

Evaluation of Youth Empowerment and Community Development: A Case Study of Kamunganguzi Sub County, Kabale District, Uganda.

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ABSTRACT

The youth empowerment and community development in Kamunganguzi Sub-County, Kabale District, Uganda was evaluated. The aim of the study was to find out the Level of the youth empowerment in rural areas, the effect of the informal economy to community development and the extent of the youth empowerment to the National Development in Kabale District. The survey research design was used. The researcher used both qualitative and quantitative techniques in collecting and analyzing and presenting the data. The level performance of youth empowerment was; creating employment opportunities among the youth, providing education through payment of fees, training the youth some of the skills, fighting poverty in the community, funding the activities of the youth which are income generating, participated in the formation of policies on health, human rights affecting the youth and capacity building by giving refresher courses to the youth. The factors affecting the effective performance of Youth empowerment were; poor leadership, lack budgeting skills, lack of enough funds, lack of enough funds and the inability to define proper lines of autonomy on policy issues, government interference.

Keywords: Youths, Empowerment, Community Development and Kamunganguzi Sub County, Kabale District, Uganda

INTRODUCTION

The global world currently faces immense challenges that are diverse culminating to poor societal development and progress. These challenges include, poverty, inequality, climate changes, food shortages to mention but a few. Since the year 2007, there has been a 30% rise in the global food prices, which has led many governments to priorities this issue [1-5]. [1] notes that the world's poor have been hardly hit by this ordeal and this has become a global emergency. But, the main concern rotates around various global economic, social development and environmental issues. The year 2008 was an economically challenging year when oil prices rose close to US\$140 a barrel [6-10]. This exerted a direct impact on the prices of fuel, food and other basic commodities all over the world. To date, roughly 1.4 billion people live at or below

the poverty line of \$1.25 (R12.50) a day [11-15]. It is feared that as the result of the global food and energy crisis a further 100 million people will become poor [16-20]. Africa is on the receiving end because of its already disadvantaged position, recording the highest rates of poverty, unemployment, malnutrition and HIV and AIDS. [4] notes that four sevenths of the world's absolute poor live in Sub Saharan Africa. Poverty is a major challenge for African countries because it is multidimensional and its roots are also linked to globalization. According to [3], politics have led to dire conditions in many poorer nations. In many cases, international political interests have led to a diversion of available resources from domestic needs to western markets. This has resulted in a lack of basic access to food, water, health, education and other

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important social services. A case in point is Uganda, which has been hit by serious political, economic and social challenges in 1980s and 2000s. Thus, the goal of poor countries is economic development and economic growth [16-20]. [5], points out that economic growth does not equal economic development and argues that economic development goes beyond economic. This study is driven by Social development. Social development is defined as a theory and an approach to social welfare that posits a macro-policy

Aim of the study

The aim of this research was to evaluate the role of the youth empowerment to

Research questions

1. What is the status of youth empowerment in Kamunganguzi Sub-County of Kabale?
2. What is the effect of the informal economy to community development of Kamunganguzi Sub-county in Kabale?

Scope of the study

Geographical scope

The study was carried out in Kamunganguzi Sub-County found in Kabale; Kabale is located in South-western Uganda. The district borders with Mbarara district, Mitooma, Buhweju to the west.

Samanya and Amanyanya framework for alleviating poverty [6]. According to [7] social development "is a process of planned social change that is aimed at promoting the wellbeing of populations as a whole in conjunction with a dynamic process of economic development." The wider scope of social development embraces poverty and deprivation and seeks to promote progressive social change in developing countries such as Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda, [8].

community development in Kamunganguzi Sub-County of Kabale.

3. What is the extent of the youth empowerment to the development of Kamunganguzi Sub-County in Kabale?

METHODOLOGY

Research design

The survey research design was used. The researcher used both qualitative and quantitative techniques in collecting and analyzing and presenting the data. It was necessary for the researcher to describe phenomenon as noted by [9] to inquire into role of Youth empowerment (Youth

empowerment) towards Rural Development. The descriptive was used to identify the quality of the services provided while quantitative was used in areas where it's possible to count the outcome.

