INFLUENCE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN COUNTY ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FORMULATION IN NYANDARUAN COUNTY, KENYA

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C153/NKU/PT/20705/2021

A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF LAW, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF MASTERS DEGREE IN PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION AT KENYATTA UNIVERSITY.

APRIL, 2023
DECLARATION

This project is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university.

Signature…………………………………… Date…………………………

Peter Mungai Kiongo
C153/NKU/PT/20705/2021

SUPervisor

This project has been submitted for the review with my approval as University Supervisor.

Signature…………………………………… Date…………………………

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ABSTRACT

Public participation plays an important role in the success of devolved governments in Kenya. However, studies have indicated a significant loss of public trust in devolved governments especially at the county level. The way county government carries out their operations without substantial public involvement and engagement has been the major factor resulting to the loss of public trust. These leads to a negative impact on the development and growth of counties in Kenya. The survey therefore aimed to explore the influence of public participation in county annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua county with the objectives being to determine the participants’ selection criteria during the formulation of the County annual development plan, to determine the methods of participants engagement in formulating the annual development plan in Nyandarua County, and to establish participants feedback mechanisms in county annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County. The study was informed by two theories that are vital in unwrapping the puzzle surrounding the public involvement and engagement and are the Theory of Empowerment and the Cognitive Engagement Theory. From a reachable population of 334,932 citizens in the county, a sample size of 384 participants were chosen through a snowball sampling technique. A survey research design was adopted where questionnaires and structured and unstructured interviews were utilized to gather information from the selected participants. Data analysis was done using the SPSS software (version 26.0). The diagnostic tests were done. The test was performed to establish existence of: normal distribution, multicollinearity and linearity. The findings offered statistical proof that there is a strong correlation between public involvement and the creation of annual development plans. Particularly, it was discovered that the three drivers participants' selection criteria, participant engagement strategies, and participant feedback mechanisms were substantial and had a favorable impact on Nyandarua County's annual development plan creation. The study makes several recommendations, including that the Annual Development Plan program be tailored to account for the dynamic nature of citizens' demographic characteristics and that the county government improve public relations, reporting, and policy communication, as these were found to be positively related to public participation levels in the annual development plan. The study also urges that strong measures be implemented to promote public awareness in integrated development planning.
**ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

<table>
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<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>ADP</td>
<td>Annual Development Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANOVA</td>
<td>Analysis of Variance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNBS</td>
<td>Kenya National Bureau of Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KDSP</td>
<td>Kenya Devolution Support Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPSS</td>
<td>Statistical Package for Social Science</td>
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OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Participation**: refers to the action of taking part in something. In this study, it will mean the public taking part in county government’s annual development plan activities.

**Public Participation**: This alludes to where priorities are determined, policies are created, resources are allocated, and citizens have major power over these processes as well as access to public goods and services. In this study, the same interpretation will be used.

**Communication**: refers to the exchange of information between two or more parties. In this study, it will refer to the exchange of information between the citizens and the county government.

**Feedback**: it refers to a response given by one party to another on issues raised or on Annual development plan formulation. In this study, it will refer to the response from the government on the issues/recommendations raised by the citizens on the development plans.

**Feedback Mechanism**: is a system established and used to permit citizens to provide information on their experience on the participation of a program. The same meaning will apply in this study.

**Citizen Engagement**: refers to the interaction between citizens and the county government. The same meaning will be used in this study.
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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

According to the World Bank (2011), participation is a process where stakeholders have a major impact and a say in decisions about policies, resource allocation, priority setting, and access to products and services that belong to the general public. Stakeholder participation is highly valued since it enhances productivity and product quality. By expanding the information base, encouraging creativity, and facilitating social backing for policy development and execution, it improves the decision-making process.

The World Bank (2015a) view public participation to be a process where firms make consultations with individuals, groups, and statutory bodies prior to arriving to a decision. In addition, public participation is also considered as two-way communication to reach better and acceptable decisions (World Bank, 2015b). Additionally, public participation results to satisfactory programs, and better collaborative governance.

Governance experts think that it is crucial to launch a well-organized public engagement initial in the life cycle of a prearranged intercession and maintain it throughout. Omollo (2011) pointed out that in any normal institutional management practice, the public participation process should concentrate on navigable matters pertinent to the making decision, conform to the ethics guidelines, uphold moral commitments and respect participants' beliefs and interests.
1.1.1 Global Perspective of Public Participation in Annual Development Plan Formulation

Over the past few decades, significant political, social, and economic developments as well as technical advancements have been seen around the world. In many nations around the world, devolution of power-focused governance reforms that aim to improve ideal democracy have recently been implemented, according to a 2013 World Bank poll. According to Lodiaga (2012), a renewed push for good governance changes has been accredited to the shortcomings of federal command and control systems and states.

