ID) (Wakio, 2017).

The county government is required to compile the ID, a five-year plan, to assess the needs of the developed government in that county (Mutwiri, 2015). It is essentially a domesticated version of integrated development planning (ID), which is employed in other nations like South Africa (Ndlvu, 2006). The "ID" is a framework established under the "County Government Act 2012," which gives effect to Chapter Eleven of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, and which identifies the following: To fulfill the duties, functions, and responsibilities of county governments in the provision of services and for connected purposes (Republic of Kenya, 2013). Every country is required by the national government, by an act of parliament, to develop and implement an identification document (ID) to direct its development projects within a specific time frame, in this case, five years. The projects included in the ID are connected to the budget of the relevant government (buza, 2011). ID is heavily emphasized as the cornerstone for county development in Kenya Vision 2030 and the follow-up second medium-term plan.

Most large organizations, including public sector organizations, have had issues with the successful implementation of their development plans (Zaribaf & Bayrami, 2010). Even excellently formulated plans and strategies will fail if they are not implemented properly. Most country governments are still far from fully realizing their IDs, according to audit reports from the Auditor General's Office and the Office of the Budget Controller (IB, 2016; IE, 2016). In fact, whereas 80% of large organizations have the appropriate strategies and consequently develop appropriate plans to support them, only 14% manage to successfully implement them, according to Ater and Ucko (2010). There are a variety of factors at play in this development, with stakeholder involvement being only one of them. It is crucial that the stakeholder input into the formulation and implementation of these plans. International designers of public sector identification cards have taken this

reason into consideration, and in the case of Kenya, they have acknowledged that public participation is a crucial prerequisite for the implementation of the cards. Increasing the inclusivity threshold, gaining more oversight, and prioritizing participation in public affairs are among the imperatives for public participation. However, as Mutwiri (2015) notes, the absence of effective public engagement in county government matters and the identification process is a problem that occurs in many nations. Similar observations were made by Mugambi and Theuri (2014), Kongo (2015), and Lungwe (2016). (2016)

Stakeholders can participate in and share control over development projects, choices, and resources through public involvement. Stockholders may influence the creation of regulations, alternative designs, investment decisions, and management decisions that have an effect on local communities, according to Kello, Enga, and Hege (2008). In order to create the necessary sense of ownership, participation is essential, as evidenced through actual experience on the ground. People often have a tendency to reject new ideas if they are forced upon them. Public involvement strengthens democracy and governance, boosts accountability, raises process legitimacy, regulates social tensions, and safeguards the public's interests (Ouldry, 2010). Participation has significantly aided in the sustainability of development programs, increased local capacity, helped the impoverished, and coordinated and linked development to the needs of the populace. Participation has been essential in preventing the misuse of authority by politicians and public officials. Additionally, it has stopped government workers from abusing their discretion during public proceedings. Participation has offered checks and balances against, among other things, the public sector's disregard for professionalism and meritocracy as well as unnecessary political interference in the provision of services (Odhiambo & Taifa, 2009).

Citizen engagement has two main facets: indirect involvement and direct involvement. Indirect involvement acknowledges that professional administrators and elected officials should represent the people in a representative democracy. Citizens should be involved in governmental choices, according to direct engagement, as they own the government (Yang & Allhan, 2005). Direct participation is the major topic of the current investigation. This feature is administrative-focused. This merely indicates that the public's participation in administrative decision-making or decision-making related to the delivery of services is the main focus. This suggests that government efforts to involve citizens in administrative decision-making and management processes are successful. Direct engagement is different from political participation since it occurs largely at the administrative-citizen interface. Voting in elections, interacting with elected officials, and running for public office are just a few examples of the latter (Yang & Allhan, 2005).

The requirement for public engagement also results from citizens' constitutional duty to contribute to service provision through taxes. This shows that they are more than just service recipients—they are important government donors. Therefore, setting goals, selecting strategies and policies, as well as overseeing and assessing government services, are all parts of citizen participation in administrative decision-making. Activities involving citizen participation would then be related to the strategies and tools employed to achieve these. The approaches that could be employed include public forums and hearings, citizen advisory councils and panels, neighborhood or resident association meetings, citizen surveys, and more. Economic growth, education, environmental preservation, public health, and safety are some of the functional or practical areas for citizen engagement (Yang & Allhan, 2005). The execution of 15% of the national revenue supplied to other nations, as well as the administration of the remaining 85% at the national level, shall be done by Kenyan citizens.

CIDP Implementation in Taita Taveta County

The county government of Taita Taveta has developed and adopted its "county integrated development plan" (2013-2017) to help with the implementation of policies relating to its socio-economic development. This plan will be used to lead the county during its initial term (2013-2017). The plan aims to improve the delivery of citizen services, direct project development, and include the general public and stakeholder groups in the planning and execution of development projects and programs. The plan is an essential piece of policy

intended to act as a road map for achieving the county government's development objectives. Some of the major policy concerns pursued in the plan are education, healthcare, access to clean and safe water, food security, and advancement in other Vision 2030 and MDGs 2015 goals. This study seeks to ascertain the impact of public participation on ID. Implementation, which is a crucial component in the realization of all these policy challenges. Thus, it will concentrate on how levels of citizen public participation, motivations for public participation, challenges for public participation, and mechanisms for participation affect the implementation of I.D. in Taita Taveta County.

When Dhiambo and Piyo (2017) conducted research on effective public participation mechanisms in the Taita Taveta County, they discovered that the ward management committees serve as a conduit between the county government and the people living there. With the assistance of "S" and development partners like "IS," they were set up. Although they were intended to be a mechanism for participation, the lack of support from the county government made them very dysfunctional. There was a misperception among the members that being a part of the committees implied that they were employees. The majority (35.6%) of respondents attended forums to be updated on development activities in the country, according to the research, while the second-highest proportion (20%) attended to express their opinions "as citizens." However, there was no specific mention of talking about the ID in particular.

The most active of the ward committees was discovered to be the Voi Town Management Committee (VTM). It includes representation from the owners/sellers of market stands, matatu/tuk-tuk drivers, the town's business community, women, people with disabilities, and the office administrator. The committee secretary is referred to as the ward administrator. Two Ms also sit on the committee. The experience of establishing the committees and the members' misunderstanding of their relationship to the country serve as important lessons for nations attempting to establish similar structures.

Statement of the Problem

Through the process of integrated development planning, people have the opportunity to rank their needs, identify resources in their neighborhoods that are available, and take part in the creation, execution, and evaluation of integrated development plans. The Kenyan government then acknowledges the "ID" and mandates in its development strategy that all of the nation's counties adopt it as their framework for development and equitable resource distribution. However, the implementation of the IDs has only generally succeeded in many cases, with the reasons cited for this being money, formulation, and citizen participation. Development in Kenya acknowledges public participation as a privilege that is entrenched in the 2012 county elections, the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution, and the 2012 public financial management (The Institution of Kenya, 2010). Government is expected to be closer to the people through increased public participation, which will lead to effective governance that guards against abuse of power by political leaders and public servants, provides checks and balances against unnecessary political interference in service delivery, and controls against vesting excessive discretion in civil servants in public procedures (Odhiambo & Taifa, 2009; Kwena, 2013).

The anticipated increased public participation in governance had brought expectations of devolution improving service delivery and increasing accountability in counties in the country. This, though, has not been the case in many counties. More than five years since the inauguration of the county governments, several counties are yet to experience improved service delivery (TI, 2018); graft cases are rampant in county governments (EACC, 2015) while citizen participation is low and their input is relegated to merely giving their views within public participation forums as opposed to consultative decision making that was envisaged in the Constitution (IEA, 2015). As such, it is important to find out the effects these participation practices are having on governance in county governments. This is important given the fact that their involvement can be instrumental in the implementation of the CIDP. Therefore, the present study seeks to establish the effects of public participation practices on

implementation of County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) in Kenya focusing on Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County.

Objectives of the Study

- To determine the effects of informing practices on Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County
- To examine the effects of consultation practices on Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County
- To assess the effects of collaboration practices on Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County
- To evaluate the effect of empowerment practices on Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County

Research Questions

- What are the effects of informing practices on the Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County?
- How do consultation practices affect the Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County?
- How do collaboration practices affect the Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County?
- What are the effects of empowerment practices on the Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County?

Justifications of the study

Service delivery in the public sector still remains a significant challenge in Kenya despite the numerous reforms initiated by successive governments to address it effectively. Resource allocation is critical to public service delivery and despite the recent introduction of devolution as a means of 'bringing services closer to the people' this issue has yet to be adequately addressed. Among the tools used to address the developmental disparities in the County governments is the CIDP. However, implementation of the CIDP requires substantial input from the general public not just from a constitutional perspective but also from a developmental strategy point of view. However, failing rates of public participation is of great concern and needs to be addressed from the root causes. Therefore, in carrying out this research, it is intended that its outcome was considerably beneficial to certain stakeholders namely; the Taita Taveta County government and citizens; the stakeholders including the investors, donors, sister counties and other development partners; the policy makers in the national government through the relevant ministries and; the academic community.

Significance of the Study

The Taita Taveta County government and Voi Sub County residents being the primary beneficiaries of the study gains considerably from the outcome of this study as it gives them insight into the challenges facing participation of the public in matters of governance in their area and specifically in the implementation of the CIDP where citizen input is required considerably. Other stakeholders like the sister county governments, investors, donors and other development partners may find the outcome of the study useful in articulating issues affecting their cooperation and partnership. The findings of this study may also be used together with other related studies to inform policymakers at the national government such as the Commission for Revenue Allocation (CRA) and the senate on the direction on future policies on service delivery in counties based on CIDP. Finally, the results of this study may prove instrumental in adding to the fund of knowledge in this area for future research in similar or related areas by providing valuable theoretical insights into the problem as well as providing research gaps.

Scope of the Study

The study was confined to Voi Sub County; Taita Taveta County focused on public participation practices and their effect(s) on implementation of County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) in the Sub County. The target population comprised the administrators and general public in the area. The study was carried out between the months of October, 2018 and April, 2019.

Limitations and Delimitations of the study

Many citizens including public servants have not yet fully grasped the contents of the new constitution let alone devolution. This may affect the way they respond to certain queries concerning devolution and service delivery in the questionnaires. This, however, was partly overcome by explaining the concepts of devolution

as captured in The Constitution of Kenya 2010. The study may thus be limited in scope to this short period of time when devolution has taken effect. However, some of the challenges facing devolution are already visible during the present period. This means that some of the outcomes of the study may be self-addressing over time while others may not be necessarily generalizable to other Counties. The questionnaires were of the self-administered type and, hence, the responses in them were entirely self-reported. As such, there might be some respondent bias in the responses. However, this was overcome by careful design of the instrument to reduce these incidences.

