**Topic: Assessing Community Participation in Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Projects.**

**Case of Welt Hunger Hilfe, Torit Municipality, Torit County-South Sudan**

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A Research Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the award of diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), in Africa Institute for Project Management Studies(AIPMS), Nairobi- Kenya.

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ii). **Declaration:**

This research project report is my original work and has not been submitted for any award in any other institute.

Signature…………………………………. Date: ……………………….…….

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Reg. No.: D001

This research project report has been submitted for examination with my approval as AIPMS supervisor.

Signature: …………………………………….……. Date:……………………….………..

Name: ………..………………………………………………………………………...........

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Africa Institute of project Management Studies(AIPMS)

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**iii). Dedication:**

In the first place, I dedicated this research work to Almighty God for providing me with wisdom and lively breath of life.

Secondly, to my Only Father (Sylvester Otto Luttay) and Mother Josephine Bua Olimpio – All are Death but left Legacy.

Thirdly, to my unforgettable Wife, Foni Joyce Foliko, My two Children Andraga Godwill Gabriel & Tanza Charity Gabriel who tirelessly work Hand in Hand with me in one way or the other in the Course of Six Months Studies.

Fourthly, I paid lots of uncontrolled Respect to my Brothers (Tabule Noah), Sisters, relatives and Friends who in one way or the other supported, advised and directed me towards my Academic Struggle.

Finally, to My Coordinator – Lucy & Lecturers in AIPMS, who lighted and shown Academic Candles to enable me raised level of Professionalism in M&E, ‘’ Owned knowledge & Skills’’ and reached this Level of being called a **Monitoring and Evaluation Officer**.

For God is Forever and ever …. Amen.

**iv). Acknowledgement:**

I acknowledged the Coordinator & Lecturers, for having directed me towards sense of knowledge, hoped and reached this Level of being a trained M&E Officer.

Not only that, my heart most felt concern goes to the Management of AIPMS for their wise programs that can trained Officers to Monitor activities and Evaluate the results of Development projects.

I will not forget my study Team/ Colleagues.

**v) List of acronyms:**

1. WHO: World Health organization
2. SMOH: State Ministry of Health
3. **Unicef**: United Nations Children’s Fund
4. **United Nation**
5. **M&E:** Monitoring and Evaluation

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Vii) **Abstract:**

This paper examines the instrumental use of community involvement in monitoring and Evaluation of development project in Torit Municipal council, Torit State - South Sudan. The study was on assessing community involvement in the monitoring and evaluation of Welt Hunger Hilfe projects in Torit Municipal Council. The study aimed at unrave research question that whether decision-making and planning (DMP), community participate in participatory local governance (PLG), monitoring and evaluation (M&E) have any effect on development projects (DP). To that end in view the researcher selected the Welt Hunger Community projects and adopted quantitative method. The researchers collected data from a 6 respondents comprising of project Staff and Beneficiaries (Group leaders) involved in Welt Hunger Community project by administering a structured questionnaire Data were then analyzed using Excel software.

Community participation has become a critical concept, and it has greatly grown its importance in development policy and programs. It is noted that it is important not only in assessing the needs, planning and implementation but also in the monitoring and evaluation (M&E). This research examines the monitoring and evaluation of the Welt hunger projects in Torit Municipality. It discusses the challenges and opportunities emanated from community participation drawing example from the 3 sub-projects selected in Welt Hunger Helf, Torit Municipality, and south Sudan. In the collection of primary data, 3 project Staff 3 group leaders (Beneficiaries) were selected purposively and were asked questions through questionnaires, in-depth interviews and focus group discussions. Direct field observation was also employed in order to get a real picture in the subprojects sites. Community participation in M&E still faced with many challenges such as; cost in terms of time and money, complexity of analysis and lack of analysis. It was also noted that despite having those challenges community participation in M&E of Welt Hunger Hilfe projects, the opportunities cannot be ignored. The study, therefore, recommends that the Welt Hunger Hilfe Project staff should have comprehensive monitoring and evaluations to ensure local communities are more active in making decision. In addition, more funds should be injected in empowering and building capacity to communities through training and technical support pertaining to monitoring and evaluation.

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**Chapter one:**

**1.0 Overview:**

This research paper is divided into Five Chapters. Chapter One deals with the Introduction , Chapter Two deals with Literature review, Chapter Three Emphasis about the methodology used during the research, chapter Four Presents the Finding, Analysis and Interpretation of results while Chapter Five deals with discussion, Limitation of Study, recommendation, Conclusion, references and Appendixes.

* 1. **Background information**:

In 2009, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) noted that community participation has been part of development policy, programs and projects in both developing and developed countries. Participation improved quality, effectiveness and sustainability of development actions. By placing people at the center of such actions, development efforts have a much greater potential to empower them and lead to ownership of the results. Interest of involving community in M&E in the last decades was enhanced by international development communities. They were not satisfied with conventional M&E in which communities are not actively participating. This approach is not encouraging voices of the poor to be heard adequately. Over the years, most of development interventions that aimed at reducing the poverty level have not participated local people in monitoring and evaluation. This has often resulted in non-sustainability of many development efforts. Practitioners and donors in development projects argue that communities should active participate in monitoring and evaluation in order to achieve pre-determined goals of projects or programs. However, community participation in M&E is a relatively new approach that many development agencies are still learning.