The importance of public participation (WB, 2015) in enabling the general people to understand the development goals at hand has been recognized by nations like the USA, United Kingdom, Brazil, and India. Also, in Porto Alegre, one of the Brazilian cities where structured budget participation resulted in improved access to services and accountability (Cabannies, 2014; Fox, 2014). In addition, the adoption of the participatory budgeting in the city of Porto Alegre led to a notable rise in tax revenues, as instant prominence of the services that aroused from their involvement inspired the residents to upsurge their conduct of paying taxes.

1.1.2 Regional Perspective of Public Participation in Annual Development Plan Formulation

According to the Institute of Economic Affairs (2015), public participation can be viewed as an approach to governance that has numerous advantages: such as empowering the citizen of a country; a source of new, innovative and diverse concepts and Annual development plan formulation actions; improvement of citizen-
governments relationships; proper ranking of development projects and programs; enhanced public services delivery and; effective the governments’ receptiveness.

In Africa, in the 1960s, public participation was undeveloped in constitution-making but dashed many preliminary anticipations (Menski, 2019). However, regarding the above, this aspect of public involvement has undergone notable appreciation in various African countries where citizens are highly considered in developing and implementing governments’ projects and programs. For instance, through public participation, Ghana has adopted various accountability and participatory mechanisms at the national and local levels for citizens, which include public engagement in collective action and the right of citizens to participate in elections (Media & Governance Series, 2019).

1.1.3 Local Perspective of Public Participation in Annual Development Plan Formulation

Even though through different forms, public participation has been practiced in Kenya even before the 2010 constitution was promulgated. The only entities allowed to participate in public life during the colonial era were the municipal governments. Due to the inhabitants' unclear understanding of their rights and unwillingness to take advantage of the opportunity to express their opinions and expectations, the laws governing citizen participation did not fully recognize their potential. Devas and Grant (2003) claim that the inclusion of residents in decision-making led to a crucial change in the expenditure priorities of local government in Kenya.

A legislative framework for enhancing public participation at the local level was created with the adoption of the Kenyan constitution (2010) and the implementation of the devolved form of governance. According to Kenyan Constitution of 2010, Article 196
(1) (b), county assembly must allow the public to participate in county government activities as a part of the country's core values and guiding principles. The constitution emphasizes that those who are marginalized and less respected should be given the opportunity to take part in united social and economic life in general and counties in particular (Kanyinga, 2014).

Several county governments for instance, the Makueni county government have effectively incorporated public participation in formulating annual development plans. The World Bank recently praised Makueni County's model for allowing district residents to choose which development plans to implement and to manage the projects that have been commissioned. According to the World Bank, the Makueni County public participation model comprises project documentation and full public participation during implementation (Roy, 2022).

1.1.4 Nyandarua County

Nyandarua County is one of the 47 Counties in Kenya and covers an area of approximately 3245.2 square kilometres. It lies between latitude 0° 8’ to the North and 0° 50’ to the South, and between 35° 13’ to the East and 36° 42’ to the West. Its neighbours Nakuru, Kiambu, Laikipia, Nyeri, and Murang’a Counties. Nyandarua County is located approximately 150 km North West of Nairobi City. The County’s headquarters and the seat of the County Government is Ol Kalou town. The main economic activity and mainstay of the County is agriculture where it is the leading potato producer in Kenya (County Government of Nyandarua, 2017).

For development projects, county government of Nyandarua, initiated County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2018 – 2022. The main goal of this County
Integrated Development Plan is to establish community developmental prime concerns to be executed during the coming five years.

The ADP (Annual Development Plan) serves as a basis for development of the County annual budget. It guides the budget making process for the next financial year. The ADP forms the initial stages of the budget making process hence it informs the County executive’s decision in coming up with budget estimates. The Nyandarua County Annual Development Plan (2020/2021) has been prepared based on priorities outlined in Nyandarua CIDP2. The priorities in CIDP2 are aligned to Kenya’s Vision 2030 and are in line with the Jubilee Manifesto and the President’s Four Point Agenda for the period 2018-2022.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Public participation is progressively being pursued globally to enhance the Annual development plan formulation of devolved countries (Finch, 2015). This is a fact that has been appreciated by many nations which include USA, UK, India, and South Africa. World Bank study (2015b) uncovered a positive correlation between public participation and improved country Annual development plan formulation, but the actual Annual development plan formulation of Kenya counties were dismal. This is despite efforts being made to adopt public participation through legal frameworks in Kenya. Additionally, widespread resource embezzlement has reportedly occurred in numerous Kenyan counties, sparking ongoing demonstrations and strikes across the country. As a result, the public is no longer confident in the way that county governments are run.
The Kenyan Constitution 2010 article 220(2) together with the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) 2012 section 126 mandates preparation of Annual Development Plans by County each financial year which will act as their annual development blue prints. The constitution requires the counties to undertake public participation while preparing the ADP.