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter provides a review of literature on public participation in devolved governments and implementation of integrated plans in devolved governments. It, therefore, consists of the theoretical review, conceptual review and empirical review. The chapter also includes the conceptual framework and the research gaps and summary of the reviewed literature.

Implementation of CIDP

In Kenya, a developed form of government was adopted six years ago, creating a total of 47 county governments in addition to the national government. The two tiers of government in Kenya receive their mandate from the people through the constitution and the concurrent actions of parliament. Citizens have effectively committed themselves to a more accountable and democratic society through the evolving functions and power of government, with the expectations of better representation of their voice in decision-making, equitable resource sharing, enhanced service delivery, and a governance structure that will value and advance their interests (Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA) (2014). Public institutions that are intended to serve the general public must, therefore, effectively plan and implement public programs in order to meet citizens' expectations. Following this, the Kenyan Constitution (2010) assigns several functions to the national and county governments through their organizations to plan and carry out policies.

National government, the highest level of government, has a duty to promote national economic policy and planning. County planning and development, which includes land surveying and mapping, boundary marking and fencing, statistics, housing, and energy control, must be carried out by the counties. In Article 220, County Governments Act of 2012, the Constitution further encourages planning before budgeting. This page explains the manner and type of interaction between the national government and county governments during the production of plans and budgets, the structure of county development plans and budgets, the time period for county assembly to evaluate county plans and budgets, and more. The initial order for counties was to create development plans that would serve as a guide for spending (Kirui, 2013).

Both the Constitution and supplemental legislation influence county planning, which is also expected to be participatory in nature when addressing all aspects of county governance (Busaka & Kwasira, 2015). Planning at the county level is intended to be based on the principles of including national values in all contracts and procedures; protecting the communities' right to self-fulfillment within the countries and for the benefit of the public; integration of marginalized groups, minorities, and communities, as well as their protection of their rights and interests; development and protection of natural resources; Aligning government institutional and financial resources with accepted political programs and objectives; promoting equality in resource allocation; integrating program budgeting, planning, financing, implementation, and performance assessment; and financially involving the public. According to the law, the creation of the numerous plans must be collaborative, include both national and local plans, and take economic, social, physical, environmental, and spatial planning into account. Additionally, it stipulates that the county legislature must approve the proposals (IE, 2014). This provides a foundation for assessing each particular plan.

In spite of the elaborate planning evident in the CIDPs of several counties, the implementation of the CIDPs still presents a significant challenge to many counties. For example, the Kirinyaga County

CIDP (2018-2022) recognizes that the last the implementation of the last CIDP (2013-2017) was beset by challenges among them inadequacy of finances, late/delayed financing, staffing, vehicles /transport, Lack of a confirmed inventory of all markets in the country, lack of a comprehensive inventory of all tourism sites in the country, site disputes that have caused certain projects to be put on hold, the challenge of timely preparation of bills of quantities, etc. Lack of legal framework and politics causes the cooperative sector to experience a great deal of political turmoil, with stakeholder groups, particularly society members, understanding that all issues must be resolved through the involvement of politicians or political forums.

Mid-Term Progress Report on Implementation of ID from 2013 to 2015 from the County Government of West Oklahoma (2015) revealed that the difficulties encountered during the implementation of the ID were characterized by; Low levels of collecting and using monitoring and evaluation data; Some projects that were implemented weren't based on ID; low amount of gender-based data separation; Lack of feasibility assessments on project viability; poor coordination between the country and the national government; There were weak project files documentation from the departments; There were no clear work plans prepared by the department to be monitored, and; Weak synchronization of project implementations to full exploitation.

Study by Gichuchi (2015) On the difficulties of implementing strategy in Murang'a County Government disclosed that it was still attempting to establish a footing for implementing the county-integrated development plans. The county's integrated development plan was intended to aid in the implementation of development strategies. The plan, which was derived from Kenya Vision 2030, appeared to be taking longer to implement; nonetheless, the plans are still sound on paper and implementation progress is still being made slowly. Lack of financial resources was one of the main problems encountered; as a result, the country had to match its projects to the funding that was available. Additionally, there was improper use of finances, which caused several projects to stall. Lack of funding indicates that nations must give priority to projects that benefit the majority in a variety of ways. The other projects must be postponed until the next financial year, when fund allocations are completed. Furthermore, the county governments took on too many projects when they were formed that cannot be sustained. They must reevaluate their strategies and align them with their development objectives.

Murrey (2015) looked into the implementation of strategy challenges in the Elgeiyo Marakwet County Government of Kenya. The study revealed that the challenges faced by the county during strategy implementation included a lack of support from the top management, politicization of the process, a small budget approval, a lack of clarity regarding individual roles, a lack of alignment with the organization's strategic plans as executives attempt to appease Ms., a lack of employee roles and functions, poor staffing levels, ineffective communication, and poor planning. In 2016, Kitumu sought to establish the impact of institutional factors on the implementation of county integrated development plans in the Makueni county government in Kenya. The study discovered that The study discovered that corporate leadership organizational culture, organizational structure, and resource allocation all had a significant impact on the implementation of county integrated development plans.

Psiwa, Irungu, and Muriithi (2017) examined the difficulties that the Narok County Government had when implementing the county integrated development plan (ID). The main findings of the study were that NG employees were involved in the formulation of the ID, that the ID had been implemented to a moderate extent, that NG had met less than 50% of the performance targets and less than 50% of the ID development projects or interventions, that the ID of NG is comprehensive as per the requirements of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, and that NG did experience financial-related problems. The data also showed that the implementation of the ID was influenced by national government policies, legislation, and organizational culture.

However, the majority of these studies did not make a connection between the implementation of ID and public participation. However, a research by the Institute of Economic Affairs (2014) examined the first

implementation of the iD system with a focus on four counties: Nandi, Laikipia, Meru, and Usin Gishu. It was revealed in the findings that despite each country's distinctiveness, the implementation processes that were used were to a great extent comparable in a number of aspects. Announcements for public participation were made through local and mainstream media channels, even for meetings organized at local-ward and sub-county levels. Public participation in Usin Gishu After a "ID zero" draft had been generated by the technical planning team, bounty was obtained (Uasin Gishu County Integrated Development Plan 2013-2017).

Getting the County Executive and Members of the County Assembly to agree on anything remained a significant challenge, which led to a number of the planned things in the IDs just being proposed and not implemented. This explained the underlying reasons for the delayed approvals of the "IDs" by the appropriate assemblies. Most countries had trouble planning their programs, and as a result, they were having trouble using the IDs as a foundation for developing program-based budgets. It was also established that the lack of a clear financial and budgeting template could lead to implementation differences between the countries. However, the study only focused on the initial stages of the implementation of the IDS, which was a relatively new experience for the majority of stakeholder in the country (Institute of Economic Affairs, 2014).

Informing Practices and Implementation of CIDP

Early 1970s community movements in developing nations gave rise to the concept of community awareness and participation, which has since become a crucial foundation for project success (Thwala, 2010). Community awareness and participation are especially important because top-down approaches to addressing challenges like high levels of poverty and environmental degradation among others have failed. The emphasis then changed from imposed technological professional solutions to community-based development, recognizing the local knowledge and abilities of those living in poverty and making an effort to involve them in participatory programs (Andersson, Warburton & Wilson, 2007; Cooke & Kothari, 2001).

Citizens must be open-minded and in touch with reality in order to successfully participate in the independent practice. A marketplace of ideologies, permitted media, unrestricted speech, and citizens who are capable of seeing problems must exist for autistic people. Public access to information is crucial because it enables everyone to contribute to a thoughtful and informed public participation. Quality information may also be accessible through public education, the media, printed posters, etc. that give the public and other stakeholder groups the knowledge they need to hold a successful public participation (Rosanville, 2011). Access to Facts and Residency Capabilities Statistics allows citizens to make more informed political decisions, support public innovations, and sponsor the development of policies that concern them. A necessary precondition for taking active political action is verifiable, appropriate, and appropriate evidence, particularly in developing countries where a lack of access to information has been a long-standing barrier to active citizen participation (Oleman & Firmstone, 2014).

Another strategy for effective public participation is the capacity of government officials, access to information, and the ability of the public to engage effectively (Hilmer, 2010). Government officials and the general public cannot be assumed to have or develop the capacity to engage on their own. Nationwide civic education has not yet been implemented, and neither has local civic education. As a result, there is a lack of understanding of the functions of various actors. Losely related is restricted access to public information in the absence of a freedom of information law. Given that civic education is now a mandate of the county government, a good place to start would be countywide education for both the public and county officials (Dahlgren, 2014). This is easily accomplished by integrating it into the planned public engagement opportunities. Last but not least, there is the Record keeping strategy.

Although there have been many public participation activities, record keeping for future reference has been poor or nonexistent (Arpentier, 2011). It would seem that a standard storage and retrieval mechanism for public input would be of great use, especially in situations where misunderstandings occur. Many

governments need to invest in electronic record-keeping mechanisms like still and motion cameras, reporters who key in all information, and a file system that makes retrieving information much simpler (Oleman & Firmstone, 2014). Subsequently, admission to information becomes a foundation for the achievement of citizen contribution. A number of researchers have established the position of access to information as supporting habitational contribution (Bennett & Segerberg, 2012).

a study of public participation strategies by Gitegi and Iravo (2016) shown that the majority of county governments had put in place frameworks for improved communication to disseminate information and raise awareness of public participation in developed governments. However, it became apparent that sharing information via social media platforms and websites might impede communication between countries. Although they were utilized to reach the majority of rural villagers in the counties, these channels couldn't easily reach magazines and newsprinters (Molo, 2010). However, other countries turned to the usage of local radio stations to address these limitations. Additionally, county departments often hold public forums to inform the public about resources allocated to various community projects and to allow the public to vent about actual expenses incurred throughout the period of implementation. Additionally, some county governments have published their problems on notice boards with representatives and/or chiefs of staff for the general public to read (Gitegi & Iravo, 2016).

It was revealed that the Kisumu County government developed an Information Technology (IT) platform with a toll-free number, 21142, to enable the general public to make inquiries across all county departments regarding basic financial matters, service delivery, and any other county-related matter of interest to them (Ronoh, 2017). In addition, the Turkana county government has developed and circulated two weekly local magazines: the Turkana Times and Turkana Mirror, the county government occasionally employed local media to inform its citizens about the county's progress (IE, 2015). The publications aim to inform county inhabitants on the plans made and the activities carried out in certain locations and the progress made.

Regarding the county government of Makueni, it was revealed that the country had a county communications system. Its policies must ensure that the public has access to accurate, timely, complete, and objective information about its programs, policies, initiatives, and services. Additionally, the Sub-County Administrators and the Ward Administrators are mandated to relay all official communications (IE, 2015). Similar to this, it was established that the County Government of Isabel employed Ward Administrators and Sub-County Administrators as the primary information dissemination channels to all communities, particularly at the lowest level. Additionally, community radio stations in the Baliti and Isiolo counties were frequently utilized for announcements. In addition, the county government posts some of its information on its website. Newspaper advertisements, press releases, and notice boards were also employed as substitute mechanisms and/or tactics for informing their residents (Ronoh, 2017).