Study population

The target population comprised of the political leaders, students from institutions of higher learning, civil servant's leaders of women groups/

associations and teachers 8were selected study of Kamunganguzi Sub county KABALE. The target population consisted of 71 people.

Sample size

The sample size was computed using the Sloven's formula $n=N/1+N(e)^2$.

Whereby N = Population

n = Sample size

0.05 = Level of significance

$$n = \frac{71}{1 + 71(0.0025)}$$

$$= \frac{71}{1.1775}$$

$$= 60.3$$

Approximately 60

The sample size consisted of 60 respondents and these were selected from four categories that is, 10 civil servants, 10 leaders of women groups/associations, 10 political leaders, 15 Youth and 15 staffs from Youth empowerment. The above sample was

enough to enable the researcher gather all the necessary information. All the above considered groups had the relevant information to the relationship between Youth empowerment and Rural Development.

Sampling procedures

Respondents who included students from high institutions, teachers, and civil servants were selected by purposive sampling whereas political leaders and leaders of women groups/associations were selected by simple random sampling. Simple random sampling is clear to accomplish and is easy to explain

to others. Because simple random sampling is a fair way to select a sample, it is reasonable to generalize the results from the sample back to the population. Here the law of chance was allowed to operate. It was applied on the students, political leaders and teachers.

Data collection

The basic methods the researcher used to collect primary data for the study

were questionnaires and direct interviews.

The questionnaire

The researcher used questionnaire. This was applied on the students, teachers, and civil servants because almost all of them know how to read. It's because it collects information from many respondents in a projected time span. All

respondents were asked the same question in as much as possible, except in technical circumstances. From options, the respondents picked the best alternatives.

Research instruments

Validity of the study

Instruments were supposed to measure accurately what they were supposed to measure; therefore, before they were administered, they were first pretested on colleagues taking the same course as the researcher. They were then scrutinized by the supervisor. This ensured that the terms used in the questionnaire and interviews. The content validity of the questionnaires was determined by pre testing the instruments. The researcher

took note of the questions which never seemed clear to the respondents and later either corrects such questions or create parallel ones. This process helped to sharpen the questions and hopefully in rendering the tools valid. Furthermore, experts in the same field were given the questionnaire to examine and assess the relevancy of the questions in respect of the objectives of the study.

Data analysis

The researcher analyzed the data using quantitative techniques by the use of

tables with the help of frequency and percentages. The qualitative techniques

were used on to the making of judgments

and conclusions.

Ethical considerations

The study respected the participant’s privacy by not including column for names, this aimed at protecting individual and business identities and that their information was given high confidentiality. The researcher secured an informed consent from the participants by seeking their permission to sign a consent form before they engage in the research. The reason for seeking their consent was explained to the respondents

to indicate that their rights was protected during data including their rights to know the purpose/nature/procedures of the study, to ask questions, their right to privacy, to know potential benefits of the study to the individuals and to have signatures of the researcher and participants agreeing to the conditions of research and can withdraw from the study at will at any stage.

DATA PRESENTATION, AND INTERPRETATION

Background characteristics of the respondents

The Biographic characteristics of the respondents were studied and they included age, sex, occupation and level of education as well. This information was obtained from the civil servants, leaders

of women groups/ associations, political leaders, Youth and staffs from Youth empowerment.

Table 1: Sex distribution of the respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	34	57
Female	26	43
Total	60	100

Field data, 2021

Out of 60 respondents, majority were found to be males (57%) and the females were 43% as shown on the table above.

The reason for this was that most of the male respondents were willing in giving information about the topic of study.

Table 2: Marital status of respondents

Marital status	Frequencies	Percentage
Married	40	66.7
Single	20	33.3
Total	60	100

Source: Field data 2021

From the table above, 66.7% of the respondents were married while 33.3%

were single. This means that the majority of the respondents were mature.