According to Transparency International (2015), poor Annual development plan formulation exhibited by the counties has resulted to worsening public goodwill related to poor public-government links. Nevertheless, despite an escalating public participation across various counties, the Annual development plan formulation exhibited by the Kenyan county governments is still in question. This means that public trust in the decentralized system of government, which is negatively impacting the development and growth of Kenyan counties, is beginning to erode (IEA, 2015; WB, 2015a). According to the World Bank reports, Nyandarua County has been ranked as the best performing counties under the Kenya Devolution Support Program (KDSP) in the last three consecutive years, however, the county continues to experience persistent demonstrations from the residents over poor road network, lack of proper health care facilities, water shortages, poor electricity connectivity among other social challenges. The proposed study therefore sought to establish the influence of public participation in county annual development plan formulation in the County.
1.3 Objectives

i. To determine the participants’ selection criteria during the formulation of the Nyandarua County annual development plan.

ii. To determine the methods of participants engagement in formulating the annual development plan in Nyandarua County, Kenya.

iii. To establish participants feedback mechanisms in county annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County.

1.4 Research Questions

i. How are the public participation participants selected while formulating the annual development plan in Nyandarua County, Kenya?

ii. How are the residents engaged during the formulation of the annual development plan public participation in Nyandarua County, Kenya?

iii. What are the feedback mechanisms in county annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County, Kenya?

1.5 Significance of the Study

This information will be useful for the county governments as well as the national government to inform their policy and actions on the participation of the public in budgeting process. This will help improve future policies that will be enacted to foster public participation in budget formulation. The proposed study will also contribute to academic research in the discipline of public finance and governance specifically on issues of public participation in policy formulation, especially budgeting process.
1.6 Scope and Limitations of the Study

This study was conducted in Nyandarua County, Kenya. The study aimed to explore the influence of public participation in county annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County, Kenya. The researcher limited data collection to participants’ selection criteria, methods of participants engagement and participants feedback mechanisms. The study was conducted on 2022-2023 financial year.

The researcher anticipated that some respondents were hesitant in giving out information. Hence, the need to reassure them that information they conveyed was strictly confidential. Hesitant respondents were reassured that the data provided was treated with strict confidential levels and they were free in answering the questionnaires. Moreover, the researcher offered explanation where respondents would have difficulties understanding questionnaires.
CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL/THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

This section will present literature that will be applicable to the study objectives. Precisely, the chapter will present literature explicit to variables participant selection criteria, participants’ engagement method and management, access to information and feedback mechanism in developing plans and enhancing county Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County, Kenya.

2.2 The Concept of Public Participation and Participants Selection Criteria in the County Annual Development Plan

Public participation, according to Hague and Harrop (2004), is the method that openly involves the public in making of decision and involved in formulation of public plans. Participation in politics refers to an action taken by individuals with the formal intent of influencing those in positions of power on behalf of others. The people in positions of authority are expected to understand what is best for the citizens; hence, their choices must be passively supported by the people under them, and politically, it would be anticipated that they were participating in governance. As a result, residents can be divided into groups based on how they participate in politics and how they do so (Hague & Harrop, 2004). In terms of development, it is a method whereby the people of a nation participate in choosing how information is disseminated, goals and strategies are developed, charge resources are allotted, programs are carried out, and benefits like agreements, tenders, and support are disseminated (Arnstein, 1969).
To launch and uphold effective public contribution, county leaders and stakeholders should consider how they support the process. Some essential elements contributing to successful participation include adequate resources to complete the process. The leaders should show the appropriate degree or level of involvement for the decision at hand and set the public's expectations. Conducting a civic education to the citizen about the benefits of public participation helps people to be aware of what to expect and how it affects the development of their areas.

Nyandarua County has embraced the concept of public contribution in the county expansion plan. Over the years, the county government has ensured that the public is intricate in the making-decision procedure when planning, budgeting, and other jobs related to the county's development. According to the statement by John et al. (2009), the contribution of the public in the county advancement plan has resulted in transparency and liability. The community can censoriously engage in the social, radical, social, financial, and environmental impacts, regulations, and advancement plans. In addition, public participation empowers the county government to understand and value various feelings and concerns.

2.3 Public Participation Method in the Annual Development Plans

Public awareness in the development of annual county plans is essential. However, a study by Marzuki (2009) found that meaningful engagement can only take place if the residents are aware of the significance of the development plans in which they are supposed to take part. Kenya has a powerful legislature that provides a range of apparent open expertise and principles of involvement. However, it meets the
challenges of implementation to offer an empowering atmosphere for the delivery of services (World Bank, 2015a).

Public engagement offers a place for county decision-makers and other participants to comprehend the variety of topics and opinions (John et al., 2009). The study emphasizes that as citizens take part in the making decision process, their knowledge base is widened by public participation in development plans. This study also points out that when the public is involved, they might contribute technical know-how, detailed information about how decisions will effect certain stakeholders, citizen and knowledge of the past, or other specialized knowledge.