An earlier study conducted in Turkia by Dhiambo and Taifa (2009) to investigate the causes of low levels of public participation in the area's population on the LSDs discovered that the establishment of unaccompanied information was insufficient because the information needed to be accurate and timely to allow citizens to comprehend it and plan for their inputs. The main driving force for the plan's low inputs showed that having some appreciable levels of cognizance was essential. The many incomplete weeklong periods during which LSD assemblies were held occasioned the existence of imprecise stages of consciousness, and as a result, the occupants were unable to get necessary statistics on time and therefore know and effectively participate in the discussions (Odhiambo & Taifa, 2009).

Consultation Practices and Implementation of CIDP

Effective planning for public participation requires recognizing the crucial players in the process. As such, this may need including both organized interest groups and the general public. The general "public" is made up of many values and perhaps conflicting points of view. While it is not always feasible to involve the entire

general public, inclusivity in the process is important and some groups shouldn't be purposefully excluded (Pentier, 2011). The stakeholder groups or individuals in a participatory process are those who are impacted by or have an impact on certain topics, outcomes, or decisions (Krishnaswamy, 2004). Individuals and groups with a formal or informal stake in decisions about resource management include resource users, tenure holders, local community groups, research institutions, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). For example, with first nations, original rights and title prevent them from being seen as stakeholder as such but rather as land base partners; as a result, their involvement may be treated differently compared to that of other stakeholder groups (Lukensmeyer, 2009).

Demonstrating to shareholders the advantages they would experience via participation in public processes is crucial. Among the reasons that call for the explanation of such benefits are; acquiring ownership in decision-making processes; enhancing knowledge and learning via participation; creating networks and relationships; introducing other points of view; mitigating conflict, and; increasing the likelihood that the decision or solution will succeed (Joshi & Houtzager, 2012). To draw in and include stakeholders, increase the transparency and visibility of the process, and inform stakeholders about findings and progress, the participatory process participants may need to carry out a wide outreach. Additionally, common trust and understanding must be established (Krishnaswamy, 2004). Building trust at the outset of a participatory process is really crucial. It may be necessary to have the consent of many stakeholder groups in order to create common understanding. Effective participation also necessitates that participants recognize and respect the various perspectives others hold on the same problem, i.e., that it upholds a variety of values. Building common understanding and trust takes continual patience and time, therefore a participatory process may wind up being complex and drawn out.

The public process requires recognizing and interacting with the leadership at various levels. Additionally, according to the General Auditor of British Columbia (2008), high levels of inclusivity are the primary values of public participation. This, however, is often easier said than done since despite some of the best efforts at inclusivity, certain public participation processes fall short of being truly inclusive. The following factors regarding stakeholders must be considered in addition to inclusiveness and trust: the impact that diverse stakeholders have on the process and its results, the viewpoints of stakeholders on process-related problems, and their past participation in participatory processes (Ihemeje 2013). The Utah Department of Sustainability and Environment (2005) recommends utilizing a stakeholder analysis matrix to discover which stakeholder groups are most crucial to involve in natural resource management decisions. This matrix compares a stakeholder's level of "importance" to that of their "influence." The individual and organization in charge of developing the participation process should also be aware of their own interests, biases, and personal involvement in the process (Australia DSE, 2005).

Another recommended strategy for involvement in public participation is setting boundaries. Determining the criteria that must be satisfied for public participation to be considered effective is one of the biggest challenges in this field (Joshi & Houtzager, 2012). These thresholds are established based on the volume of views received, the number of forums held, and the number of participants. What information would suggest that effective public participation has occurred? Thresholds will vary from country to country depending on population, terrain, infrastructure, and the variety of the populace; hence, no threshold can be objectively described (Lukensmeyer, 2009). The issue was whether the country has structured the public participation process in accordance with constitutional and legal requirements. Lethargy from the public might be one of the obstacles to effective public participation. The determination of thresholds needs to be left to county governments.

In a poll conducted by UN IN YD (2012) in 186 countries, it was noted that the main challenge for you was the lack of opportunities for effective participation in decision-making processes. Young men and women feel marginalized and excluded from their societies and communities because they have little opportunities and

exposure to meaningfully participate in inclusive decision-making processes. Additionally, the necessity of participatory structures and greater trust between individuals and institutions was emphasized. Studies carried out in Africa by Baah-Ennumh, et al (2005). Karrowitz and others (2012), ZAMAN (2007), gBALAJOBi (2010), Ihmeje (2013) (2013) And Media et al. (2013) argue that women participating in government in Africa face a variety of challenges, including religious and cultural views, a lack of economic empowerment, a lack of effective ways to implement affirmative action, men dominating political power, and more. Women's often low levels of education, their numerous roles in families, their attitudes toward government, their lack of confidence in themselves as women, and the demanding nature of their work at the local assembly level. Ihmeje (2013) continues to make the case that the marginalization of women in local government is nothing more than the extension of male dominance in virtually all political spheres.

Mugo (2017) looked at factors influencing public participation in legislative processes in county governments with a focus on the Embu County Assembly. The study's findings established that stakeholder organizations often interact with political leaders, government agencies, commercial organizations, and nonprofit organizations that implement or develop public policies. The development of regulations and laws that give effect to the requirement for effective citizen input in performance management and growth planning in the country, as well as those that set the minimal national standards for successful community participation, is what is meant by the availability of enabling legislation (Mugo, 2017). The findings also showed that information access has an impact on public participation in development processes in the county assembly of Embu. Citizens would be more likely to be informed about their civil rights to participate in public participation debates in the county assembly and as a result be able to contribute to devolved government if they were able to obtain information on public participation.

Collaboration Practice and Implementation of CIDP

Testing innovative civic practices is a component of the collaborative government framework (Dahlgren, 2015). Collaboration, which boosts government effectiveness by fostering partnerships between public and private institutions as well as relationships among tiers of government. Modern public administration has an inherent tension between providing citizens with superior customer service and effectively collaborating with them as partners. This tension results from discernible distinctions between the nature of responsiveness and the essence of collaboration (gbalajobi, 2010). While responding to people's wants and demands is typically perceived as a passive, unidirectional action, collaboration represents a more active, bidirectional action of participation, involvement, and the unification of forces between two (or more) parties. Additionally, responsiveness is based on the market's perspective of improved service for citizens as clients or customers. For government and public administration (G&) systems seeking wide legitimization and good performance, meeting their demands is viewed as essential (Joshi & Houtzager, 2012).

On the other hand, collaboration emphasizes the value of real teamwork and cooperation between citizens and G&Ss, where each party recognizes the difference between response and collaboration/partnership is more than just conceptual or terminological (Eduardo, Margo, and Marcelo, 2012). In actuality, they represent a growing paradox that appears in both the theory and practice of contemporary public sector management. The paradox grows as a result of an expanding consensus about the necessity of both responsiveness and collaboration for advancing G& systems to future reforms. It is therefore somewhat surprising to see that the majority of current theoretical thought in public administration deals with these values separately, ignoring the mutual advantage of integrating them in a practical manner (Lukensmeyer, 2009).

The essence of democracy appears to be contradicted by the first glance, communication, and partnership between government and citizens (Report of the Task Force on Devolved Government (TFDG), 2011). The ideal kind of bureaucracy, as outlined by Max Weber, clearly specifies organizational characteristics that have remained relevant throughout the years. Public organizations have undergone numerous changes over the past century, but they are still founded on Weber's legacy of clear hierarchical order, concentration of power

among senior officials, formal structures with strict rules and regulations, limited channels for communication, constrained openness to innovation and change, and noncompliance with the option of being replaceable (Baswony, 2014). These concepts appear to be fundamentally different from the nature of cooperation, which includes negotiation, participation, cooperation, a free and unlimited flow of information, innovation, agreements based on compromises and mutual understanding, and a more equitable distribution and redistribution of resources (Mdunyelwa, 2008). According to this utopian analysis, collaboration is a necessary component of democracy. It refers to a partnership in which authorities and state administrators accept the role of leaders who must improve the lives of citizens—not because they are more powerful or superior, but rather because this is a mission to which they are obligated. They must view themselves as committed citizens who have consented to be guided or "governed" on the condition that their lives continue to improve (Karpowitz et al., 2000). (2012).

According to Beckett et al. Representatives of the public are actively involved in developing solutions and directly influencing decisions in 2005. This often entails dialogue, iterative activities, and close working relationships with a focus on shared responsibilities. Information and decisions that are developed collaboratively with citizens rather than behind closed doors are more likely to be accepted because of the decline in deference to government decision-makers. Results that have been developed in conjunction with public input have been more warmly welcomed (Baswony, 2014). This is frequently because such outcomes are frequently of higher quality, and gathering a diversity of input is essential to the process. Processes that are deliberate include the public more deeply than ones that are consultative. Instead of simply expressing their opinions, the public works with the government to resolve the problems. This kind of process frequently entailed taking into account the evidence, recognizing common ground, and deciding how to go forward in order to achieve shared objectives. In the end, once this process is finished, the government is ultimately responsible for making any final decisions (Dahlgren, 2015).

Public participation in opinion polls has gained significant traction in the public management debate and has in fact found its way into the workings of policy in a number of nations. For instance, the City Council of Bologna in Italy was the first to adopt a "Regulation on Collaboration between Citizens and Administration for the Care and Regeneration of Urban Communities" (hence, the Regulation) in May 2014 (Bartoletti & Faccioli, 2013). The Regulation's goal is to enable collaboration between citizens and municipal authorities by promoting the application of the principle of "horizontal subsidiarity," which is defined as "favoring autonomous citizen initiatives, either individually or in association, for the performance of activities of general interest." This principle is enshrined in Article 118, which was introduced into the Italian Constitution. The municipality of Bologna swiftly developed a specialized administrative tool, the "Collaboration Agreement," in order to allow for the effective application of the Regulation. Its main purpose is to regulate the collaboration between citizens and the administration for specific urban communities, with reciprocal responsibilities and commitments defined according to each individual case (Bobbio & Pomatto, 2007).

In the UK, Lowndes and Sullivan (2006) explained the relationship between partnership and participation in a variety of local initiatives, exemplifying both difficulties and synergies. The study concludes that public participation must be planned for rather than taken for granted in local partnerships. Furthermore, the authors contend that partnership work does not by itself result in increased public participation; in fact, it may be particularly challenging to secure citizen involvement in a partnership context. Furthermore, according to Lowndes and Sullivan (2006), partnership and participation have collaborated as essential components of the government's agenda for the "modernization" and "democratic renewal" of British local government. Partnerships are frequently assumed to be more inclusive than bureaucratic or market-based approaches to policymaking and service delivery.