Hilhorst and Guijt (2006:3) noted that while primary stakeholders are increasingly involved in some aspect of planning, their presence within the M&E of actions is very often lacking or inadequate. Ahenkan, Bawole and Domfer (2013:206) also observe that there are no clear structures and procedures for community involvement in the monitoring of development interventions in the districts though some structures for promoting community engagement during planning processes exist.

Hilhorst and Guijt (2006:43), pointed out that access to complete project information provides people with a sound basis to voice their concerns and needs, which can be incorporated into project activities. Moreover, wide public dissemination helps to place control in the hands of communities and mitigates risks of manipulation by other actors and that once the project begun it is important to ensure that the communities stay informed, receive feedback on progress at different stages. Oreyo, Munyua and Olubandwa (2016:82) stated that PM&E enhanced good governance with increased accountability, responsiveness to the needs of the citizens and level of transparency. Devas and Grant (2003:313) argued that there are still problems of lack of transparency, with publicly displayed information often being out of date and inaccessible to the majority because of the location of display or the language used and there continue to be major problems over corruption, rent seeking, abuse of tender procedures and poor relationships between paid officials and elected representatives.

According to Sulemana and Ngah (2012) to establish whether a process of community development is participatory or not, the following questions have to be asked “was the community involved in problem identification, goal formulation, objective setting, and identification of project options, choice making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation? Did community members contribute (in terms of labour, finance and other materials, share in the benefits that accrue from the process”? If the answer to any of the above questions is ‘no’ then the outcome of the process is not participation.

The emphasis on the involvement of beneficiaries is paramount as opposed to conventional M&E and therefore the design of development projects and programmes needs to factor in a participatory approach that is effective. The study is not only interested in the “technical” point of view of the implementing agency (District Assemblies, project managers) only but also the non-technical views of the people at the grassroots or the beneficiary community. The resulting analysis will generate lessons or best practices that are fed back to improve the performance and sustainability of projects. The process is meant to strengthen the capacity and awareness of the participating stakeholders of the various projects and programs. This is why Kusek and Rist (2004:20) argued that monitoring and evaluation promotes greater transparency and accountability within organizations and governments and beneficial spill over effects may also occur from shining a light on results where external and internal stakeholders will have a clearer sense of the status of projects, programs, and policies.

**1.2 Problem Statement:**

There is low level of community Involvement in development projects in Torit Municipality which include inadequate involvement of community in project identification, planning, monitoring and evaluation which affect their Physical health, Attitude, support and knowledge therefore, the research proposal is intended to address.

**1.3 Research Objective**:

**1.4 Main Objectives:**

To determine the importance of Community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation of development projects.

**1.5 Specific Objectives:**

* To find out the level of involvement of the community in monitoring and Evaluation of Development Projects.
* To identify the benefits of community participation in development projects at local level.
* To assess the challenges influencing poor community participation in development projects at local level.

**1.6 Research Questions**:

1. How were people involved in your projects?
2. Did Men and Women engage actively in the project work?
3. Were people from marginalised groups within the community actively engaged in the process of Planning, M&E?
4. What are the benefits of community involvement in project Work?
5. Identify the Challenges of community participation in Development projects?

**1.7 Research hypotheses:**

The Hypothesis of Double Jeopardy holds that people from less advantaged backgrounds are vulnerable, but people from less advantaged backgrounds who also live in less advantaged communities are especially vulnerable.

The examples presented here pertain mainly to the distribution of literacy skills prior to full participation in the labour market and solve problems, evaluate circumstances, and make decisions; and to communicate that information verbally and in writing.

**1.8 Justification of the study:** The study intended to reveal the importance of community participation in Monitoring and Evaluation of development Projects at local level. The study is expected to be of much value to a number of people a follows:

a) It will enable people at local level to see the importance of participating in development projects.

b) It will help local authorities and local people representatives to appreciate and involve citizens in decision making on matters concerning their wellbeing.

c) The study helped the researcher to identify viable areas for further research. Also it will be used as an additional reference to researchers of people participation.

d) The study also helped the researcher to be exposed practically to the field of community participation in development activities and other related matters and subsequently boost her knowledge on the study.

1.9 **Rationale**:

The aim of the research is to improve access to Community Participation in monitoring and Evaluation of Development projects and also improve on Level of participation of marginalized group in the Community.

**1.10 Scope and Limitation**

This study seeks to assess the level of community participation in Monitoring and evaluation of development projects and to focus on involvement of community in Decision making, project identification, planning, M&E of project in Helt Hunger Helf, Torit Municipality - South Sudan.

**1.11Terms used in Assessing community participation in monitoring and Evaluation of Development projects:**

1. **Community** is a social entity made of people or families live in the same geographical area, share common goals or problems, Share similar development aspirations, Have similar interests or social network or relationship at local level, have a common leadership and tradition, have common system of communication, share some resources-water, school and are sociologically and psychologically linked.
2. **Community participation** is a process by which community mobilizes their resources, initiates and takes responsibility for its own development activities and share in decision making for and implementation of all other development programs for the overall improvement of its health status. The key to the successful development of a project organization is community participation, through the process; the people gain greater control over the social, political, and economic and environmental factors determining their health.
3. **Monitoring** represents an on-going activity to track project progress against planned tasks. It aims at providing regular oversight of the implementation of an activity in terms of input delivery, work schedules, targeted outputs, etc. through such routine data gathering, analysis and reporting while
4. **Evaluation** is defined a systematic and objective assessment and rigorous analysis of a continuing or completed project, to determine its effectiveness, significances, impacts and sustainability by comparing the results with the set of standards. It’s the process of passing values judgement concerning the performance level or attainment of defined objectives.
5. **Project identification**: This refers to selection, choice or prioritization of programmes for implementation.
6. **Project implementation**: Refers to the situation where a project meets its objectives within the required timelines, budgets and scope and satisfies the anticipated beneficiaries.