According to Linbin (2021), creating awareness through public participation eases social contentions by dealing with the interests of various partners and building agreements. In Nyandarua county, administrative and legislative governments have adhered to policies that will help public awareness; for instance, provision of access to information legislation. Without appropriate access to data, the general population cannot consider their chiefs responsible in that frame of mind. Access to information regulation is critical to give a legal structure to the unique arrangement of information to people in public. The county government is required to guarantee that they establish and implement this law.

2.4 Feedback Mechanism During Annual Development Plans

Access to information is only likely when there is open communication between the county administration and the impacted stakeholders during the decision-making process. Article 35 of Kenya's 2010 Constitution guarantees all citizens’ access to information when seeking services from a decentralized system of government. Public
communication and information access must be integrated into all development activities, as per the Section 93 of the County Governments Act for increasing the residents' awareness of devolution and governance, employment opportunities, tendering processes, and general service delivery. This would make it possible for citizens to advocate by taking part in the crucial development plan for the government in Nyandarua County (Government of Kenya (2014) Draft Guidelines).

Omolo (2010) explains that public participation improves decisions since leaders have complete information. Leaders also acquire facts, values, and points of view over open details to current an influential influence on the chosen cycle. Besides, leaders can then combine the best data and mastery, all being equal. Selections are more implementable and manageable because the option considers the requirements and interests of all associates, including defenseless or underestimated populaces. Citizens understand better and put more resources into the results. Therefore, choices cultured by open assistance processes are viewed as more honest and less likely to test. Leaders who understand citizens’ interests also become better participants, ready to make sense of selections and choice reasoning in phrasing associates understand and in ways that connect with citizens’ makings and worries.

According to a study by Mohammad (2010), for the county development plans to succeed, public participation recipients need to be informed of their rights, roles, as well as their responsibilities. By educating the citizens of the frequencies done which can work out their human rights, devolution is assured to be successful (Omolo, 2010). In the planned study, concerning studied literature, capable message involves public access to expansion projects, timely material, actual feedback organization, suitable
communication, and general knowledge of factual growth project data to make informed decisions regarding the participation exercise.

2.5 Theoretical Framework

Various theories linked to this survey were examined in this section. Scholars highlighted that theoretical framework provides a researcher an avenue through which to examine the world from a new theoretical perspective. Besides, a theoretical framework helps create a connection between the theoretical and practical elements of the topic under study and relates to the logical foundation upon which a study is conducted. The following theories served as the study's framework:

2.5.1 The Theory of Empowerment

The Theory of Empowerment argue that, when various methods of interventions are used, they guide individuals toward realizing a sense of control. According to Zimmerman (2000), people may feel stranded for various reasons, but authorization theory have a focus on how domination has a role to this experience. The theory is centered on helping sidelined citizens at separate, group, and public levels.

In this context, the citizens in Nyandarua County may be experiencing various challenges that may hinder them from achieving their personal and communal goals. However, by nurturing the idea that they can change their circumstances and gaining a profound awareness of the intricate social, economic, and political realities in the contexts that adversely affect them, they can increase their power through empowerment. This involves dissecting their capabilities in these settings and searching for suitable workarounds for the boundaries that substitute their direction. By making this type of awareness, individuals can associate with other people who are going
through comparative things and offer their encounters (Kanyinga, 2014). However, it is essential to note that public participation processes fail when they have been completed as one-way communication or are done in secret or in a climate that advances protectiveness.

2.5.2 The Cognitive Engagement Theory

Founded by Meece, Blumenfeld, and Hoyle in 1988, the Cognitive Engagement Theory focuses more on the willingness of members to take part in the learning activities and their determination to stick to a topic in the long term (Malik, 2021). In this context, the theory defined the extent to which the willingness of the residents and their ability to take part on the annual development plans. This involves how eager the citizens are to invest in developing development plans (Corno & Mandinach, 1983). By educating the residents on the participation benefits, they were motivated and be actively involved in development plans.

In view of the conceptual framework of client commitment, Ponciano and Brasileiro (2014) planned four commitment measurements to gauge member cooperation and contribution to resident science projects. These commitment measurements could be applied in different settings where we are keen on client commitment in application with limited times, for example, commitment, persistence, and contribution. Member commitment over the long run considers their places of responsibility, times of supported commitment, withdrawals, and reengagements.
2.6 Conceptual Framework

2.6.1 Independent Variable

Some of the independent variable considered when doing this study included the selection of participants, citizen engagement and the method of involvement. When selecting the participants, some of the factors that were considered are the coverage of the area and the feedback mechanism. For this reason, the selection of the participants was dictated by the location and the availability of providing feedback. Citizen engagement was essential for this study to offer their suggestions and input when conducting the study. Different methods of involvement were used such as baraza, media relation and focus group discussions. The different platforms provide an opportunity for public participation to be successful and efficient.

