Public Participation and Community Development in Uganda: A Case Study of Kawempe Division-KCCA

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Abstract:
The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between public participation and community development in Kawempe Division – KCCA. The study adopted a co relational research design which involved a collection of quantitative data. Closed-ended questionnaires collected quantitative data. The study focused on a sample of 150 respondents, who were selected from a total population of 242 respondents. Data collected was edited, coded and then entered in the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS version 20.0). The results of the study indicated that there is a statistically significant positive relationship between community empowerment and community development programmes in KCCA Kawempe division (r = 0.336, p-value < 0.05), this is a statistically significant positive relationship between decision making and community development programmes in KCCA Kawempe division (r=336, p-value < 0.05). Finally, there is statistically significant a positive relationship between citizen ownership and community development programmes in KCCA Kawempe division (r= 0.460, p-value < 0.05).

Keywords: Community empowerment, decision making, citizen ownership, community development, Kawempe division-Kampala capital city authority (KCCA), Uganda

1. Introduction
In the recent past, participation has been used as a tool for local community development as a result of it provides a way for facilitating consultation, involving staff and giving them a voice in health and safety matters of their community(Walters, 2012). For more than two centuries now, the concept of local community involvement in the development process has been a significant idea. The politician and government are now encouraging local public authorities to engage individuals in procedures of growth. It thinks that individuals must be involved in developing processes to attain viable growth in the country/community (Njunwa, 2010). Likewise, in Uganda, the government has made efforts to promote public participatory development under its decentralization process (Patrick, 2016).

Concerning the above statements, many counties have begun to embrace the concept of participation, for instance, in countries such as the United Kingdom, as in many other areas of the globe, the involvement of community officials, voluntary organizations, neighbourhood residents and municipal associations in policy choices affecting their life and in the design and implementation of services has risen, especially at the local level (Oll, Mar, Clara, Serrano, Moncada & Rovira,2014).

Public participation has been used as a tool for local community development because it provides a means to facilitate consultation, involve employees and give them a voice in their community's health and safety issues(Walters, et al. 2012). For example, In Zimbabwe, community representatives were educated on how to construct Ecosan (ecological sanitation) units, and community members and members of the family supplied work. In buildings and schools, Ecosan units were built. The organization supplied building material and community builders were trained and temporarily employed for the duration of the project(Hewlett, 2010).

Participation strategy is a way of articulating the advantages of involvement of stakeholders in community growth. Because of the reality that there is still a lack of significant commitment, it could not reap the real benefits of stakeholder involvement in the sustainability of initiatives promoted for community development (Kayima, 2015). Still, despite the efforts to implement community programs and projects with the help of public participatory approach following its decentralization process the impact on Kampala Capital City Authority under Kawempe division in terms of community development is not fully recognized. It needs to be evaluated in this study. The primary purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between public participation and community development in Kawempe Division, KCCA.

2. Literature Review
According to Samah and Aref (2011), public participation is a process of social development where people, as subjects in their condition, search out approaches to living up to their aggregate needs and desires and to conquer their fundamental issues. Also, to accomplish that the study proposed there should aggregate activity by all individuals in the community to make sure about and enhance their positions, as the subject in the process of creating themselves through
impacting, arranging, requesting, and even, in certain occasions, utilizing undermining and defying systems in the process of interfacing with others to accomplish their group objectives.

The study conducted in Tanzania by Mukandala (1998) discovered that decisions about who is to take part in the Ward Development Committees (WDC) are not satisfactory since the base neighbourhood level decision-making bodies which pass demands before being sent to the levels in the region impeding their adequacy in succeeding elevated levels of famous participation in decision making in community development.

Further despite everything, considers conducted in Tanzania concerning community participation have still uncovered there is no citizen participation, the truth of the matter is that Elite or master utilize their expert capacity to a citizen, rather than elevating people to take an interest in all issue which influence them. They force their own thoughts of development which don't serve citizen enthusiasm making participation to be fantasy by and by (Deogratias, 1995).