Eduardo et al. (2012) state in their report that the city hall of Orto Alegre in Brazil involves its community in the discussion and consultation process through which they define and decide on amounts of income and

expense, as well as where and when the investments were made, which are the priorities, and which are the plans and actions to be developed by the government. The Activist Budget helped to prevent corruption and improper handling of public funds, and it has provided effective spending that has led to public works and actions of great importance to the general populace.

Mugambi and Theuri (2014) examined the difficulties faced by county governments in Kenya while preparing their budgets. The study discovered that while budget preparation procedures are in place and being followed at the county level, political influence and public participation negatively impacted the budget preparation process. To address this, the researcher recommended that public participation be strengthened at the county level by the introduction of systems. However, the study could not establish how collaboration may result in improved public participation procedures in budget preparation in county governments.

Empowerment Practices and Implementation of CIDP

Decision-making authority and occasionally responsibility for organizing public participation are partially or entirely delegated to the general public or their representatives. This is the greatest and final degree of participation in government, when the power to make final decisions rests with the general public. However, according to Molo (2010), lack of knowledge on how to participate may not have any impact on citizen participation in public governance. If anything, it makes it more difficult for citizens to participate in government effectively. Citizens must have knowledge and skills on how to carry out their responsibilities if they are to participate in public governance effectively. This is more important than simply being aware of their roles and responsibilities (Omolo, 2010).

Lack of skills and knowledge not only prevents citizen participation but ultimately results in the collapse of projects, according to a 2006 research by the Institute of Economic Affairs. The study demonstrates that even while projects may be implemented, they typically lack sustainability when handed over to communities upon the leave of the donator/funder. This is due to the lack of project management abilities in such a community. The case in point is the DF structures; research by the institution reveals inadequate knowledge of project planning, implementation, and monitoring processes among communities and the various committee members (IEA, 2014). This demonstrates the high levels of waste and improper use of resources by project managers as a result of the committees' inability to effectively manage the large amounts of money given to them (Molo, 2009). Lack of knowledge and abilities explains why projects often stall out before collapsing despite being well carried out. According to the Institute of Economic Affairs, while projects like the DF and LSD may be successfully completed, they frequently deteriorate over time. One of the primary causes of this is that the communities lack the capacity to sustain projects that have been handed up to them. This is due to the projects' failure to provide cash for training community members in project management (IEA, 2014).

A research conducted by KHR and SN in 2010 on the harmonization of decentralized development in Kenya examined citizen awareness and participation in the management of the LTF, or the LSD process, in 8 local authorities. The survey found that at a national average of 66.4 percent, there is a high level of awareness about LTF and the LSD process. However, there is currently little participation, particularly when it comes to managing services (10.6%), monitoring services (12.7%), planning and budgeting (13.3%), and implementation (13.6%). This was brought on by a lack of knowledge and abilities about the LSD project. This emphasizes the requirement for citizen empowerment via capacity building for effective public participation. Building capacity entails developing knowledge, skills, and operational capacity so that individuals and groups can achieve their goals (Kello et al., 2008).

A research conducted in 2015 by Siala on the factors affecting public participation in budget formulation in the Nairabi Valley revealed a significant relationship between public participation and the democratic system, as evidenced by citizen power, token gestures, and non-participation. Among the many forms of public participation, participation in the budgeting process as a formality (Non-participation) was shown to be the

most significant indicator of how public participation is influenced. However, there was a significant negative correlation between public participation and nonparticipation. Additionally, there was a significant positive relationship between public participation and tokenism. Citizens were not significantly involved in public participation in the budgeting process. This suggests that the locals were not inspired to take part in public participation in the area (Siala, 2015).

Another crucial method of citizen empowerment is through the legal system. The implementation of enabling legislation makes sure that public participation in county preparation procedures is obligatory and made simple by the devices provided in these laws. Obligation for real inhabitant influence in growth development and presentation organization inside the canton as well as such regulations and strategies that abide by to lowest countrywide necessities for effective civic participation are the results of the ability to obtain enabling regulations (Cooke & Kothari, 2011). For instance, in Kisumu County, the administration established decentralized assemblies at the regional and sub-county levels and chose local administrators to represent the interests of the community. Public conferences at the district level are held when these buildings are complete to include the populace in preparation and strategy development. Oftentimes, civic members attend these conferences to voice their concerns over development proposals in their ward. Although not merely a Public Contribution Act, the county fixes (Cooke & Kothari, 2011).

Civic assemblies are held in Turkana County at the regional levels on a triennial basis to let community members participate in county organization and accounting processes. The Community Contribution Act is implemented in Turkana County. The district parliament and county directors in Isiolo gather to have thoughtful conversations about cheap imports. In this instance, the community received regular updates on the county administration's intended plans, and they continued to be supplied with time to allow for feedback on the anticipated developments and financial considerations. However, this approach to public giving is ineffective since it emphasizes informational charity rather than appealing to the populace as a whole (Cooke & Kothari, 2011).

Theoretical Framework

This study was guided by the Participatory Democracy Theory, The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Model on Levels of Citizen Participation and The stakeholder enabling theory.

Participatory Democratic Theory

The Authoritarian Democratic American political scientist Dahl developed the theory as a viable alternative to liberal democracy in 1989. The theory emphasizes the requirement for increased citizen participation in the operation of political systems. The theory holds that citizens should participate to the fullest extent possible because their self-governance is intended to create opportunities for everyone in the community to contribute constructively and fairly to decision-making (Hilmer, 2010).

The face of the conventional theory of participatory democracy is represented by Dahl's theory of participatory democracy. According to Robert (1989), an ideal democratic process must satisfy the following five criteria: Enlightened understanding, which holds that for citizens to effectively participate in the democratic process, they must be well-informed or otherwise enlightened. According to Dahl, the ideal democracy should be a place where people can freely express their ideas and where they are aware of the issues. The second criterion is equality in voting, where Dahl maintains that in a democratic state, every citizen should have the ability to cast one vote regardless of their socioeconomic status, religion, race, or gender in order to safeguard everyone's rights. Effective participation requires that throughout the decision-making process, the country's citizens have equal and enough opportunities to express their preferences. This is the third criteria.

Another foundational principle of participatory democracy is citizen control of the agenda, according to which citizens should have the collective right to direct their social, political, and economic agendas. Last but not

least, there is inclusion, where the government must grant rights to and include all those under its jurisdiction. When more than half the electorate makes a decision, their will should be respected, and citizenship must be open to all majorities when choosing alternatives. However, at the moment, restaurants must be positioned on the majority in order to prevent situations where the majority rule unchecked and dictate to everyone else. The constitution must safeguard minority rights through fundamental principles like freedom of speech and assembly. The democracy must also recognize the rights of minorities. Last but not least, democracies need to solidify the representation of the relationship between the many followers and the few leaders. Literally, this means that the people's opinions should be represented in government by the choices of elected officials.

The participatory democracy theory offers a useful connection between participation and effective public governance. It may be inferred from the theory that maximum citizen participation is necessary for effective government. Additionally, the theory envisions an effective two-tiered government structure in which citizens participate at the lower local level. As a result, the theory offers a crucial framework from which public participation in government problems, such as the implementation of the ID as proposed in the current study, may be examined.

IAP2 Model on Levels of Citizen Participation

The International Association for Public Participation (I2, 2002) has developed a unique method of measuring the amount of citizen participation by examining how citizens participate in public forums. I2 examines how the public participates in these gatherings. The above I2 model has five levels that correspond to different levels of public participation, with level one being the lowest and level five being the greatest. The notion of public engagement is evolving at the first level. The public is informed about governmental actions but is not participating in public governance at this level of public engagement (Gitegi & Iravo, 2016). The second level of engagement is consultation, which comprises polling the public on issues of governance. This is achieved through meetings where public opinion is sifted and input is used as a decision-making element. At the third level, the technique of participation is direct collaboration with the public in making choices that impact them in order to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are recognized and taken into account when making decisions. At the fourth level of participation, the government works with the public on all aspects of decision-making, including the development of alternative solutions to issues and the selection of the preferable one. The highest and last level of engagement is government, in which the whole public has the authority to make final choices (Oyugi & Kibua, 2006).

Stakeholder Enabling Theory

As the normative holder theory of the second type, Alton and Kurland (1995) developed the holder enabling theory. This approach, as a modern philosophy of "stakeholder enablement," fundamentally addresses organizational conflict by replacing multilateral stakeholder interactions for privileged management conversations. The exercise of influence over stakeholder groups by organizational actors via institutionalized hierarchies is defined as "managing." In contrast, "enabling" is a process in which agents and stakeholder organizations collaborate to exercise control over common issues (Friedman & Miles, 2006). According to Friedman and Miles (2006), "managers engage with stockholders through distinct bilateral contractual agreements," and "many authors presume senior managers "are comparable to the business." Top managers reserve 'privileged' control of separate stakeholder dialogue 'texts' under these circumstances.

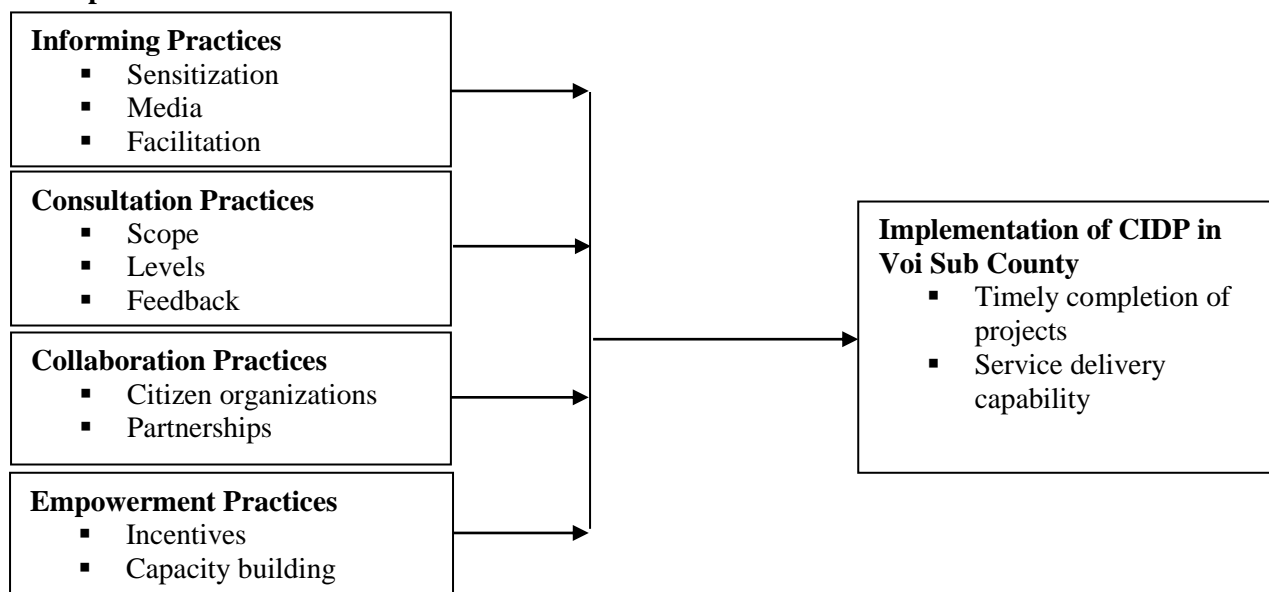
Alton and Kurland (1995) believe that their approach will 'empower the silent voices of marginal groups by deconstructing the concealed meaning inside the predominant organizational context,' allowing for multiple stakeholder conversations. They also state that "stakeholders must have the ability to co-determine their own identity and destiny by exercising the right of voice or departure in the process of organization discourse.