2.6.2 Dependent Variable

The dependent variable for this research includes the annual development plan, interest of the public, and agenda. The annual development plan is the main variable which is dependent the success of public participation and other variables such as availability of resources. Agenda refers to the main objective of the public participation which will be determined by the engagement of citizen and their willingness to participate. The interest of the public is dependent on the need and wants of the people in the county. Therefore, it is dependent of the availability of a platform for them to articulate their needs.
Figure 2.1 Diagram showing the conceptual framework.
CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This part highlights the research methodology which was utilized in data gathering, analysis and presentation while upholding ethical considerations.

3.2 Research Design

This survey utilized a descriptive research design. It is worth noting that a descriptive study was useful in acquiring data that will help to define "what exists" as for factors in a circumstance. The study design also intended to assemble information without control of the examination setting and typically manages happening peculiarities, where the study has zero influence over the factors. This design is appropriate as it reduces bias and maximize data reliability.

The survey utilized qualitative and quantitative survey research design. The research design collected evidence using a well-designed survey or interview guide. Involving these designs allowed the investigator to enquire a question in a sensibly created and chronological manner. In addition, the qualitative method of information helped facilitate the information/data collection verbally. Quantitative procedures on the other hand helped provide exact information by underscoring those countable materials are pre-assembled into classifications and tangible things for investigation. This research method relied on quantitative and qualitative data collection techniques by using surveys as the primary tools, while quantitative data was analyzed using data.
3.3 Target Population

The target population of this research entailed the sub-counties in Nyandarua County, with a reachable adult population of 334,932 citizens who can offer more information about the county. The study also involved Project Coordinators, Members of the County Assembly, sub county and Ward administrators, and officers from the department of economic planning.

Table 3.1 Population Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-County</th>
<th>Population size</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kipipiri</td>
<td>23,445</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndaragwa</td>
<td>50,240</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ol’Kalou</td>
<td>107,179</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinangop</td>
<td>120,576</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ol’Joro Orok</td>
<td>33,492</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>334,932</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4 Sample and Sampling Techniques

Sampling refers to choosing a subdivision of people from inside a populace to produce information about the entire population. A snowball sampling technique was used in this study as it drew participants with ample knowledge of the study topic. It is essential to highlight that a good sample should be the outcome of a minor sampling mistake, viable, systematic, economic, and genuinely representative. Alluding from a study report by Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), when more than 10,000 individuals are involved in a study, the recommended sample should have 384 participants. In this case, the study relied on a sample size of 384 since the targeted population is above the study’s threshold. These population was randomly selected from the five sub-counties.
in Nyandarua County. The formula for calculating the suitable selection based on the population is as shown below:

\[ n = \frac{z^2 pq}{d^2} \]

Where:

- \( z \) = the normal standard deviation at the required confidence level
- \( p \) = the proportion in the population estimated to have measurable characteristics
- \( q = 1 - p \)
- \( d \) = the level of statistical significance set

Therefore,

\[ n = (1.96)^2 (.50) (.50) / (.05)^2 = 384 \text{ members of the public.} \]

**Table 3.2 Sample Distribution by Sub-County**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-County</th>
<th>Target Population size</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kipipiri</td>
<td>23,445</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndaragwa</td>
<td>50,240</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ol’Kalou</td>
<td>107,179</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinangop</td>
<td>120,576</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ol’Joro Orok</td>
<td>33,492</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>334,932</strong></td>
<td><strong>384</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**3.5 Data Collection Instrument**

**3.5.1 Questionnaire**

The questionnaire used for this study have open-ended and closed-ended formats, that was distributed to the participants involved in the research. In this survey, questionnaires were essential since they gave the researcher a speedy, actual, and cheap way to gather a sizable amount of data from a sizable sample size. Also, this instrument
works well for gauging participants' actions, preferences, intentions, attitudes, and viewpoints.

### 3.5.2 Interview Schedules

Unstructured and structured interviews was utilized to gather data. The interviews intended to praise the reactions from the surveys to lessen uncertainties in replies and to the clearness of reactions. The meeting plan is significant as it empowers to inspire successful replies from the participants concerning the theme of the review. The data gathered formed pieces of the essential information.

### 3.6 Pilot Testing

The main objective of pilot testing is to highlight the appropriateness and accuracy of study instrumentation and design. Advantages of pilot testing are that it helps in; surveying the possibility of a review, planning an exploration convention and surveying whether it is sensible and functional, laying out whether the inspecting outline also, methods are successful, and distinguishing strategic issues which could happen with the technique intended to be utilized, deciding assets required for the review to be attempted and evaluating the information investigation strategies to uncover common issues.

In this research, the pilot study included pre-testing the questionnaires on 38 participants that were randomly chosen from the Sub-County. Newing (2011) states a pilot assessment of 10% of the model magnitude. The use of a suitable process appraises the researchers’ partakers. This is since statistical methods are typically not a requirement for pilot pieces of training. Piloting aimed to improve the surveys so that
the participants in the significant research may not have difficulties responding to the queries.