Table 3: Respondents' age differences in years

Age range	Frequency	Percentage
15-20	5	8.3
21-30	14	23
31-40	16	27
41-50	20	33
51-above	5	8.3
Total	60	100

Field data, 2021

With regards to age, 33% of the respondents were between the age of 41 and 50, 27% were between the ages of (31-40), 23% were between the age differences of (21-30), while 8.3% belonged to the age difference of (15-20) and 51 and above. The old people were seen as experienced age group which can; The performance of Youth empowerment in rural areas of Kamunganguzi sub county, Kabale District, to find out the level of development in rural areas of

Kamunganguzi sub county, Kabale District and to find out the relationship between Youth empowerment and Rural Development in rural areas of Kamunganguzi Sub-County, Kabale District. The old people were always identified as the group that could listen to the radio news, read the newspapers and even watched the television. The study involved at least all the age groups. This means that the entire population was fully represented.

Table 4: Respondents sample size

Respondents	Frequencies	Percentage
Civil servants	10	16.7
Leaders of groups/ associations	10	16.7
Political leaders	10	16.7
Youth	15	25
Staffs from Youth empowerment	15	25
Total	60	100

Source: Field data 2021

From the above, the respondents used in the study were: civil servants (16.7%), leaders of women groups/ associations

(16.7%), teachers (16.7%), students from institutions of higher learning (25%) and political leaders (25%).

The performance levels in Youth empowerment in the rural areas of Kamunganguzi Sub-County, Kabale District.

Table 5: Civil servant's responses on whether they thought Youth empowerment have improved on Rural Development.

Respondents	Number	Percentage
Strongly agree	8	80
Agree	2	20
Disagree		
Strongly disagree		
Total	10	100

Field data, 2021

Basing on the table above, Civil servant's responses on whether they thought Youth empowerment have improved on Rural Development showed that it has improved on the performance as given by 80%. And 20% Agreed.

Table 6: Political leader's responses on whether they thought Youth empowerment have created employment opportunities which have helped the youth.

Respondents	Number	Percentage
Strongly agree	10	100
Agree		
Disagree		
Strongly disagree		
Total	10	100

Field data, 2021

Basing on the table above, all (100%) of the political leader's responses on indicated that Youth empowerment have created employment opportunities which have helped the youth. This means that Youth empowerment helped the youth to earn a living through the provided job opportunities.

Table 7: The performance of Youth empowerment as given by the leaders of women groups/ associations

Respondents	Number	Percentage
Creating employment opportunities among the youth	4	40
Providing education through payment of fees	5	50
Training the youth some of the skills	7	70
Fighting poverty in the community	6	60
Funding the activities of the youth which are income generating	4	40
Capacity building by giving refresher courses	4	40
Participated in the formation of policies on health, human rights affecting the youth	6	60
Delivering services and implement projects or programs under public private partnership	3	30
Environmental protection	3	30

Field data, 2021

According to the performance of Youth empowerment as given by the leaders of women groups/ associations include; creating employment opportunities among the youth given by 40%, providing

education through payment of fees given by 50%, training the youth some of the skills given by 70%, fighting poverty in the community given by 60%, funding the activities of the youth which are income

generating given 40%, participated in the formation of policies on health, human rights affecting the youth given by 50%, capacity building by giving refresher courses to the youth given by 40%,

environmental protection given by 30% and delivering services and implement projects or programs under public private partnership given by 30%.

The level of Rural Development in rural areas of Kamunganguzi Sub-County, Kabale District

Table 8: Youth response on whether lack of funds is a major problem that affects the Rural Development in this area

Respondents	Number	Percentage
Yes	15	100
No		
Total	15	100

Field data, 2018

According to the table above, all the youth (100%) believed that lack of funds is a major problem that affects the Rural Development in this area.

Table 9: Staffs from Youth empowerment responses on whether it is true to say that its staff are sometimes corrupt which affect their smooth running

Respondents	Number	Percentage
Yes	15	100
No		
Total	15	100

Field data, 2021

Basing on the table above, 15(100%) of the Staffs from Youth empowerment responses on believed that Youth empowerment are sometimes corrupt which affect their smooth running. The corrupt officials have resulted into the fall of some Youth empowerment because they are after fulfilling their personnel needs hence failing those Youth empowerment.