**CHAPTER TWO:**

**Literature Review**

**2.0: Introduction:**

The study of the potential of Benefits and Challenges of community participation for sustainable development compels us to make explicit our assumptions about four main topics, which will include first the concept of participation, then definition of participation, and the scope of participatory strategies where the last topic will review the main constraints for participatory strategies.

**2.1** **Concept of participation**: The concept of participation in development activities is certainly not a new one. According to Caroline, in rural development, community participation has been recognized as an essential component at least since the early 1950s. The importance of participation in urban development activities has lagged behind. One reason may be that rural projects are mainly production oriented, and it is quite evident that the beneficiaries-as producers-must be involved in the development of production systems. In urban projects, beneficiaries have been seen primarily as consumers of services, and their role in developing supply systems has therefore been accorded less importance. Experience with participatory development projects demonstrate that community-based organization can make important contributions to the provision and operation and maintenance of community systems. Benefits derive not only from cost reduction and resource mobilization, but also from better targeting of project measures to peoples' real needs through their involvement in the planning phase. User participation is an integral aspect of demand-oriented development. Furthermore, participation enhances the "ownership" of the facilities by the user community and thus ensures more extensive and efficient use of facilities, better maintenance, and more reliable operation (Moser, Caroline O.N.1987).

**2.2 Definition of participation:** Participation in service management is a process whereby people -as consumers and producers of community services and as citizens-influence the flow and quality of housing and urban services available to them. Participation is based on voluntary relationships between various actors, which may include government institutions, individual services users, community-based organizations, user groups, private enterprises, and non-governmental organizations. On other words we can define participation in community service management with regard to the context of participation, the concerned actors, orientation toward processes, and the nature of relationships that it involves, its implications may be described briefly:

**2.2.1 Context:** Participation is not limited to development projects but includes many activities that take place in normal day-to-day life outside of the project context. These range from the micro-scale, including such activities as community-based maintenance of local drains, to the macro-scale, including public support. Although isolated self-help activities as such are not regarded as "participation," participatory strategies build on existing processes of informal and self-help community development-supporting them where possible and rendering them more effective by linking them to formal community Systems.

**2.2.2** **Process:** Participation refers to a process and not a product. What counts, in other words, is not simply the share of benefits that participants receive but the role they play in determining the evolution of delivery of community services.

**2.2.3 Actors:** The participants concerned are not limited to residential communities; they may be any grouping of community or even individual users and also include private sector enterprises in particular.

**2.2.4 Relations:** Participatory community service management depends on voluntary relationships between two or more groups, actors, or stakeholders. This implies that participation is a two-way process; it is concerned not just with the inputs of beneficiaries to a project or program but with the interaction on a continuing basis between beneficiaries, government, and others. Participatory relationships are voluntary and their effectiveness will depend on each stakeholder being convinced that the process serves his or her interests.

**2.3.0 Scope of Participatory Strategies:** Participation exists in a wide variety of forms, ranging from government involvement in community-based development activities to people's participation in government-directed management functions these approaches are in no way exclusive and often take place at the same time (ADB. 2006).

**2.3.1 Community-based strategy**: The main objectives of community-based strategy are to support the local urban development; enhance capacity of local community groups to manage urban service development; and enable these processes through appropriate changes in the legal, technical, and policy context. Typical actions include organizational and technical extension services. Enabling actions involve recognition of people's rights to self-help housing and urban improvements, tenure security, and awareness building programs. According to Schubeler, the principal strengths of this approach derive from creative learning and the community's potential for self-organization. However, this strategy does not always succeed in introducing representative and functionally oriented organizations. The bottom-up, community-based approach also faces inherent difficulties in linking locally developed housing and urban systems to municipal networks. The approach is seldom able to mobilize more than a modest volume of resources (Schubeler, Peter. ibid. 1996.).

**2.4 Constraints for participatory strategies:** According to Schubeler, Different constraints for participatory strategies impede the success of the possibility of effective participation between the different elements of urban development programs in developing countries; these constraints include factors deal with the legal constraints, regulations and technical standards, planning methods, project management procedures, or absence of a workable model. Next we will analysis briefly the different constraints for participatory strategies as in figure 2 (Schubeler, Peter. ibid. 1996). (figure 2)

**Furthermore on literature review,**

According to (Leaning In, 2018). People depend on each other more than they depend on social and community services. “The concentration of services in urban areas means rural areas are fending for themselves. People and communities feel left out and forgotten. Economic development is focusing on outsiders and not on the benefits to local residents” (Elizabeth Bedsore, 2018). This is especially true in the rural North of Hastings County where connecting with the dis-connected was voiced in most all conversations.