Another study was conducted in Nigeria concerning Participation, and consequently, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) or Niger Delta Development Commission or Federal Government of Nigeria set out on the usage of specific projects in Ondo state utilizing the Community-Driven Development approach (Adesida and Okunlola, 2015).

Another study conducted in Tanzania the idea nearby community participation in the development process has been a significant idea for over two decades now. The lawmaker and the legislature are currently promising the Local Government Authorities to include people in development processes. It accepts that for the nation/community to accomplish manageable development there must be people participation in development processes (Njunwa, 2010).

In Kwempe division a study was conducted by Kayima (2015) to discover the determinants of sustainability of community-driven development projects to the community considering citizen participation as one of the elements affecting the sustainability of CDD projects. The study presumed that most of the respondents had taken part just in the underlying phases of the CCD projects. Thus the degree of partners' participation in the CCD projects was low, which influenced the sustainability of CDD venture. As a result, the real meaningful participation was missing as such couldn’t receive the real rewards of the involvement of partners towards the sustainability of the projects along these lines commitment to community development.

2.1. Public Participation and Community Development Concepts

Participation an active process which is recipients affects the expected results of the community program and achieves personal development. Also, participation involves the design, implementation and evaluation of applications and the sharing of advantages (Rifkin & Kangere, 2002).

Although many individuals question its importance, other individuals think it is the' magic bullet' for community development, particularly in the context of poverty eradication, education, and growth of health and infrastructure. Despite this absence of consensus, involvement as a primary asset to community growth has continued to be promoted (World Bank, 1996). Defines participation as an active process in which expected beneficiaries affect the results of the program and achieve personal growth. Also, participation involves the design, implementation and evaluation of applications and the sharing of advantages (Rifkin & Kangere, 2002).

Therefore the concept Community participation has long been a steady theme in the community, as it has become essential to community development initiatives and programs as a means of achieving sustainability and equity, especially for the poor Samah (Samah & Aref, 2011). Hence Planners and executives need to agree as quickly as possible on the contribution of community involvement to community development in terms of poverty eradication, education, health and infrastructure growth and address the confusion about the participation.

The concept of global community development involves voluntary collection activities aimed at improving social, financial, physical and environmental well-being, maintaining precious elements of the geographic area’s culture. In Western nations, in particular, the U.S., Europe, and Canada emphasize residential stock’s durability and adaptability as a significant community development subject. Whereas in developing nations such as Uganda, their focus is on war, illnesses, famine, ignorance, extreme poverty, infrastructure development and climate change that can threaten human life and social organization at such a fundamental level that community development must concentrate mainly on assisting individuals overcome those threats to stability. More so, Also known as community economic development, community development is multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary thinking. Many models and techniques have been created by practitioners and academics representing disciplines such as urban planning, social work, rural sociology, government health and international development (Butterfield & Korazim, 2007).

Community development can be defined as a process where members of the community come together to take collective action and solve common problems. The well-being of the population(financial, social, environmental and cultural) often results from this sort of jointwork at the grassroots level. Hence, Community development concerns people’s involvement in the problems that influence their life, which is their participation). By enabling local individuals to speak in community development, a relationship can foster better financial choices and opinions in their setting and conditions (Kelly & Van Vlaenderen 2005). For that reason, there is a need to understand the realities of community participation in community development in order to confront community development issues effectively in Kawempe division as a case study.
3. Conceptual Framework and Research Hypothesis

The following conceptual framework was developed to show the relationship between the independent variables and the dependent variable under the study. The independent variables for the study include Community empowerment, Decision making, Citizen Ownership, whereas the dependent variable is Community development.

![Figure 1]

- H1: Community empowerment has a positive influence on community development
- H2: Decision making has a positive impact on community development
- H3: Citizen Ownership has a positive influence on community development

4. Research Methodology

The study was employed co relational research design. The choice of co relational research design in this study was informed by the fact that the general objective of the study was to examine the contribution of each one the independent variables on the dependent variable. This is based on Oso and Onen (2008). The design was appropriate because the main interest is to explore the viable relationship and describe how the factors support matters under investigations using quantitative approaches.