Table 10: The challenges affecting the Rural Development in Kamunganguzi Sub-County, Kabale as given by all the respondents

Respondents	Number	Percentage
Poor leadership	60	100
Lack budgeting skills	50	83
Lack of enough funds	45	75
The inability to define proper lines of autonomy on policy issues	30	50
Poor infrastructure	40	67
Promoted and encouraged dependency syndrome	36	60
Corrupt officials	60	100
Government interference	40	67
High expectation from the community	35	58

Field data, 2021

According to table above, the challenges affecting the effective performance of Youth empowerment (Youth empowerment) and Rural Development as given by all the respondents as given by respondents were; 100% gave poor leadership, 83% gave lack budgeting skills, 75% gave lack of enough funds, 50%

lack of enough funds, 50% gave the inability to define proper lines of autonomy on policy issues, 67% gave government interference, 58% gave high expectation from the community, 67% gave poor infrastructure, 100% gave corrupt officials and 60% gave promoting and encouraging dependency syndrome.

The relationship between Youth empowerment and Rural Development in rural areas of Kamunganguzi Sub-County, Kabale District.

Table 11: The relationship between Youth empowerment and Rural Development in rural areas of KAMUNGANGUZI SUB-COUNTY, KABALE as given by all respondents

Respondents	Number	Percentage
The promotion of economic development and the provision of basic services to most people	20	33.3
Provision of education infrastructural developments	15	25
Construction of latrines in schools	12	20
Construction of classrooms in schools	18	30
Construction of boreholes	20	33.3
Construction of health centres	15	25
Provision of funds to support development	17	28.3

Field data, 2021

From the table above, there is relationship between Youth empowerment and Rural Development in rural areas of Kamunganguzi sub county, KABALE as given by all respondents: The promotion of economic development and the provision of basic services to most people given by 33.3%, provision of education infrastructural developments, construction of latrines in schools given by 25%, construction of classrooms in schools given by 25%, construction of boreholes given by 33.3%, construction of health centres given by 25%, and Provision of funds to support development given by 28.3%. Table 12: The possible solutions to the challenges affecting the performance Youth empowerment as given by the staff

Respondents	Number	Percentage
Carrying out fundraising to raise more funds	14	93
Proper accountability	12	80
Training and capacity building to the staff	11	73
All participants need to understand their responsibility	9	60
Writing proposals to apply for grants	8	53
Sticking to the policies and regulation of the organization	7	46.7
Involving the youth in the day to activities of Youth empowerment	9	60

Field data, 2021

According to the above table the possible solutions to the challenges affecting the performance of Youth empowerment staff include; carrying out fundraising to raise more funds given by 93%, proper accountability given by 80%, training and capacity building to the staff given by 73%, sticking to the policies and regulation of the organization by 46.7%, writing proposals to apply for grants given by 53%, involving the youth in the day to activities of Youth empowerment given by 60%, and all participants need to understand their responsibility given by 60%.

DISCUSSION

Out of 60 respondents, majority was found to be males (57%) and the males were 43% as shown on the table above. The reason for this was that most of the male respondents were willing in giving information about the topic of study. **The level of performance of Youth empowerment in rural areas of Kamunganguzi Sub County, Kabale.**

The level of performance of Youth empowerment as given by the leaders of groups/ associations include; creating employment opportunities among the

youth given by 40%, providing education through payment of fees given by 50%, training the youth some of the skills given by 70%, fighting poverty in the community given by 60%, funding the activities of the youth which are income generating given 40%, participated in the formation of policies on health, human rights affecting the youth given by 50%, capacity building by giving refresher courses to the youth given by 40%, environmental protection given by 30% and delivering services and implement projects or programs under public private partnership given by 30%. Basing of study carried out in literature reviewed, in youth empowerment are sometimes corrupt and briefcase organizations for

The level of Rural Development in rural areas of Kamunganguzi sub county, Kabale District

The challenges affecting the effective performance of Youth empowerment and Rural Development as given by respondents were; 100% gave poor leadership, 83% gave lack budgeting skills, 75% gave lack of enough funds, 50% lack of enough funds, 50% gave the inability to define proper lines of autonomy on policy issues, 67% gave government interference, 58% gave high expectation from the community, 67% gave poor infrastructure, 100% gave corrupt officials and 60% gave promoting and encouraging dependency syndrome. In connection to the above, [12] to supplement the above findings showed that If such positive upbringing fails, the

The relationship between Youth empowerment and Rural Development in rural areas of Kamunganguzi Sub County, Kabale.