Participation is considered an important component for securing community people’s decision-making and equitable opportunities (Islam, 2014a, 2015; Islam et al., 2013). It must not be seen as a short-term or casual involvement of people; rather, it is a ‘social experience shared by individuals and groups, who live in economic and social relations to each other in a society’, the participatory plan of the NGOs is most useful to improve local people’s confidence, traditional attitude, experience and skills (Islam et al., 2013). It is helpful to justify and verify their thinking within institutional arrangement. More participation within an institutional arrangement decreases individual fears, apprehensions and limitations on the one hand, and increases ‘social mobility’ towards social empowerment on the other (Islam, 2014a, 2014b; Islam and Morgan, 2012). Furthermore, despair, homelessness, apathy and timidity are pervasive among members of a community affected by poverty. Malaysia’s Poverty Line Income (PLI) is based on the minimum requirements of a household for three major components, such as food, clothing and footwear, and other non-food items, for example rent, fuel and power; furniture and household equipment; medical care and health expenses; transport and communications; and recreation, education and cultural services (United Nations, Malaysia, n.d.).

Sheikh(2014),founded that, participation of local communities in development projects planning in the study conducted in Bangladesh has been found to be very low(7%) while the percentage is a bit high (24) in the implementation stage though it is mainly managed ,guided and directed by patron-client relations, mutual benefit-sharing and personal relations. Participation is limited to the rich and socially influential persons, without whom the elected representatives cannot think of their political successes.

Related to the question of “How are people participating?”, are also the questions of “Why to involve?” or “Why to get involved?”. Owusu (2014:2-3) differentiates between “participation as a means” and “participation as an end”. According to him, “participation as a means” refers to a situation where external agents pre-set the objectives of a project. The community becomes merely an implementing partner, whose knowledge, skills and resources are utilized for increased efficiency of development projects. Participation in this instrumental sense can become a tool for legitimizing the external intervention. “Participation as an end”, on the other hand, follows a more transformative line of thought to promote self-reliance. This is an empowering process that enables the community “to identify what they need, make decisions and develop the means of attaining such desires” (Owusu 2014:2).

On intra-community level, Adam and Oshima (2014:25) highlight that marginalized groups like youths have been historically excluded from decision-making power and they caution to carefully consider the possible impacts of participation on consolidated power dynamics. Community elites usually dominate participatory processes, not only because of established traditional roles, but also as “they tend to be better educated” and “have fewer opportunity costs on their time”

However, it has been pointed out that there is little empirical evidence supporting the claims of increased efficiency or effectiveness of participatory approaches (van Kempen 2014:201).

**CHAPTER 3:**

**3.0 Methodology:**

**3.1 Philosophical paradigm:**

From a pragmatism sense (Weaver & Cousins, 2004), participation enhances the relevance of programs to ensure that they are well suited for the needs and circumstances of beneficiaries (Kironde & Kihirimbanyi, 2002; Wilson, 2001).

(b) From a fairness perspective (Weaver & Cousins, 2004) or democratic (Cullen, Coryn, & Rugh, 2011), participation ensures that the views of many stakeholder groups are represented in the development process.

(c) In an epistemological sense, it is expected that program decisions that feed on the insights of many stakeholders are not just relevant to beneficiaries, they are generally smarter (Weaver & Cousins, 2004; Cullen et al., 2011; Brandon, Linberg, & Wang, 1993).

(d) Studies have linked community participation to greater program outcomes such as greater access to social services (e.g. Bedelu, Ford, Hilderbrand & Reuter, 2007; Sirivong et al., 2003; Adatu et al., 2003); consumption and demand for social services (e.g. Kilpatrick et al., 2009; Preston et al., 2009). (e) Community participation is linked to program sustainability due to a greater sense of ownership and responsibility for program activities by stakeholders (Schaffer, 1991; Oakley, 1992). This implies that stakeholders are willing and able to mobilize and commit local resources to continue some or all of the program proceeds after external support is withdrawn or reduced.

Evidence of the benefits of community participation does not indicate which approach works best. Taylor, Wilkinson & Cheers (2008, cited in Preston et al., 2009, p. 4) outline four conceptual approaches to community participation: contribution; instrumental; community empowerment; and developmental approaches. These conceptual approaches exhibit a continuum -from the least to the most engaging and/or empowering.

**3.2 Study Design**:

This study employed a case study research design. The design enabled the researcher to examine Community Participation in monitoring and evaluation system of Welt Hunger Helf sub-projects, how it works and its challenges. A case study is a systematic way of

Collecting information about a particular person, social setting, or a group and understands how it operates. Furthermore, Welt Hunger Helf deals with projects related to poverty reduction at community level in Torit Municipality. Hence, easily to identify, the challenges and opportunities of participation in M&E at level of community.

**3.3 Study site**:

The Study site will be Welt Hunger Helf, Torit Municipality, and Torit State- South Sudan.

Torit State is one of the 28 states of [South Sudan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Sudan). It is located in the [Equatoria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equatoria) region and it borders [Yei River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yei_River_State) to the southwest, [Jubek](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jubek_State) to the west, [Terekeka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terekeka) and [Jonglei](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jonglei) to the northwest, [Boma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boma_State) to the northeast, [Kapoeta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kapoeta) to the east, and [Uganda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uganda) to the south. Torit County is located in [Torit State](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imatong_State), [South Sudan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Sudan), close to the border with [Uganda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uganda). It was earlier located in [Eastern Equatoria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Equatoria). The county is bordered by [Lafon County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lafon_County) to the north, [Ikotos County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ikotos_County) to the east and south, [Magwi County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magwi_County) to the west and [Juba County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juba_County) in the extreme northwest. (See map to the right).