The population refers to the entire group of people, events, or things of interest that the researcher wishes to investigate (Kothari, 2005). Therefore, the target population of the study was 242 respondents, and these included 1 Town Clerk of Kwempe division KCCA, three staff supervisors, 5 Word administrators, 3 Community Development Officers, 30 KCCA Kawempe division officers and 200 selected from local community members. These people were chosen because they are believed to sufficient information, Public participation and community development in Kawempe Division – Kampala Capital City Authority (Kcca).

In this study, the sample size was 150 respondents selected from a total population of 242 individuals using Sloven’s formula. Data collected was edited, coded and then entered in the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) program version no.20. Using the SPSS, Pearson’s correlation analysis was used to establish the relationship between each of the public participation and community development in Kwempe Division – KCCA.

A regression model was applied to determine the effects of each of the variables concerning Community development. Regression is concerned with describing and evaluating the relationship between a given variable and one or more other variables. More specifically, regression is an attempt to explain movements in a variable by reference to progress in one or more other variables.

5. Result

5.1. Descriptive Statistics for Demographic Variables

Descriptive statistics were used to evaluate the data in the first part of the survey. The tables include frequency information age, marital status, education levels and Experience level.

The first part of respondents were male and female; the majority of the respondents were male 82 (54.7) remaining 68 (45.3) were females. The findings imply that most of the respondents were males who took part in this survey. The respondents were asked to indicate ranges from 19to above 50 ages, the ages between 19-25 which had 41(27.3%), are the most age holds those positions in Uganda Kampala, which had a response rate of between 26-30 44(29.3%).The third ages between 31-35 which had 21(14.0); The fourth ages between 36-41 which had 22(14.7); the five ages are above 42-46 above, which had 13(8.7%).
The level of education, the respondent categorized certificate, diploma, bachelor, and master degree and others. Master degree which respondent rate 9 (6.0%), the second respondents were bachelor degree which respondent rate 50(33.3%) and the third respondents were diploma which respondent rate 37(24.7), the fourth respondents were certificate which respondent rate 34(22.7%) and the five respondents were others which respondent rate 20(13.3). The experience level of the sample ranges from less than the one year to 9 years. Majority of the sample with 47 people has one year to three years (31.3%), where 31 people have 3-5 years of experience (20.7%), where 29 people have 7-9 years of experience (19.3%) and where 21 people have 0-1 years of experience (14.0%) 22 have 5-7 years of experience (14.7%).

|   | Variable          | Frequency Percentage |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|
| Gender | Male | 82 | 54.7 |
|     | Female | 68 | 45.3 |
| Age | 19-25 | 41 | 27.3 |
|     | 26-30 | 44 | 29.3 |
|     | 31-35 | 21 | 14.0 |
|     | 36-41 | 22 | 14.7 |
|     | 42-46 | 13 | 8.7 |
|     | Above | 9 | 6.0 |
| Educational level | Master | 9 | 6.0 |
|     | Bachelor degree | 50 | 33.3 |
|     | Diploma | 37 | 24.7 |
|     | Certificate | 34 | 22.7 |
|     | Other | 20 | 13.3 |
| Experience | 0-1 yrs. | 21 | 14.0 |
|     | 1-3 yrs. | 47 | 31.3 |
|     | 3-5 yrs. | 31 | 20.7 |
|     | 5-7 yrs. | 22 | 14.7 |
|     | 7-9 yrs. | 29 | 19.3 |

Table 1: Demographic of the Respondents

5.2. Reliability Analysis

Reliability test was conducted on Community empowerment; Decision making, Citizen Ownership and community development. Cronbach’s coefficient alpha of .715, .789, .764 and .720 for these variables was generated respectively, as shown on the table (2). This indicated that the variables were internally consistent and reliable. Therefore, the variables deemed reliable for further analysis.

| Variable                  | N  | Items | Cronbach’s Alpha |
|---------------------------|----|-------|------------------|
| Community empowerment     | 150| 5     | 0.715            |
| Decision Making           | 150| 5     | 0.789            |
| Citizen Ownership         | 150| 5     | 0.764            |
| Community development     | 150| 5     | 0.720            |

Table 2

5.3. Relationship between the Variables

Table 3 presents the results of the inter-correlation among the variables. The correlation analysis was conducted to see the initial picture of the inter-relationships among the variables under the study.