The IST model proposed by Donaldson and Dunfee (1994) has been criticized on the grounds that their thought experiment 'lacks a viable voice mechanism at either the macro- or microsocial level' and overlooks

'power differences among However, these criticisms appear to be only partially valid. The microsocial level is predicated on the voices of stakeholders raising their own and often divergent ethical values. Evidently, as Hammond and Miles (2004) demonstrate, these values have been expressed in the past and have now become embedded in the existing culture or norms of these communities. However, Hammond and Miles (2004) hold that the more powerful community members are accountable for the development of the norms and that the foundation of the authentic microsocial contracts by Donaldson and Dunfee is in "informed consent buttressed by a right of exit," not by any positive support from community members who may be viewed as relatively powerless; whether that be the case, it is important to note that.

Nevertheless, that is the point of departure of ISCT purpose from Calton and Kurland view. Further, there if an attempt to fuse empirical microsocial contracts with normative macrosocial contract by Donaldson and Dunfee. The former is engendered by existing community norms which are incidentally limited to a considerable extent by the macrosocial contract. The latter, however, comes from a thought experiments. According to Calton and Kurland (1995), in order to have effective collaboration, Stakeholders' concerns must be interdependent; Decisions must be jointly owned; they must share responsibility for any future direction; Solutions should emerge by dealing constructively with decision outcomes, and; Collaboration itself must be an evolving process. This theory will give the study a solid stakeholder perspective which needs to be emphasized during public participation. This theory will give the study a solid stakeholder perspective which needs to be emphasized during public participation.

Conceptual Framework



Independent Variables

Dependent Variable

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework in Figure 1 shows the expected relationship between the independent variables and the dependent variable. It is anticipated that informing practices used in public participation can significantly influence the implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County. In the same way, Collaboration Practices, Empowerment Practices and Consultation Practices are also theorized to significantly influence the implementation of CIDP in the County.

METHODOLOGY

This chapter provides detailed information on research methods and the research design that should be employed. It provides information about the location where the study was conducted, the study's population, the sampling procedure and sample size, instrumentation, data collection, and data analysis.

Research Design

The research design for the study was descriptive. This design style is appropriate for gathering information, summarizing it, presenting it, and interpreting it for the purpose of clarification (Gough, James, & Sandy, 2012). A descriptive survey research approach may use a small sample to obtain reliable information for a big number of individuals across a wide region. It allows population generalizations and is used to explain correlations between many phenomena. The descriptive research design allowed the researcher to expose the respondents to a set of standardized questions to enable comparison because the purpose of this study is to obtain descriptive and self-reported information on how particular challenges affect service delivery in a particular developed unit of government.

Location of Study

One of the four constituent sub-counties of Taita Taveta County is where the study was conducted. It is located on the southern edge of the Sagala Hills, south of the Tsavo East National Park, and west of the western margin of the Taru Desert. Voi is a market place for the agricultural and meat products from the fertile Taita Hills as well as other nearby areas. The majority of the businesses in Voi's town center are general stores, shops, marketplaces, kiosks, and a few hotels. The majority of hotels that host visitors to the national park are found outside of the city, in the suburbs. 87,983 individuals call the subcounty home (Taita Tveta County Government, 2018). The administrative divisions of the Voi Sub-County include Mrungu, Sagalla, Mbololo, Kaloleni, Ngolia, and Kasigau. Each ward elects a Member of the County Assembly (M) to represent it in the County Assembly for a period of five years. The wards have a single ward administrator as well.

Target Population

The study targeted 18 county administrators and 152 locals who were picked from significant groups such as religious organizations, youth groups, women's groups, businesspeople, educators, and persons with disabilities made up the target audience for this study's 170 participants (Taita Taveta County Government, 2018). The county administrators are expected to provide a broad managerial perspective of the challenges affecting public participation and service delivery in the region. The area residents are expected to give information related to their interactional experience in the devolved governments and may give more insight into how the quality of service delivery affects them. The target population is depicted in Table 1.

Table 1: Target population across the study area

Ward	Last Attendance in Public Participation Forums	
	County Administrators	Residents
Mbololo	4	23
Sagala Ward	3	29
Kaloleni Ward	2	33
Marungu Ward	3	27
Kasigau Ward	4	21
Ngolia Ward	2	19
Total	18	152

Source: Taita Taveta County Government, 2018

Sampling Procedure and Sample Size

The study used purposeful sampling to categorize the samples by kind of responder. The current study is best served by the use of a purposeful sample, as the impacted governments' public services are planned, carried out, and managed by a defined group of personnel (county administrators). These are significant particulars that can deliver more precise and reliable information on the status and performance of the initiatives. The need to make the sample size reasonable while still being appropriately representative of the entire population being investigated was the key consideration when determining the sample size. The use of sampling techniques as opposed to alternative sample designs has been motivated by the need for respondent specificity (Kothari, 2004). As a result, the study included all 18 administrators and 30% of the community's residents who had attended at least one public participation forum, as advised by Mugenda and Mugenda. Following that, the sample size was dispersed as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Distribution of Sample Size across the Population

Ward	Last Attendance in Public Participation Forums		Sample size of
	County Administrators	Local Residents	Local residents 30%
Mbololo	4	23	7
Sagala Ward	3	29	9
Kaloleni Ward	2	33	10
Marungu Ward	3	27	8
Kasigau Ward	4	21	6
Ngolia Ward	2	19	6
Total	18	152	46
Tota Sample Size		64	

Research Instruments

Researcher-administered questionnaires were employed as the study's data collection tools. Items with closed and open ends were both utilized in the questionnaire. The type of data to be collected, the amount of time available, and the study's objectives all had a role in the selection of these tools. It has a good deal of advantages, such as reduced interviewer bias, confidentiality, and time savings. Additionally, the advantages of surveys include their low cost, ease of use, and availability of physically accessible examples that are widely disseminated (Fowler, 1993). Additionally, the results may be independently verified. But using questionnaires needs careful planning because it could easily confuse respondents, deter them, or simply fail to collect crucial data for the study. Due to this, the researcher was able to lessen both personal and subject bias.

Piloting Study

An evaluation of the data collecting instruments' efficacy was done in advance of actually starting to gather the data. The poll survey was conducted among the target group in the same county because it is representative of that population. The questions were amended, more questions were added, and other issues were addressed.

Validity Test

A benchmark for the study's research instruments' validity was set. For content validity, the study used the instrument validity technique. In order to guarantee that the research instruments accurately reflect the conditions of development and service delivery in question, the intent validity, also known as legal or moral validity, and face validity, which is a subjective evaluation of the respondent's capacity to understand the terms of the instrument and whether it addresses the research problem, were established. The researcher first looked at the tools, compared them to the set goals, and made sure they had all the data they needed to address the goals and react to the scheduled questions. Secondly, expert judgment of the research supervisor was used to test the validity of the research instruments.

Reliability Test

According to Kothari (2003), reliability is a measurement of how well a research tool produces consistent results after repeated trials. The internal consistency method, which is a correlational methodology that assesses the reliability of alternative items in the questionnaire based on responses from the poll survey, was used in the study to examine reliability. Cronbach's Alpha was calculated and used as a gauge of internal consistency. A statistical indicator called the Cronbach's Alpha is frequently used to evaluate the dependability or internal consistency of a psychometric tool. It measures the degree to which a collection of elements or variables may adequately represent just one aspect of an individual. Cronbach tested the trustworthiness of the Pilot research's findings for internal consistency. According to Fraenkel and Wallen (2000), a Cronbach reliability value of 0.60 or greater implies that the instrument is extremely dependable and hence appropriate for the inquiry. At this point, all modifications, new inquiries, and flaws in the queries were appropriately fixed.

Methods of Data Collection

Primary and secondary data sources were utilised in this investigation. The collection of primary data involved the use of questionnaires, and observation techniques. Second-hand data was gathered from the available sources, including the Internet, journals, magazines, and published and unpublished materials. The data helped to provide a more comprehensive knowledge base from earlier investigations conducted in the same area. The respondents were assured that their responses would be kept confidential.

Data analysis and Presentation

Prior to being coded and undergoing further analysis, the data collected from the surveys was cleaned and updated. In order to evaluate the size of the construction, the Likert scales from the surveys' closed-ended questions were transformed to numerical codes and scaled from 1 to 5. The Statistical Software for Social Sciences (SSS) version 21.0 computer application was then used to insert these numerical codes. Both descriptive and inferential statistical methods were used to analyze the data. In a descriptive study, descriptive statistics were utilized to characterize the essential demographics of the population. Inferential statistics were utilized to determine the nature of the associations between the variables using multiple regression models. The regression model below was used to examine the relationships between the variables under study;

$$y = b_0 + b_1x_1 + b_2x_2 + b_3x_3 + b_4x_4 + e$$

Y = Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County

X₁ = Informing Practices

X₂ = Consultation Practices

X₃ = Collaboration Practices

X₄ = Empowerment Practices

e = error term.

b₀ = Intercept

b₁ to b₄, are the coefficients of the variables to be determined by the model

The findings were then presented in tables and discussed

Ethical Issues

The study had certain ethical worries. The first was to ask the respondents for their express approval. This made sure that they agreed to take part in the study of their own free will. The goals of the study and how they might help it succeed were also explained to the respondents. Treating the respondents with respect and decency was another ethical practice used during the study (Fowler, 1984). This was done in order to put the respondents at ease and increase the likelihood that they would answer the questionnaire honestly. Additionally, ethical guidelines were followed when analyzing the data. The correctness of the encoding of

the survey replies was carefully examined to assure the integrity of the data. This was done to make sure that the figures that came out of the study were accurate and verifiable (Fowler, 1984). Additionally, permission from the necessary agencies and departments was requested in order to carry out the study inquiry. This made guaranteed that every study was done in accordance with Kenyan law. The information acquired would be treated with the highest secrecy and discretion, and its only intended use would be academic. It was requested of the responders not to include their names or contact information on the materials.