Torit was upgraded to Municipality status administered by a mayor on August 19, 2013, the town of [Torit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Torit), where the county headquarters are located, lies approximately 150 kilometres (93 mi), by road, east of [Juba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juba,_South_Sudan), the capital and largest city in South Sudan.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Torit_County#cite_note-3) The coordinates of Torit County are: 4° 30' 0.00"N, 32° 30' 0.00"E (Latitude: 4.5000; Longitude: 32.5000).

The are 12 Counties in Torit State(Ikwoto, Imehejeck, Kidepo Valley, Lafon, Lopit West, Magwi, Torit West,Torit,Torit East, Pageri, Ayacii, Geria).

**3.4 Research Approach:**

The research will be more of Qualitative Data Collection but Quantitative Approach will also be used to support since variables like Gender and percentage of Responses by respondents..

**3.5 Research Method:** the method that will be used include Interviewing of respondents, Focus Group discussion, Questionnaire, observation will also be taken from the Field and Project Document of the Organization.

**3.6 Data needs types and sources**:

The Primary Data will be collected from 3 Project staff through administering of Questionnaire and interview, Secondary Data collected from Bakari Iddi, Said Nuhu. Challenges and Opportunities for Community Participation in Monitoring and Evaluation of Government Projects in Tanzania: Case of TASAF II, Bagamoyo District. Journal of Public Policy and Administration. Vol. 2, No. 1, 2018, pp. 1-10.

**3.7 Population, Sampling procedure and Data collection**:

Purposive Sampling method will be used. 3 Respondents (3 Project Staff ) will be purposively identified and selected.

**3.8 Data Analysis**:

The study was qualitative in nature and the quantitative data was employed to back the qualitative information. Thematic analysis was used to analyze the qualitative data. Through thematic analysis, themes were identified and sorted based on specific themes and patterns relating to challenges and opportunities of community participation in M&E. The quantitative data were analyzed by employing Excel Package.

**3.9 Data Presentation**:

Data collection will be organized & presented in Table form so that logical and statistical conclusions are derived from the collected measurements. **Data** may be presented in Textual - Tabular through the use of Excel Sheet.

**3.10. Validity and Reliability**

The Data collected will be valid and reliable because it is collected from primary source and the Secondary Data was used to support the Primary Data.

**3.11 Ethics**

In terms of the “information requirement”, the research participants and the project Staff /beneficiary were duly informed about the study. From the outset, project Staff/Beneficiary informed about the research, its aim, the author’s relationships with any third parties, as well as the usage of the findings and final dissemination. Before commencing any research activity, it was highlighted that participation is voluntary and that participants can choose to withdraw at any time. Furthermore, they were informed about the study both orally as well as by providing a consent letter detailing the study aim as well as answering a number of questions, e.g. on confidentiality or usage of material. In cases where participants were not in good command of English, the researcher went through the hand-out step by step explaining the meaning in Arabic. Opportunities for questions were provided before and after each interview.

Concerning the “consent requirement”, after informing all participants in detail about the study and their rights, they signed an informed consent form (Gama Gabriel- 2019). With regards to the “confidentiality requirement”, research material has been anonymized and stored safely.

Lastly, in light of the “use requirement”, the collected information and data will not be used for any other purpose but the one explained to the participants.

**Chapter 4**

**4.1 Presentations of findings,**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **DEMOGRAPHIC DATA** | |  |
| Table1: | **Gender** |  |  |
| **S/no** | **Category** | **Frequency(n=3)** | **Percent (%)** |
|  | a) Male | 2 | 67 |
|  | b) Female | 1 | 33 |
|  | Grand Total | | 100 |

**In the above Table 1, the Majority of the respondent are Male 2/3(67%) and only 1/3(33%) of the respondents are Female.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 2**: | **Age of Respondent** | |  |
| **S/no** | Category | **Requency(n=3)** | **Percent(%)** |
| **a)** | 20-25 | 0 | 0 |
| **b)** | 26-31 | 0 | 0 |
| **c)** | 32-37 | 1 | 33 |
| **d)** | 38 & ABOVE | 2 | 67 |
|  | **Grand Total** | | **100** |

**In Table 2, Majority of the respondent are aged 38& above which presented 2/3(67%) and 1/3(33%) are aged from 32-37.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 3:** | **Religion:** |  |  |
| **S/no** | Category | **Frequency (n=3)** | **Percent(%)** |
| **a)** | Christian | 2 | 67 |
| **b)** | Muslim | 1 | 33 |
| **c)** | Pagan | 0 | 0 |
| **d)** | Others | 0 | 0 |
|  | **Grand Total** | | **100** |

**In Table 3, there are 2/3(67%) of the respondents are Christians while 1/3(33%) of the respondents are Muslim, and no Pagan.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 4:** | **Nationality** |  |  |
| **S/No** | **CATEGORY** | **FREQUENCY(N=3)** | **PERCENT (%)** |
| **a)** | a)South Sudanese | 2 | 67 |
| **b)** | b) Kenyan | 0 | 0 |
| **c)** | c) Ugandan | 1 | 33 |
| **d)** | d) others | 0 | 0 |
|  | **Grand Total** | | **100** |