3.7 Data Collection Procedures

Obtaining authorization from Kenyatta University to conduct the data collection process was a necessary step. The researcher also requested authorization from NACOSTI. In addition, the researcher needed approval from the Nyandarua County Office of the County Secretary for allowing the interview of county government officials. The utilization of questionnaires allowed for the gathering of the crucial data. The surveys were distributed to the participants together with an introductory letter from the college and a survey sending letter.

3.8 Data Analysis and Presentation Techniques

Data analysis was done through the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS version 26.0). Two methods were utilized when analyzing data, and they include statistics with descriptive scrutiny such as frequency and mean. Also, the descriptive statistical measurement was used in the examination of demographical data of the study and calculated to obtain a score for various motives under assessment. The analysis decreases the time expected to figure out a dependability coefficient in different techniques. The open-ended reactions were arranged and coded. Extents of focal inclination and inconstancy were examined utilizing precise measurements. The middle, mean, and mode likewise was used. Changeability was evaluated by request of influence, standard deviation and also variance.
Relations between the several factors was examined by Pearson correlation coefficient and verified by regression. Regression analysis was utilized. The utilization of the following equation demonstrated the connection between the factors:

\[ Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \varepsilon \]

Whereby; \( Y \) = Annual development plan formulation

\( B_0 \) = Constant

\( B_1 \) to \( \beta_3 \) = Regression coefficients

\( X_1 \) = Participants’ selection criteria

\( X_2 \) = Participants engagement

\( X_3 \) = Participants feedback mechanisms

\( \varepsilon \) = Error term

Qualitative data from the field's interview feedback was investigated using an interview synopsis sheet. This investigation started by assembling explicit expressions and catchphrases that were used by participants to depict situations to address subjects. The specialist then, at that point, involved short contractions as clear codes to name information. Generally, a remark from critical witnesses, under an appropriate classification; for example, numeric codes were coordinated around applicable thoughts, ideas, questions, or topics. Similitudes and contrasts were figured out, then converted into more extensive classifications, and then, at that point, further into sub-topics.
3.9 Diagnostic test

The test was performed to establish existence of: normal distribution, multicollinearity and linearity. These was necessary since they are important assumptions that must be achieved for a regression model to be deemed fit.

3.9.1 Test for normality

The data for regression analysis is desired to have a normal distribution, as such the test for normality is performed to determine whether the distribution of data meets the expected criteria. Jacque-Bera test was used in testing the distribution of research data in line with Chris (2008). The test is based on a null hypothesis of a non-normal distribution and a normal distribution as the alternative hypothesis which is ascertained at 5 % level of significance. A non-parametric test would be used in case of a non-normal distribution of data. However, all the data for the variables used in this study were normally distributed since the non-normal distribution hypothesis was rejected (p=0.21>0.05) through Jacque-Bera test.

3.9.2 Multicollinearity Test

Multicollinearity is whereby the independent variables have some degree of correlation (Wooldridge, 2013). Presence of multicollinearity among the independent variables leads to wrong estimates, which in turn increases the p-values in a regression model. To test for multicollinearity, the researcher will employ the variable inflation factor (VIF) procedure. VIFs of between 1 to 10 are considered safe for absence of multicollinearity while other values signal the presence of multicollinearity. To cure the problem of multicollinearity, the researcher will use factor analysis, where variables found to be highly correlated was merged or removed from the model. From the
findings, none of the variables studied exhibited collinearity since all VIFs were between 1 and 10 as required for panel regression analysis.

3.9.3 Linearity Test

According to the OLS hypothesis, a straight line relationship exists between two variables (independent and dependent). Addressing the variable that raises the non-linearity concern is advised (Osborne, 2012). When analyzing the collected data using multiple linear regression, this supposition is required. The researcher compared standardized predicted values to standardized residual plots to test for linearity. The study checked the standardized residual plots for an average residual around zero and the absence of curves or clusters of points. The assumption that the data is linear was examined as the null hypothesis in the linearity test.

3.9 Ethical Consideration

The survey participants were informed of the research’s objective and that their contribution was helpful. Obtaining authorization from Kenyatta University to conduct the data collection process was a necessary step. The researcher also requested authorization from NACOSTI. The researcher evaded verbal that may appear to undermine or make study participants unhelpful. The participants were educated on the awareness regarding a portion of the postured inquiries. Also, they were made mindful that the data acquired was analyzed with secrecy and remained confidential. The members were approached to provide an educated consent for their intentional investment, and where one demonstrates reluctance were pardoned.
CHAPTER FOUR

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

The survey was done to explore the influence of public engagement on the creation of the county's annual development plan. The results are discussed, analyzed, presented, and interpreted in this chapter systematically in accordance with the study's objectives.