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Introduction

In this chapter, the results of the data collection are presented, analyzed and discussed. This is done according to the objectives of the study. Both descriptive and inferential statistical methods are used in the analysis.

Response Rate

Table 3 shows the response rate of the questionnaires.

Table 3: Response Rate

Respondents	No. of questionnaires issued	No. of questionnaires returned	Response Rate (%)
County Officials	18	14	78
Local Residents	46	42	91
Totals	64	56	88

Source: Field Data (2021)

Sixty four in all were given to the respondents, and fifty-six were duly completed and suitable for the study's aims. This indicated an 88% total response rate. Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) state that a response rate of more than 50% is appropriate. The self-administered way of administering the instrument was what caused the instrument response rate. The data from the other surveys were not included in the findings since they were not returned.

Background Characteristics of the Respondents

The background traits of the respondents were initially determined in order to give some basic context to the respondents who participated in the study. The respondents' age range, gender, highest level of education attained, and prior work in the public sector were all taken into account in the study. The findings are summarized in Table 4.

Table 4: Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents (County Officials)

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Age of respondents	18– 28 years	6	43
	29 – 39 years	5	36
	40 – 49 years	3	21
Gender	Male	5	36
	Female	9	64
Level of study	Diploma	7	50
	Bachelor's degree	7	50
Years worked in the County Government	Less than 1	1	14
	1 - 2 years	4	29
	2 - 3 years	5	36
	Above 3 years	3	21

Source: Field Data (2021)

It may be inferred from the results in Table 4 that the majority of the respondents (43%) were between the ages of 18 and 28. The data also show that the majority (64%) of respondents were female, despite the fact that the high proportion (35%) of female respondents suggested that the country's position for women in

administration had exceeded the 30% constitutional threshold for gender. All of the respondents have postsecondary education as their top academic qualifications. The results also show that most respondents (55%) had worked in the country for less than between two and three years and, hence, were not expected to provide meaningful responses about the issue under investigation.

Descriptive Analysis Results

The outcomes of the descriptive statistical analyses of the data and their interpretations are presented in this section. The descriptive statistics assisted in the development of the study's fundamental features and formed the basis for virtually every quantitative analysis of the data. The outcomes were presented in relation to the study objectives.

Informing Practices in Public Participation in Voi Sub County

The first objective of the study was to determine the effects of informing practices on Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County. This variable was described in terms of Sensitization, Media and Facilitation. Responses to this variable were rated on a five-point Likert scale, and they ranged from; the scale went from 1 for strongly disagree to 5 for strongly agree, and it was analyzed based on the mean score and standard deviation. The more agreement there was about the statement, the closer the mean score on each item was to 5. A score below 2.5 would indicate disagreement with the statement, while a score significantly over 2.5 would indicate uncertainty statement posed. The findings were presented in Table 5.

Table 5: Informing Practices in Public Participation in Voi Sub County

Statements	SA %	A %	N %	D %	SD %	Mean	S.Dev
We consistently plan our communication to the citizens so as to ensure they are well informed for public participation	28.6	71.4	0	0	0	4.29	0.469
We circulate documents to selected public participants in advance so as to ensure they have enough background information	50	28.6	7.1	14.3	0	4.14	1.099
We use media that is highly accessible to all residents of the county	0	57.1	0	42.9	0	3.57	0.514
Our choice of media is meant to ensure the citizens can get timely information on citizen participation	50	14.3	28.6	7.1	0	4.07	1.072
We do publish the outcome of the public deliberations so as to encourage future public participation	28.6	21.4	28.6	14.3	7.1	3.5	1.286
We facilitate participants attendance of the public forums	28.6	35.7	35.7	0	0	3.21	1.762
We facilitate information access for all public deliberations	35.7	42.9	14.3	7.1	0	4.07	0.917
Aggregate						3.836	1.017

Source: Field Data (2021)

The results in Table 5 suggest that the organizers of the public participation forums consistently plan their communication to the citizens so as to ensure they are well informed for public participation as indicated by majority who strongly agreed (mean = 4.29). Documents for discussions are often circulated in advance to selected public participants in advance so as to ensure they have enough background information (mean = 4.14). Most respondents agreed that they used media that is highly accessible to all residents of the County (mean = 3.57) and the choice of media was meant to

ensure the citizens can get timely information on citizen participation (mean = 4.07). The outcome of the public deliberations were often published so as to encourage future public participation (mean = 3.5). However, there was uncertainty on whether the participants attendance to the public participation forums was facilitated in any way (mean = 3.21). Nevertheless, the organizers of the public participation forums facilitated information access for all public deliberations (mean = 4.07).

With an aggregate mean of 3.836 and SD = 1.017, it was evident that most of the respondents, that is, the conveners of the public participation forums agreed with most of the statements on informing practices for public participation on implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County.

Consulting Practices in Public Participation

The second objective of the study was to determine the effects of consulting practices on Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County. This variable was described in terms of Scope, Levels of consultations and feedback. Responses to this variable were rated on a five-point Likert scale, and they ranged from; The scale went from 1 for strongly disagree to 5 for strongly agree, and it was analyzed based on the mean score and standard deviation. The more agreement there was about the statement, the closer the mean score on each item was to 5. A score below 2.5 would indicate disagreement with the statement, while a score significantly over 2.5 would indicate uncertainty statement posed. The findings are presented in Table 6.

Table 6: Consulting Practices in Public Participation in Voi Sub County

Statements	SA %	A %	N %	D %	SD %	Mean	S.Dev
We determine the extent to which public deliberations on a matter can be allowed to reach	28.6	64.3	7.1	0	0	4.21	0.579
We try to ensure that despite the limits of citizen involvement, their contributions are still going to be significant	71.4	0	28.6	0	0	4.11	0.469
We involve only bona fide residents of the county who are above 18 years	28.6	28.6	14.3	0	28.6	3.29	1.637
We try and involve citizens in all levels of consultations until the final decision is made	14.3	35.7	42.9	0	7.1	3.50	1.019
We try and make the consultative forums as inclusive as possible	57.1	42.9	0	0	0	4.57	0.514
We have a framework for citizen engagement in public decision making	71.4	21.4	7.1	0	0	4.64	0.633
We have specific dates and times set for public deliberations	64.3	28.6	7.1	0	0	4.50	0.855
Aggregate						4.203	0.815

Source: Field Data (2021)

It is evident from the results in Table 6 that the organizers of the public participation forums usually determined the extent to which public deliberations on a matter can be allowed to reach (mean = 4.21). However, they often tried to ensure that despite the limits of citizen involvement, their contributions were still going to be significant (mean = 4.11). However, there was uncertainty on whether only bona fide residents of the county who are above 18 years were involved in the public participation forums (mean = 3.29). There was also uncertainty on whether citizens were involved in all levels of consultations until the final decision is made (mean = 3.50). However, the organizers of the public participation forums often tried to make the consultative forums as inclusive as possible (mean = 4.57). Most strongly agreed that they have a framework for citizen engagement in public decision making (mean = 4.64) and that they have specific dates and times set for public

deliberations (mean = 4.50). The aggregate mean of 4.203 and standard deviation of 0.815 suggests that majority of the respondents strongly agreed with most of the statements on consulting practices in public participation in Voi Sub County.

Collaboration Practices in Public Participation

The third objective of the study was to determine the effects of collaboration practices on Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County.

Table 7: Collaboration Practices in Public Participation in Voi Sub County

Statements	SA %	A %	N %	D %	SD %	Mean	S.Dev
We partner with the various groups in our county so as to ensure the information reaches all members as required	50	42.9	0	0	7.1	4.29	1.069
Citizen groupings enable us to carry out deeper deliberations on public affairs	42.9	50	7.1	0	0	4.36	0.633
We have a framework for partnering with citizen groups in the area	21.4	57.1	0	7.1	14.3	3.64	1.336
We encourage citizens to freely avail information related to the agenda even outside the public forums	57.1	42.9	0	0	0	4.57	0.514
Partnering with citizen organizations enables us to gauge the public reactions to the deliberations	42.9	50	7.1	0	0	4.36	0.633
We have structured agreements with citizens on their involvement in public participation	35.7	21.4	21.4	7.1	14.3	3.57	1.453
We have a feedback mechanism to ensure the reactions of the citizens to the public participation forums are well captured	21.4	42.9	28.6	7.1	0	3.79	0.893
Aggregate						4.082	0.933

Source: Field Data (2021)

This variable was described in terms of citizen organizations and partnerships. Responses to this variable were rated on a five-point Likert scale, and they ranged from; The scale went from 1 for strongly disagree to 5 for strongly agree, and it was analyzed based on the mean score and standard deviation. The more agreement there was about the statement, the closer the mean score on each item was to 5. A score below 2.5 would indicate disagreement with the statement, while a score significantly over 2.5 would indicate uncertainty statement posed. According to the findings, majority of the organizers of the public participation forums strongly agreed (mean = 4.29) that they partnered with the various groups in our county so as to ensure the information reaches all members as required. Most strongly agreed (mean = 4.36) that citizen groupings enable them to carry out deeper deliberations on public affairs. The findings also indicate that the organizers of the public participation forums have a framework for partnering with citizen groups in the area as indicated by majority who agreed (mean = 3.64). Citizens were often encouraged to freely avail information related to the agenda even outside the public forums (mean = 4.57). Also, partnering with citizen organizations enabled the organizers of the public participation forums in the county government to gauge the public reactions to the deliberations (mean = 4.36). Other findings suggest that the organizers of the public participation forums have structured agreements with citizens on their involvement in public participation (mean = 3.57) and that they do have a feedback mechanism to ensure the reactions of the citizens to the public participation forums are well captured (mean = 3.79). Further, looking at the overall mean of

4.082 and SD = 0.933, it is evident that majority of the respondents agreed with most statements on collaboration practices in public participation for implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County.

Empowerment Practices in Public Participation in Voi Sub County

The fourth objective of the study was to determine the effects of empowerment practices on implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County. This variable was described in terms of incentives and capacity building. Responses to this variable were rated on a five-point Likert scale, and they ranged from; The scale went from 1 for strongly disagree to 5 for strongly agree, and it was analyzed based on the mean score and standard deviation. The more agreement there was about the statement, the closer the mean score on each item was to 5. A score below 2.5 would indicate disagreement with the statement, while a score significantly over 2.5 would indicate uncertainty statement posed. The findings are presented in Table 8.