**In the above Table 4, there is 2/3(67%) South Sudanese and 1/3(33%) of the respondent is a Ugandan.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 5:** | **Qualification:** |  |  |
| **S/No.** | **CATEGORY** | **FREQUENCY(N=3)** | **PERCENT (%)** |
| **a)** | Degree | 0 | 0 |
| **b)** | Diploma | 2 | 67 |
| **c)** | Secondary Certificate | 0 | 0 |
| **d)** | Others(Grade 3 Teacher) | 1 | 33 |
|  | Grand Total | | 100 |

**In Table 5, the majority 2/3(67%) of the respondent are Diploma Holder and 1/3(33) of the respondent is a Grade 3 certificate Teacher.**

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| **Table 6:** | | **How people involved in project:** |  |  |
| **S/no** | | **Category** | **Frequency(n=3)** | **Percent(%)** |
| **a)** | | In terms of Decision Making | 3 | 100 |
| **b)** | | In terms of Labour | 0 | 0 |
| **c)** | | In terms of Money | 0 | 0 |
| **d)** | | In terms of Food for work | 0 | 0 |
|  | | **Grand total** | | **100** |

**In Table 6, all 3/3(100%) of the respondent said that, people involves in project work through decision making.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 7:** | **Active Engagement of Men & Women:** | |  |
| **S/no** | **Response** | **Frequency(n=3)** | **Percent(%)** |
| a) | Yes | 2 | 67 |
| b) | No | 1 | 33 |
| c) | Don’t Know | 0 | 0 |
| d) | Others | 0 | 0 |
|  | **Grand Total** | | 100 |

**In Table 7, 2/3(67%) of the respondent said that, both Men and Women are engaged actively in project work while 1/3(33%), said that, there is no active engagement of Men and Women in Project work.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 8:** | **Active involvement of Marginalized group in Project work:** | | | |
| **S/no** | **Response** | **Frequency(n=3)** | **Percent(%)** |
| a) | Yes | 2 | 67 |
| b) | No | 1 | 33 |
| c) | Don’t know | 0 | 0 |
| d) | Others | 0 | 0 |
|  | **Grand Total** | | **100** |

**In the above table 8, 2/3(67%), the marginalized group are actively involves in project work and only 1/3(33%) respondents said that, the marginalized group are not actively involved in project work.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 9: Benefits of Community Participation in M&E:** | |  |  |
| S/no. | Category | Frequency(n=3) | Percent(%) |
| a) | Helps in problem Identification | 2 | 67 |
| b) | Reduces high expectation by Community(ies) | 1 | 33 |
| c) | improves skills of project planning, M&E | 1 | 33 |
| d) | Reduces the spirit of dependant thinking | 1 | 33 |
| e) | increases sense of ownership & Responsibility | 1 | 33 |
| f) | Easy identification of Marginalised group | 2 | 67 |

**In Table 9, 2/3(67%) of the respondents said that, the benefit of Community participation in M&E includes (1. Easy identification of Marginalised group, 2. Helps in problem Identification) while 1/3(33%) of the respondents said that, the benefits of Community Participation in M&E includes (1. Reduces high expectation by Community (ies), 2. improves skills of project planning, M&E, 3. Reduces the spirit of dependant thinking, 4. Increases sense of ownership & Responsibility).**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **10. Challenges influencing poor Community Participation:** | |  |  |
| S/no. | **Challenges** | **Frequency(n=3)** | **Percent(%)** |
| a) | Negative cultural practices | 2 | 67 |
| b) | High Expectation for relief Aid/Assistance | 3 | 100 |
| c) | Illiteracy/ignorance of benefit of project | 1 | 33 |
| d) | Favouritism by community leaders | 1 | 33 |

**In the above Table 10, 3/3(100%) of the respondent pointed out that, High expectation for Relief Aid/Assistance is the biggest challenges influencing poor participation of Community in Project work, 2/3(67%) of respondents said that, Negative cultural practices and only 1/3(33%) of the respondent said that, Illiteracy and Favoritism by community leaders in project work also influence poor community Participation.**

**4.2 Analysis:**

The questionnaire was administered to 3 Project staff of **Welt Hunger Helf- an organization dealing with Food security and WASH and Nutrition**, the Majority of the respondent are Male 2/3(67%) and only 1/3(33%) of the respondents are Female.

And also the majority of the respondent are adults aged 38& above which presented 2/3(67%) and 1/3(33%) of the respondent are aged from 32-37 who are active youth.

There are 2/3(67%) respondents who are Christians while 1/3(33%) of the respondents are Muslim, and no Pagan.

Not only that, 2/3(67%) South Sudanese and 1/3(33%) of the respondent are a Ugandan.

And also, the majority 2/3(67%) of the respondent are Diploma Holder and 1/3(33) of the respondent is a Grade 3 certificate Teacher, since the respondents are Diploma Holder, they tend to participate actively in decision making through project identification, Planning and M&E. In Table 6, all 3/3(100%) of the respondent said that, people involves in project work through decision making.

Since engaging Men & Women is important for Gender sensitivity, 2/3(67%) of the respondent said that, both Men and Women are engaged actively in project work while 1/3(33%), said that, there is no active engagement of Men and Women in Project work.

2/3(67%), respondent have agreed that, the marginalized group are actively involves in project work and only 1/3(33%) respondents said that, the marginalized group are not actively involved in project work.