4.1.1 Reliability Statistics of the Research Instruments

To pre-test the data collection instrument, a pilot study was done. Ten people of Nyandarua County were chosen at random and given questionnaires. The internal consistency of the questions for all the questionnaires given to various groups of pilot participants was measured in this study using Cronbach's Alpha. The Cronbach Alpha rule of thumb is that the closer it gets to 1, the more reliable the test is (Sekaran, 2010). In reality, it's advised to use a number of at least 0.7. The Cronbach Alpha results for the research’s variables are exhibited in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Results of Reliability Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Number of items</th>
<th>Cronbach’s Alpha</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants’ selection criteria</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>.772</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of participants engagement</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>.875</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants feedback mechanisms</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>.701</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADP Formulation</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>.777</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As indicated Table 4.1, participants’ selection criteria had 0.772, methods of participants’ engagement had 0.875, participants’ feedback mechanisms had 0.701, and Annual development plan formulation had 0.777.

This Cronbach's alpha data exhibited that the measures of variable items had high levels of internal consistency. This suggested that participants were more inclined to choose high scores for the other items if they inclined to choose high scores for one item. Similar to this, people who chose low ratings on one item had a higher likelihood of choosing low scores on the others. As a result, the data gathering tool was appropriate and trustworthy for the study's goals.

4.2 Response Rate

The 384 participants who made up the sample population were chosen using the snowball sampling method. 346 of the 384 participants who received questionnaires completed and returned them, out of a total of 384. This equated to a response rate of 90.1%, which is in line with Babbie's (2015) opinion that response rates should be at least 70% for the best presentation of the outcomes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4.2 Total Response Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.3 Demographics Features of the Participants

The gender, age, and educational level characteristics of the sample population are shown in this section. Additionally, whether the participants are aware of public engagement is one of the criteria. This was done to clarify the study's population figures. The researcher talked about the demographic data findings.

4.3.1 Participants’ Gender

According to the research’s outcomes (Figure 4.1), there were more men than women among the participants. Only 28% of the sample's participants were women, while 72% of all participants were men. This suggests that, in terms of gender, men predominate in public involvement.

![Figure 4.1 Participants’ gender](image-url)

Figure 4.1 Participants’ gender
4.3.2 Participants’ Age

According to the study, most of participants (32.7%) were in the 35–44 age range, followed by 30.3% of those in the 45–54 age range, 19.9% of those between the ages of 25 and 34, 12.8% of those 55 and older, and 4.3% of those between the ages of 18 and 24. This demonstrates that the majority of county residents (32.7%) between the ages of 35 and 44 are enthusiastic about public participation. This is exemplified in table 4.3.

Table 4.3 Age of the Employees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 – 24 years</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 - 34 years</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>24.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 - 44 years</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>56.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 - 54 years</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>87.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 and above</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Data 2023

4.4.3 Level of Education

This survey aimed to explore the participants' level of education at the time of gathering data. Table 4.4 is a summary of the results. The outcomes show that 45.4% of the participants had a college or university degree, 25.3% had a secondary education, 20.5% had only a primary education, and 8.8% had no formal education at all.
Table 4.4 Level of education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of education</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did not attend school</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College/University</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>45.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>346</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field data (2023)

4.4 Public Participation Awareness

The survey aimed to explore whether the participants have heard about public participation in annual development plan formulation. The findings on whether public participation awareness influence public participation in annual development plan formulation is shown in table 4.5

Table 4.5 Public participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>80.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>19.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>346</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From most of the participants as shown by 80.6% have heard about public participation in annual development plan formulation whereas 19.4% of the participants were not aware.
As shown in the figure 4.2 below, most of the county residents have heard about the public participation from County Government Programs at 54% implying the county Government of Nyandarua is keen on public participation.

![Source of knowing about Public participation](image)

**Figure 4.2 Awareness of Public Participation**

4.5 Understanding of Annual Development Plan

The survey aimed to explore whether the participants understand what annual development plan is. Results on whether participants attending public participation understand the meaning of annual development plan are shown in table 4.6.
4.6 Descriptive Statistics

This part delivers the outcomes and analysis in relation to the stated objectives and does so by providing the answers to the research questions.

4.6.1 Influence of participants’ selection criteria during the formulation of the Nyandarua County annual development plan

The purpose of the research was to ascertain how the selection criteria for participation affected the creation of the Nyandarua County yearly development plan. Participants were inquired to rate items on a Likert scale of 1 to 5 where 5 present strong agree and 1 present strong disagree, in order to determine how successfully each participant's selection criteria with regard to public engagement is applied. For purposes of interpretation, a mean score of 0 to 1.5 designates that the participants strongly disagreed, 1.50 to 2.50 designates that they agreed, 2.50 to 3.50 designates that they were unsure of the extent of the participants' selection criteria, 3.50 to 4.50 indicates that they agreed, and 4.50 and higher indicates that they strongly agreed.