Table 8: Empowerment Practices in Public Participation in Voi Sub County

Statements	SA %	A %	N %	D %	SD %	Mean	S.Dev
We give individual incentives for citizens to participate in public forums on CIDP implementation	21.4	28.6	7.1	14.3	28.6	3.00	1.617
We give group incentives to encourage public participation on CIDP implementation	42.9	14.3	0	14.3	28.6	3.29	1.816
We facilitate workshops for training citizen participants on CIDP matters	7.1	85.7	0	7.1	0	3.93	0.616
We do sponsor citizen representatives drawn from groups to public affairs workshops so as to ensure they are well informed in all matters during public deliberations on CIDP	57.1	28.6	14.3	0	0	4.43	0.756
Our county has passed public participation bills that give citizens more power in the deliberations	7.1	57.1	7.1	28.6	0	3.43	1.016
Participants are required to familiarize themselves with the public participation bills	57.1	28.6	0	14.3	0	4.29	1.069
Aggregate						3.728	1.148

Source: Field Data (2021)

The results in Table 8 indicated that there was uncertainty on whether the organizers of the public participation forums gave individual incentives for citizens to participate in public forums on CIDP implementation (mean = 3.00). There was also uncertainty on whether the organizers of the public participation forums gave group incentives to encourage public participation on CIDP implementation (mean = 3.29). However, majority of the organizers of the public participation forums agreed that they facilitated workshops for training citizen participants on CIDP matters (mean = 3.93). They also strongly agreed (mean = 4.43) that they do sponsor citizen representatives drawn from groups to public affairs workshops so as to ensure they are well informed in all matters during public deliberations on CIDP. The findings, however, revealed that Taita Taveta County has passed public participation bills that give citizens more power in the deliberations as indicated by majority of the respondents who agreed (mean = 3.43). As such, the participants in the public participation forums were required to familiarize themselves with the public participation bills (mean = 4.29).

The aggregate mean (mean = 3.728, SD = 1.148) indicates that majority of the respondents agreed with most statements on empowerment practices in public participation for implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County.

Implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County

The study also sought to determine the status of implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County as the dependent variable. This was achieved through the responses obtained from the county government officials who were responsible for organization of the public participation forums and also from the views of the local residents who participated in the public forums on CIDP. This variable was described in terms of timely completion of projects and service delivery capability. Responses to this variable were rated on a five-point Likert scale, and they ranged from; The scale went from 1 for strongly disagree to 5 for strongly agree, and it was analyzed based on the mean score and standard deviation. The more agreement there was about the statement, the closer the mean score on each item was to 5. A score below 2.5 would indicate disagreement with the statement, while a score significantly over 2.5 would indicate uncertainty statement posed. The findings on the county officials' views on implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County are presented in Table 9.

Table 9: County officials' views on implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County

Statements	SA %	A %	N %	D %	SD %	Mean	S.Dev
Through public participations in CIDP we have been able to give priority to certain budget vote heads on the various sectors	50	50	0	0	0	4.50	0.519
Public participation has also enabled us to form broad oversight committees to ensure that all that is budgeted for is well implemented	21.4	57.1	0	21.4	0	3.79	1.051
Public participation has ensured that all our purchases are supplies conform to the objectives of the CIDP	21.4	57.1	7.1	14.3	0	3.86	0.949
Public participation has ensured that all projects envisioned in the CIDP have good completion rates	42.9	57.1	0	0	0	4.43	0.514
Through public participation, proper monitoring and evaluation of our projects are done to ensure objectivity with the goals of the CIDP	7.1	71.4	7.1	14.3	0	3.71	0.825
Service delivery has improved as a result on citizen involvement in CIDP deliberations	14.3	78.6	7.1	0	0	4.07	0.475
Conflict over resources allocation for service delivery has considerably reduced due to public participation in the CIDP	7.1	42.9	35.7	14.3	0	3.43	0.852
Aggregate						3.97	0.741

Source: Field Data (2021)

It is evident from the results in Table 9 that through public participations in CIDP, County had been able to give priority to certain budget vote heads on the various sectors as indicated by majority of the respondents (mean = 4.50). Most organizers of the public participation forums agreed that public participation has enabled the County to form broad oversight committees to ensure that all that is budgeted for is well implemented (mean = 3.79). Majority also agreed that public participation has ensured that all our purchases are supplies conform to the objectives of the CIDP (mean = 3.86). Further, public participation has ensured that all projects envisioned in the CIDP have good completion rates (mean = 4.43). The findings also indicate that through public participation, proper monitoring and evaluation of the County's projects were done to ensure objectivity with the goals of the CIDP (mean = 3.71). Service delivery in the County has also improved as a result on citizen involvement in CIDP deliberations (mean = 4.07) and conflict over resources allocation for service delivery has considerably reduced due to public participation in the CIDP (mean = 3.43).

It is also evident from the aggregate mean of 3.97 and standard deviation of 0.741 that majority of the organizers of the public participation forums in the County agreed with most of the statements on implementation of the CIDP in the County. Local Residents were also asked to respond to statements describing service delivery resulting from implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County. The findings are given in Table 10.

Table 10: Local Residents' views on implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County

Statements	SA %	A %	N %	D %	SD %	Mean	S.Dev
Through public participations in CIDP we have been able to give priority to certain budget vote heads on the various sectors	4.8	33.3	16.7	28.6	16.7	2.81	1.215
Public participation has also enabled us to form broad oversight committees to ensure that all that is budgeted for is well implemented	2.4	14.3	14.3	35.7	33.3	2.17	1.124
Public participation has ensured that all our purchases are supplies conform to the health objectives of the CIDP	2.4	0	31	50	16.7	2.21	0.813
Public participation has ensured that all projects envisioned in the CIDP have good completion rates	2.4	14.3	26.2	31	26.2	2.36	1.100
Through public participation, proper monitoring and evaluation of our projects are done to ensure objectivity with the goals of the CIDP	2.4	23.8	26.2	38.1	9.50	2.71	1.019
Service delivery has improved as a result on citizen involvement in CIDP deliberations	2.4	23.8	33.3	35.7	4.80	2.83	0.935
Conflict over resources allocation for service delivery has considerably reduced due to public participation in the CIDP	4.8	9.5	40.5	28.6	16.7	2.57	1.039
Through public participations in CIDP we have been able to give priority to certain budget vote heads on the various sectors	4.8	26.2	45.2	11.9	11.9	3.00	1.036
Aggregate						2.58	1.035

Source: Field Data (2021)

The results in Table 10 suggest that overall (aggregate mean = 2.58, SD = 1.035), most local residents were not satisfied with the level of public service delivery resulting from implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County. Particularly, most residents were of the opinion that through public participations in CIDP, they had not been able to give priority to certain budget vote heads on the various sectors (mean = 2.81). Majority also disagreed that public participation has enabled them to form broad oversight committees to ensure that all that is budgeted for is well implemented (mean = 2.17). Further, public participation had not ensured that all County purchases are supplies conform to the objectives of the CIDP as indicated by most of the respondents who disagreed with the statement (mean = 2.21). In addition, public participation had not been able to ensure that all projects envisioned in the CIDP have good completion rates (mean = 2.36).

Further, the findings show that majority of the respondents disagreed that public participation had enabled them to carry out proper monitoring and evaluation of our projects are done to ensure objectivity with the goals of the CIDP (mean = 2.71). Majority also disagreed that service delivery

had improved as a result on citizen involvement in CIDP deliberations (mean = 2.83). The local residents also disagreed with the view that conflict over resources allocation for service delivery has considerably reduced due to public participation in the CIDP (mean = 2.57). Other findings indicate that there was uncertainty on whether priority had been given to certain budget vote heads on the various sectors as a result of public participations in CIDP (mean = 3.00).

Correlation Analysis

Correlation analysis was carried out to determine both the significance and degree of association of the variables. The results of the correlation analysis are summarized in Table 11.

Table 11: Summary of Correlations

		Informing Citizens	Consultations	Collaborations	Empowerment	Implementation of CIDP
Informing Citizens	Pearson Correlation	1				
	Sig. (2-tailed)					
	N	56				
Consultations	Pearson Correlation	.168*	1			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.015				
	N	55	56			
Collaborations	Pearson Correlation	.231**	.529**	1		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.001	0			
	N	56	56	56		
Empowerment	Pearson Correlation	.174*	.230**	.390**	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.013	0.001	0		
	N	56	56	56	56	
Implementation of CIDP	Pearson Correlation	.216**	.433**	.347**	.288**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.002	0	0	0	
	N	56	55	56	54	56

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

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

Source: Field Data (2021)

The first correlation was done to establish whether informing practices significantly affected implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. The results in Table 11 shows that there was indeed a significant relationship ($r = 0.216$, $p < 0.05$). The correlation result is moderate and suggests that informing the participants well in advance, during and after the public participation forums could significantly increase the implementation prospects of the CIDP. This finding supports that of Rosenvallon (2011), who found that public access to information is crucial because it

enables citizens to contribute to more informed public participation, better governance, and efficient use of public resources.

The study also sought to ascertain if consultation practices significantly influenced the implementation of ID in Vôi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. The product moment correlation coefficient for the two variables, $r = 0.433$, $p < 0.05$, indicates that there was a significant relationship between them. This implies that more consultations might be conducted during public participation, which would greatly improve the prospects for implementing the ID. This discovery is consistent with that of Eduardo et al. (2012), who found that involving the community in the discussion and consultation process, through which they define and decide on amounts of income and expense, as well as where and when investments were made, which are the priorities, and which are the plans and actions to be developed by the government, significantly aided in preventing corruption and the improper handling of public funds.

The correlation analysis to establish whether collaboration practices significantly affected implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County shows the relationship was significant relationship ($r = 0.347$, $p < 0.05$). The relationship between the two variables is moderate and positive indicating that implementation of the CIDP could improve further when more emphasis was put on collaborative practices in public participation. This result is consistent with that of Baswony (2014), who found that collaborative processes include the public more intensely than consultative ones, tending to be more effective in public government. The public works through the issues with the government rather than simply giving their opinions. This type of process frequently entailed considering the evidence, recognizing common ground, and deciding on steps forward to achieve mutual goals.

Finally, a correlation was done to determine whether empowerment practices significantly affected implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. The results of correlation analysis in Table 4.8 shows the relationship was significant but weak ($r = 0.288$, $p < 0.05$). The very high and positive correlation coefficient implies that there was a very strong relationship between the variables suggesting that as citizens got more empowered on public participation, it would lead to greater results in the implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County. These findings agree with Siala (2015) who found that public empowerment for public participation had a significant relationship between public participation and the decentralization structure - represented by citizen power.

Regression Analysis

The significance of the relationship between the dependent variable and all the independent variables combined was assessed using multivariate regression analysis. This analysis was used to provide an answer to the question: How do independent variables affect dependent variables collectively? How much does each independent variable affect the dependent variable in such a collective set-up? And what are the more important factors? The final summary of the results is shown in Table 12.

Table 12: Multiple linear regression analysis model summary

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
.504a	0.254	0.238	4.268

Source: Field Data (2021)

Looking at the results in Table 12 showed that the model correlation coefficient $r = 0.254$ was higher than any zero order value in the table and further, the coefficient of determination adjusted $r^2 = 0.238$, indicates that the all the independent variables combined in the model could explain for approximately 23.8% of the variations when evaluating implementation of County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. This suggested that the model could still improve when more variables were incorporated into it. In addition the appropriateness of the multiple regression model as a whole can be

tested using F test as stated by Sen and Srivastava (2011). Therefore, the study also performed an ANOVA on the independent and dependent variables and the results are summarized in Table 13.