2/3(67%) of the respondents said that, the benefit of Community participation in M&E includes (1. Easy identification of Marginalised group, 2. Helps in problem Identification, Planning, M&E) while 1/3(33%) of the respondents said that, the benefits of Community Participation in M&E includes (1. Reduces high expectation by Community (ies), 2. improves skills of project planning, M&E, 3. Reduces the spirit of dependant thinking, 4. Increases sense of ownership & Responsibility). Out of the Total respondents, 3/3(100%) of the respondent pointed out that, High expectation for Relief Aid/Assistance is the biggest challenges influencing poor participation of Community in Project work, 2/3(67%) of respondents said that, Negative cultural practices and only 1/3(33%) of the respondent said that, Illiteracy and Favoritism by community leaders in project work also influence poor community Participation.

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**4.3 interpretations:**

**4.3.0 Benefits of Community participation in M&E.**

**4.3.1 Problem Identification**: The findings indicate that community participation in monitoring and evaluation helps in problem identification of community needs since the community gets knowledge and skills and knowledge on Planning, M&E of Development Project. “When community is involved in monitoring and evaluation of any project, usually there is a possibility of the longer life of the projects since community get knowledge and skills of operating and maintaining the project. Some projects stopped after their implementation because there is no active involvement

**4.3.2 Reduction of High Expectation/spirit of Dependent thinking:** are the benefits of involving community in M&E of development projects. This indicates that the respondents in this category believed that, involvement of Community in M&E is important to make sure that beneficiaries address the real needs of communities in the most appropriate way of any developed projects.

**4.4.3. Promote Sense of Ownership** **& Responsibility:** The findings indicated that community participation in M&E developed a sense of ownership because even the voice of the voiceless been adhered been integrated in the decision making process, one of the respondents in justifying this said: “…if there is a real participatory approach in monitoring and evaluation, We are empowered through training and active involvement in the project. This makes community to own and control the project which promotes them to make decisions for corrective action…” Participating in monitoring and evaluation from the beginning to the end of the project can give stakeholders a sense of ownership over the results. Recognizing beneficiaries in M&E process builds confidence and pride in the community, and among participants. Furthermore, the study revealed that community involvement in M&E promotes local people learning. One of the respondent comment on this: “...**involving community in M&E helps to build confidence to community, created sense of ownership and empowered community**. Also, it helps to build an informed and responsible citizenry with a sense of ownership, allowing the implementers to get buy-in and develop partnerships with stakeholders” This indicates that community involvement in M&E attempt to mobilize communities for action with the hope of instilling a sense of ownership and commitment to the development activity. Recognizing beneficiaries in M&E process builds confidence and pride in the community, and among participants.

**4.4.4** **Improves skills of Project Planning:** Involving community in M&E ensured proper allocation of resource for the reason that community would identify clearly their proper needs which ensured appropriate allocation of fund. The findings indicate that some of the beneficiary they change their initial projects targets through participation in M&E. This change was a bottom-up approach rather than top-up approach, and done by the beneficiaries themselves without the influence of Welt Hunger Helf Project staff. The findings also indicate that involving community in M&E systems help project staff and community to analyze what is working well, what is not working and why is not working. It was also found that community members reflect and assess the progress of the project towards achieving its goals and adjust activities as required.

**4.4.5 Easy identification of Marginalized group in the Community:**

Community involvement in M&E enhances transparency and accountability in the identification of the neediest in the community as far as the use of resources is concern. It is pointed out that implementing agency should be ready to discuss findings that local people act on. Community participation in M&E should actively involve grassroots (Men, Women, Aged, Disable and orphans) in planning, implementation Monitoring and Evaluation.

**4.5.0 Challenges Influencing poor Participation of Community in Development Projects.**

The study wanted to find out if there were any challenges of involving community in M & E in Welt Hunger Hilfe project. All 3/3(100%) of the respondents indicated that there were challenges in participating in M&E due to High expectation for relief assistance, while 2/3(67%) (3) Indicated that Negative cultural practices such as inadequate Decision making in Community meetings and only 1/3(33) of the respondents are faced with problem of Illiteracy and Favoritism by Community leaders in project works. Many Communities are illiterate and therefore, they cannot understand the concept and Stages of project planning, M&E and according to them, Participation in M&E takes much time because it needs people to participate in all stages; planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation. The findings indicate that most of the beneficiaries live productive work for Women due to Negative cultural belief/Norms.

Therefore, because of these Challenges, the Governor of South Sudan’s Torit State Declared Torit State ‘’Food Insecured in 2018. This is what he had to say in Radio Tamazuj……”The governor of South Sudan’s Torit State has declared the state as food insecure while calling for aid organizations to hastily respond to the food needs”.

Tobiolo Alberio Oromo addressing the press on Wednesday evening said more than half of the state population will require food aid in the coming months before the next harvest season.

“The state government do hereby declares Torit State is in a very critical food insecurity situation and calls upon all humanitarian agencies to respond by giving the lifesaving food to the needy population of the state,” he stated.

Alberio added that the situation deteriorated since the end of last year due to long dry spells leading to poor harvests and wildfires.

Therefore, insufficient men’s participation in Household and community work is responsible for food insecurity to a larger extent although long dry spell is another challenge.