The importance of conducting correlation analysis is to identify any potential problems associated with multicolinearity. The result shows that community empowerment is positively correlated with decision making (r = 0.422, p-value < 0.05) and citizen ownership (r = 0.544, p-value < 0.05), also correlated with community development (r = 0.336, p-value < 0.05). Decision making is positively correlated with citizen ownership (r = 0.412, p-value < 0.05) and similarly correlated with community development (r = 0.336, p-value < 0.05). Citizen ownership is positively correlated with community development (r = 0.460, p-value < 0.05): also, all hypotheses of the study were accepted.
5.4. Multiple Regression Coefficient

The coefficient for the intercept 0.632 is implied that if the factors (community empowerment, decision making, citizen ownership) are equated to zero, then the Community development will improve by a margin of 0.632. The beta coefficient of Community empowerment is 0.556, implying that a unit increase in Community empowerment will lead to a decrease in community development by a margin of 0.556. The beta coefficient of Decision making is 0.459, meaning that a unit increase in Decision making leads to an increase in community development increase by a margin of 0.459. Finally, the beta coefficient of Citizen Ownership is 0.331; meaning that a unit increase in Citizen Ownership is 0.331 leads to an increase in community development by a margin of 0.331.

| Variable               | 1      | 2    | 3    | 4      |
|------------------------|--------|------|------|--------|
| Community empowerment  | .422   | .556 | .366 | .660   |
| Decision Making        |        |      |      |        |
| Citizen Ownership      | .554   | .412 | .460 |        |
| Community development  | .366   |      |      |        |

Table 3

6. Discussion

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between public participation and community development in Kawempe Division – KCCA. The study also has three objectives; the first objective was to examine the relationship between community empowerment and community development in Kawempe division-KCCA. The second objective was to establish the relationship between decision-making and community development in Kawempe Division-KCCA. The third objective was to examine the relationship between citizen ownership and community development in Kawempe division-KCCA.

The study found out that there is statistically significant positive relationship between community empowerment and community development programmes in KCCA Kawempe division (r = 0.336, p-value < 0.05). There is a statistically significant positive relationship between decision making and community development programmes in KCCA Kawempe division (r=0.336, p-value < 0.05), and there is a statistically significant positive relationship between citizen ownership and community development programmes in KCCA Kawempe division (r= 0.460, p-value < 0.05). The findings of this study in line with the view of a study conducted in Tanzania, the concept of local community participation in the development process has been an essential concept for more than two decades now. The politician and the government are now encouraging the Local Government Authorities to involve people in development processes. It believes that for the country/community to achieve sustainable development, there must be people participation in development processes (Njunwa, 2010).

7. Conclusion

The study found out that public participation is a positive significant related to community development programmes in KCCA Kawempe division. It was established that community empowerment was significantly related to community development, decision making, and citizen ownership were also significantly related to community development programmes in KCCA Kawempe division. Meanwhile, the strength of the relationship between the study variable was observed not to be strong enough though it was significant. Therefore the study concludes that people need more participation for all community development programmes that carry out in KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AUTHORITY, especially in Kawempe division.
8. Recommendations

The government should encourage people to identify and bring their projects to empower local citizens through investment.

The community members should be involved from the start to the end of the projects, and they should not just dislocate people from the first areas to develop the place just because they want to improve the area.

There is also a need by the government to encourage the community to protect and monitor their projects in Kawempe division.

The communities are actively involved in the decision-making process. Still, some of the decisions are not implemented, so we recommend applying them to feel their project have been implemented.

The local leaders in Kawempe division should advocate people to get their rights in all developmental projects that are carrying out in the area.

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