Table 13: Summary of ANOVA results

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	1125.431	4	281.358	11.06435	.000b
Residual	1296.891	51	25.42924		
Total	2422.322	55			

Source: Field Data (2021)

The study tested whether the regression models for the study was a good fit for the data based on the ANOVA results obtained in Table 13. In this case, the F-statistic and the associated significance value were examined. The results show that $F(4,51) = 11.06435$ and the associated p-value, $p = 0.000$. Given that the p value associated with the F statistic was less than 0.05, it was inferred that the model used in this study was a good fit for the data, that is, it was significant and this also suggested that the public participation practices; Informing Citizens, Consultations, Collaborations and Empowerment significantly predicted the Implementation of CIDP in in Voi Sub County. Therefore, the regression model could be applied in predicating the value of the Implementation of CIDP in in Voi Sub County when the values of Informing Citizens, Consultations, Collaborations and Empowerment practices are known.

Table 14: Summary of Multiple Regression Analysis

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	1.535	4.087		0.376	0.708
Informing Citizens	0.189	0.071	0.178	2.673	0.008
Consultations	0.426	0.099	0.323	4.317	0.000
Collaborations	0.108	0.115	0.075	0.94	0.349
Empowerment	0.205	0.099	0.145	2.069	0.04

Source: Field Data (2021)

The regression coefficients computed to show the effect of public participation practices in this study on the implementation of the CIDP in Voi Sub County are provided in Table 14. The significance (p) values associated with regression coefficients were used to determine if the effect was significant or not where a calculated p value less than 0.05 meant that the effect was significant, otherwise insignificant.

The results show that the effect of Informing Citizens practices was positive and significant as illustrated by ($\beta = 0.189$, $p = 0.008$) in the joint model. This finding implied that when the practice of informing citizens was increased by a unit, the implementation of the CIDP in Voi Sub County would increase by 0.189 units when all other factors are held constant. This finding agrees with Mugo (2017) who found that public involvement in devolution processes in County assembly of Embu was affected by information access. If citizens were capable of acquiring information on public participation, they were more likely to be informed on their civil rights to engage in the public participation debates in the county assembly and as such enable them to make their contributions to devolved governance.

The results also show that the effect of Consultation practices with the citizens was positive and significant as illustrated by ($\beta = 0.426$, $p = 0.000$) in the joint model. This result implied that when the practice of consulting with the citizens was increased by a unit, the implementation of the CIDP in Voi Sub County would increase by 0.426 units, all other factors held constant. This result agrees with Joshi and Houtzager (2012) who showed that wide and inclusive consultations with the citizens were important in policy implementation. The consultations were, however, expected to build common trust and understanding ,

elevate the transparency and visibility of the process and inform stakeholders about results and progress (Krishnaswamy, 2004). Therefore, in the current study, it is possible that the consultations carried out during the public participation process may have been instrumental in creating buy-ins with the public which was important in the implementation of the CIDP.

The findings, however, show that the effect of Collaborations practices with the citizens was not positive and significant as illustrated by ($\beta = 0.108$, $p = 0.349$) in the joint model. This finding implied that when the practice of informing citizens was increased by a unit, the implementation of the CIDP in Voi Sub County would not increase significantly when all other factors are held constant. These findings, however, fail to support those of Eduardo et al., (2012) Participative Budget which had a lot of citizen collaboration with the officials helped to avert corruption and mishandling of public funds, and it has provided efficient spending with results in public works and actions of great importance for the population.

The results finally show that the effect of Empowerment of citizens practices was positive and significant as illustrated by ($\beta = 0.205$, $p = 0.040$) in the joint model. This result implied that when the practice of empowering the citizens was increased by a unit, the implementation of the CIDP in Voi Sub County would increase by 0.205 units, all other factors held constant. This result is consistent with that of a research conducted by KHR and SN (2010) on the hazards of decentralized development in Kenya, which highlighted the necessity of citizen empowerment through capacity building for effective public participation. Knowledge, skills, and operational capacity are imparted through capacity development so that individuals and groups may achieve their goals (Kello et al., 2008). In empowerment, the power of final decision-making is placed in the hands of the general public, claims Molo (2010). Citizens must have knowledge and skills on how to carry out their responsibilities if they are to participate in public governance effectively. This is more important than simply being aware of their roles and responsibilities (Omolo, 2010).

Therefore, the resulting linear regression model is:

$$\text{Implementation of CIDP} = 1.535 + 0.189 \text{ Informing Citizens} + 0.426 \text{ Consultation} + 0.108 \text{ Collaborations} + 0.205 \text{ Empowerment}$$

These findings show that public participation practices significantly influenced the implementation of County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings from the actual study are thoroughly summarized in this chapter, and inferences are then taken from them. Finally, some comments and ideas for areas of additional research are offered. This study's main objective was to determine how public engagement practices affected the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) implementation in Kenya, with a particular focus on Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. The study specifically attempted to ascertain the impacts of empowerment techniques, cooperation practices, informing practices, and consultation practices on the implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County.

Summary of Findings

The results on this objective revealed that the communication to the citizens for public participation forums was consistently planned so as to ensure they were well informed for the event. Documents for discussions are often circulated in advance to selected public participants in advance so as to ensure they have enough background information. Most respondents agreed that they used media that is highly accessible to all residents of the County and the choice of media was meant to ensure the citizens can get timely information on citizen participation. The outcome of the public deliberations was often published so as to encourage future public participation. However, there was uncertainty on whether the participants attendance to the public participation forums was facilitated in any way. Nevertheless, the organizers of the public participation forums facilitated information access for all public deliberations. In addition, the study also found a significant

relationship in the correlation analysis between informing practices and implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. Further, this relationship was significant in the joint regression model

It was evident from the results that the organizers of the public participation forums usually determined the extent to which public deliberations on a matter can be allowed to reach. However, they often tried to ensure that despite the limits of citizen involvement, their contributions were still going to be significant. However, there was uncertainty on whether only bona fide residents of the county who are above 18 years were involved in the public participation forums. There was also uncertainty on whether citizens were involved in all levels of consultations until the final decision is made. However, the organizers of the public participation forums often tried to make the consultative forums as inclusive as possible. Most strongly agreed that they have a framework for citizen engagement in public decision making and that they have specific dates and times set for public deliberations. The study also found a significant relationship both in the correlation analysis and joint regression model between consultation practices and implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County.

According to the findings, majority of the organizers of the public participation forums strongly agreed that they partnered with the various groups in our county so as to ensure the information reaches all members as required. Most strongly agreed that citizen groupings enable them to carry out deeper deliberations on public affairs. The findings also indicate that the organizers of the public participation forums have a framework for partnering with citizen groups in the area as indicated by majority who agreed. Citizens were often encouraged to freely avail information related to the agenda even outside the public forums. Also, partnering with citizen organizations enabled the organizers of the public participation forums in the county government to gauge the public reactions to the deliberations. Other findings suggest that the organizers of the public participation forums have structured agreements with citizens on their involvement in public participation and that they do have a feedback mechanism to ensure the reactions of the citizens to the public participation forums are well captured. Further, the study also found a significant relationship in the correlation analysis between collaboration practices and implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. However, this relationship was not significant in the joint regression model.

The results on this objective revealed that there was uncertainty on whether the organizers of the public participation forums gave individual incentives for citizens to participate in public forums on CIDP implementation. There was also uncertainty on whether the organizers of the public participation forums gave group incentives to encourage public participation on CIDP implementation. However, majority of the organizers of the public participation forums agreed that they facilitated workshops for training citizen participants on CIDP matters. They also strongly agreed that they do sponsor citizen representatives drawn from groups to public affairs workshops so as to ensure they are well informed in all matters during public deliberations on CIDP. The findings, however, revealed that Taita Taveta County has passed public participation bills that give citizens more power in the deliberations as indicated by majority of the respondents who agreed. As such, the participants in the public participation forums were required to familiarize themselves with the public participation bills. The study also found a significant relationship both in the correlation analysis and joint regression model between empowerment practices and implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County.

Conclusions

Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that informing practices significantly affected implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. Essentially, informing the participants well in advance, during and after the public participation forums could significantly increase the implementation prospects of the CIDP. Concerning CIDP guided procurement of health equipment, it was concluded that consultation practices significantly affected implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. This implied that the prospects of implementing the CIDP could greatly improve when more consultations

were done during public participation. The study also concluded that collaboration practices did not significantly affect implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. This implied there were very weak collaboration structures and that implementation of the CIDP could improve further when more emphasis was put on collaborative practices in public participation. Finally, the study concluded that empowerment practices significantly affected implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. The very high and positive correlation coefficient implies that there was a very strong relationship between the variables suggesting that as citizens got more empowered on public participation, it would lead to greater results in the implementation of CIDP in Voi Sub County.

Recommendations

In line with the study findings above the following recommendations are made;

First, in relation to the first objective, the county should improve on its informing practices for public participation as it had demonstrated its capability to highly influence the implementation of the CIDP. Particularly, there is need to consistently publish the outcome of the public deliberations so as to encourage future public participation and also use media that is highly accessible to all residents of the county for public participation.

Second, concerning the second objective, it is recommended that more consultations are required during and after public participation. Specifically, there is need to try and involve citizens in all levels of consultations until the final decisions are made. It is also important to reassure the participants that despite the limits of citizen involvement, their contributions are still going to be significant and even implemented where possible.

The study also recommends in relation to the third objective that the County's public participation forum should focus on improving collaboration between organizers and participants and also other stakeholders so as to improve the implementation of the CIDP further. Specifically, there needs to be a solid framework for partnering with citizen groups in the area and also structured agreements with citizens on their involvement in public participation. In addition, there needs to be good feedback mechanisms to ensure the reactions of the citizens to the public participation forums are well captured.

Lastly, with regard to the fourth objective, it is recommended that the county management should put more emphasis on empowerment in public participation, it would lead to greater results in the implementation of CIDP. In particular, the areas where more emphasis should be put are in giving group incentives to encourage public participation on CIDP implementation and also implementing public participation bills that give citizens more power in the deliberations.

Recommendations for Further Research

The study covered the areas in the main objective which were not exhaustive in assessing the effect of public participation practices on the implementation of the County Integrated Development Plan on health care management in Voi Sub County, Taita Taveta County. Therefore, more studies could be instrumental in augmenting the outcome of this study and expanding its scope. Hence, it is recommended that future studies be done on demographic factors affecting public participation practices in the implementation of CIDP in the area and also the effects of strategic facilitation of public participation practices on the implementation of CIDP.

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