Chapter 5

* 1. Discussion:

This paper aimed at assessing community participation in monitoring and evaluation of development Projects. The finding from this study indicated that community participation is important in monitoring and evaluation given that they contribute to the sustainability of the projects. It is also; ensure the good governance of in the management and development of the established projects. Despite the contribution of community through participation in monitoring and evaluation, but, still, community participation goes with challenges such challenges of participatory monitoring and evaluation have been well addressed by other scholars. Butterfoss and Mutua assert that community participation can be constrained by lack of literacy skills, insufficient time, and the intensity of analytical work to be undertaken during the evaluation, and the fact that many of the issues covered during the evaluation are not directly relevant to community members. Participation of communities in monitoring and evaluation require many resources such as time, transport and performance related allowance. Collection and documentation of wide range of information requires skills that are lacking in the community. Therefore, it necessitates much time and resource for capacity building. Estrella et al., argues that PM&E as a process of learning, it becomes more complex, since more stakeholders including the community within the entire program/project become involved in M&E which have varies interest and needs. This makes the process of analyzing the collected information to be more complex because choosing a method which would complement the interest of all stakeholders is very difficult. Evaluators also, are challenged by putting a participatory evaluation into practice, especially with a number of different stakeholders who often have different needs and interest. Harris et al notes that it is a challenge to identify which tools are most appropriate for understanding the impact of different interventions. The PM&E needs great thought in the choice of particular methods of collecting information. World Bank contends that PM&E approach is more complex than generally assumed and if participatory values and systems are not present in an organization, introducing PM&E needs discussion on how the approach can be adopted more widely.

* 1. **Limitation of the Study:**

Key limitations of the study include limited time, poor internet network and resources for actual field study where the researcher is required to make several trips to project sites to administer the questionnaire. To address these limitations, due to shortage of fund, the researcher is the principal investigator (6) to conduct interview and collect Data.

* 1. **Recommendation:**
* **Halting Generational Poverty:**

Poverty is a cycle, an unwanted gift handed down from generation to generation. Poor families rarely participate in Development Projects, tend to live near each other, creating an impoverished community. When parents are well-educated, they tend to bring in more money and give their children more educational opportunities to be able to take sound decisions. Women also tend to spend more money on food and education for their children than men do, and educated women are more likely to value education [http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2012/03/revenga.htm] involving women in Project Planning, M&E increases the chances of Participation and involvement is the number one tool to lift people out of inadequate decision Making.

* Formal written action plans should be developed, setting out clearly assigned roles and responsibilities to clarify agreements and hold communities and services accountable for their activities.
* Participation in program planning should ideally be implemented through either existing or adapted structures and platforms that enable planning at the local level (reflecting the local reality/needs) and input to planning at higher levels, with monitoring and evaluation and ongoing planning/replanning.
* Discussion at the national and local levels is required for adaptation to context and to ensure a meaningful degree of decentralization and the appropriate level of budget and resources assigned to support the process.
* Community participation in planning and implementation of program is a dynamic process that can strengthen community capacity in many ways such as helping communities to effectively identify their assets, needs, and problems; plan together as a group; obtain and manage resources; problem-solve; use data to monitor progress and make decisions; and resolve or manage conflict. It takes time to build trust and for community members to develop the skills and processes necessary to plan and implement effectively as a group. However, once relationships and trust have been established and skills have been learned, they can be applied to address other community priorities. When engaging in these types of processes, those in supporting roles need to be aware of the changing context and adjust their support accordingly.
  1. **Conclusion:**

Despite the benefits realized in community participation in M&E of Welt Hunger Hilfe Project, the communities had High expectation for relief Food and this has reduced their level of Participation due to **dependent thinking** and lack of sense of Ownership for sustainability of the project, inadequate knowledge on M&E, inadequate sharing of information between Men and Women in the communities. e government should continue to provide training to its staff members on PM&E and community members so as to raise their level of awareness on the process.

**5.4 References:**

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5.5.0 Appendixes:

5.5.1 Consent:

**Consent Letter:**

I am a student from Africa Institute for Project Management Studies persuing Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation. I am carrying out a research on Assessing Community Participation in Monitoring and Evaluation of Development projects. This assignment is part of my course at the Institute. I request you to give me the necessary information by answering the following Questions and any information provided will be kept at most confidentially and result of the Study will be useful to Researchers.

Part one of the questions will cover your demographic information and part two will entails the Main research questions. Kindly read through and sign if you are willing to do this exercise.

Signature: …………..……….. Date of Signature:………………….

Thank s

**5.5.2 Questionnaire:**

Part One: **Demographic Data.**

**Part two: Questions:**

Write or tick the necessary information in the Box provided below

**Part 1:**

1: Gender:

1. Male
2. Female

2. Age:

1. 20-25
2. 26-31
3. 32-37
4. 38 & above

5. Religion:

1. Christian
2. Muslim
3. Pagan
4. Others, specify……………………………….

6. Nationality:

1. South Sudanese
2. Kenyan
3. Ugandan
4. Others, specify………………………………

7. Qualification/Education Level:

1. Degree
2. Diploma
3. Secondary Certificate
4. Others, Specify………………………………

**Part two: Questions**

**8.** How were people involved in your projects? Tick the techniques you used:

1. Community participation in terms of decision making
2. Community participation in terms of labour
3. Community participation in terms of Money
4. Community Participation in terms of Food for work.

**9.** Did Men & Women engaged actively in the project work?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don’t Know
4. Others, Specify

**10.** Were people from marginalised groups within the community actively engaged in the process of Planning, M&E?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don’t Know
4. Others, Specify

11. What are the benefits of community involvement in project Work?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**12**. Identify the Challenges of community participation in Development projects.

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**Thank you;**

**5.5.3 Map of Torit State- South Sudan.**