There is relationship between Youth empowerment and Rural Development in rural areas of Kamunganguzi sub county, Kabale as given by all respondents: The promotion of economic development and the provision of basic services to most people given by 33.3%, provision of education infrastructural developments, construction of latrines in schools given by 25%, construction of classrooms in schools given by 25%, construction of boreholes given by 33.3%, construction of health centres given by 25%, and Provision of funds to support development given by 28.3%. The possible

example they so list funds from donors and well-wishers and no impact is observed as far as development is concerned. And most of money so listed from donors is most of times paid to them as fat salaries and hence less development observed on international scene, Lewis and [10]. Fund raising activities are often the source of much tension in organizations. The strategies and images used to raise funds from the public often felt to compromise the nature of the work done by other members of staff. These images often depicted beneficiaries as helpless victims in need of assistance, which other staff felt was inaccurate and lacked respect for the beneficiaries [11].

parentless children are likely into various social evils thus destabilizing social stability. In addition, if the government is to support these children a lot of funds may be expended in rehabilitation centers instead of instituting social development programs beneficial in stabilizing the wellbeing of the entire society. Economically, the wealth of a country is highly dependent on the family, in terms of the human capital. [13], brought forward that a new study finds that children who are born and grow up in stable single-parent homes generally do as well as those in married households in terms of academic abilities and behavior problems.

solutions to the challenges affecting the performance Youth empowerment and Rural Development as given by the Youth empowerment staff include; carrying out fundraising to raise more funds given by 93%, proper accountability given by 80%, training and capacity building to the staff given by 73%, sticking to the policies and regulation of the organization by 46.7%, writing proposals to apply for grants given by 53%, involving the youth in the day to activities of Youth empowerment given by 60%, and all participants need to understand their responsibility given by 60%. In support of the above, to develop

the organization, individuals have to be able to contribute in the decision making process and they need to learn. All participants need to understand their

Samanya and Amanya responsibility to represent their particular stakeholders and to support the implementation activities [14].

CONCLUSION

The performance of Youth empowerment include; creating employment opportunities among the youth, providing education through payment of fees, training the youth some of the skills, fighting poverty in the community, funding the activities of the youth which are income generating, participated in the formation of policies on health, human rights affecting the youth, capacity building by giving refresher courses to the youth, environmental protection and delivering services and implement projects or programs under public private partnership. The challenges affecting the effective performance of Youth empowerment and Rural Development as given by all the respondents as given by respondents were; poor leadership, lack budgeting skills, lack of enough funds,

lack of enough funds, the inability to define proper lines of autonomy on policy issues, government interference, high expectation from the community, poor infrastructure, corrupt officials and promoting and encouraging dependency syndrome. There is relationship between Youth empowerment and Rural Development in rural areas of Kamunganguzi sub county, Kabale District as given by all respondents: The promotion of economic development and the provision of basic services to most people, provision of education infrastructural developments, construction of latrines in schools, construction of classrooms in schools, construction of boreholes, construction of health centres, and provision of funds to support development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The study put forward the way forward towards the effective performance of Youth empowerment towards Rural Development of which we include; Youth empowerment should carryout fundraising to raise more funds through inviting different groups of individuals including the government, civil society organizations, politicians and the rich people in the community. This will enable the Youth empowerment to have enough resources to finance the activities of the youth. There is a need to provide proper

accountability to the donors about sectoral success and failures. This will enable the Youth empowerment to get more funds since there is transparency in their activities. On regular basis there should be training and capacity building to the staff. This will enable them to keep up to date hence providing better services to the beneficiaries. The government should help the Youth empowerment in implementing their set objectives and goals through supporting them financially.

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