Table 4.6 Public participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>75.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>24.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From most of the participants as shown by 75.4% know the meaning of annual development plan whereas 24.6% of the participants did not know.
Table 4.7 Influence of participants’ selection criteria during the formulation of the Nyandarua County annual development plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants’ selection criteria</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Dev.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i The selection criteria used during the selection of participants is effective</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii The criteria used eliminates selection bias</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>.915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii The county selects the persons to participate in the formulation of annual county development plans</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>.671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv Community members are always notified of public participation forums witching their regions</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>.831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v Majority of residents participate in formulation of annual county development at the very basic level</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>.430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi Low levels education among local communities have decreased public participation in ADP</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>.637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii Participation of young people in ADP is relatively low compared to older citizen across the counties</td>
<td>4.01</td>
<td>.900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii People with higher trust on the integrated development planning formulation process participate more effectively</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix Citizen attitude toward county government determines the extent of citizen’s participation in ADP</td>
<td>3.99</td>
<td>.781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x The level of community awareness determines their public participation in county integrated development planning process</td>
<td>4.21</td>
<td>.670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average mean</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.80</strong></td>
<td><strong>.899</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participants’ selection criteria during public participation influence Annual development plan formulation in the county with a standard deviation .899 and a mean 3.80. This inferes a slightly positive correlation between participants’ selection criteria and Annual development plan formulation in the counties hence need to improve on the participants’ selection criteria to ensure effective public participation. This is agreement.
with Ndirangu (2013) who argues that government must have set standards to ensure that selection criteria in public participation should not be discriminative.

4.6.2 Influence of the methods of participants engagement in formulating the annual development plan in Nyandarua County, Kenya.

The survey objective was to determine the methods of participant’s engagement in formulating the annual development plan in Nyandarua County, Kenya. For the aim of exploring the methods of participant’s engagement in formulating the annual development plan in Nyandarua County, Kenya. Participants were inquired to rate items on a Likert scale of 1 to 5, where 5 present strong agree and 1 present strong disagree, in order to determine how successfully each method of participants engagement in formulating the annual development plan. For purposes of interpretation, a mean score of 0 to 1.5 designates that the participants strongly disagreed, 1.50 to 2.50 indicates that they agreed, 2.50 to 3.50 designates that they were unsure of the extent of the participants engagement, 3.50 to 4.50 indicates that they agreed, and 4.50 and higher indicates that they strongly agreed.
Table 4.8 Influence of the methods of participants engagement in formulating the annual development plan in Nyandarua County, Kenya.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methods of participants engagement</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Dev.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nyandarua County engages with the members of the public in the formulation of the annual development plans</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>1.064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicating resources to support matters of importance to the citizens encourages public participation in ADP</td>
<td>3.61</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceived benefits by the citizens on county development initiatives influences their participation in ADP</td>
<td>4.38</td>
<td>1.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens expect mutual interactions with county government, and they seek a balance between the social costs of interaction.</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acting in the best interest of local people encourages community participation in ADP</td>
<td>4.01</td>
<td>.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community attitude to the process of governance limits their participation in ADP</td>
<td>4.34</td>
<td>.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of Participation program gives interested Communities opportunity a chance to influence the outcome.</td>
<td>4.45</td>
<td>.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nyandarua County engages with the members of the public in the formulation of the annual development plans</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td>3.99</td>
<td>0.91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Methods of participants’ engagement in public participation has helped the county to improve their annual development plan formulation with a standard deviation 0.91 and a mean 3.99. This infers a positive correlation between methods of participants engagement and Annual development plan formulation in the county hence need to dynamically focus on methods of participants engagements to ensure effective public participation in Annual development plan formulation. This supports the contention made by Aspden and Brich (2005) that a variety of causes and problems affect the public’s attitude toward involvement in making of decision and county affairs. These
include the degree to which citizens are satisfied with their engagement, their interest in and comprehension of local government, their level of trust in the local government and its representatives, and their prior experience with voluntary participation. In order to address the very real issues of citizen indifference that limit public engagement and to enhance the impact and efficacy of participation, Lowndes et al. (2001) also suggest that a deeper comprehension of citizen attitude is required.

4.6.2.1 Procedures to enhance public participation and awareness.

Also, the survey aimed to identify the tools the county government uses to enhance public engagement and understanding of the incorporated development planning process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sensitizations tool</th>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local radio station</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>69.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short message service</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>56.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>43.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tv stations</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>47.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>52.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posters</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>73.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>26.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Barazas</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>69.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>30.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door to door campaigns</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>52.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>47.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4.9 lists some of the strategies the county administration has employed to promote civic engagement and awareness. 69.6% of participants to the survey believed that the county government utilized regional radio stations to promote civic engagement and knowledge. While 52.02% agreed to utilize door-to-door campaigns, 56.3% agreed to use short message services, 47.4% agreed to use local TV stations, 73.3% agreed to use posters, and 69.5% agreed to use local barazas. Campaigns involving local churches and the county website are among the other actions mentioned. This implies that the county was primarily utilize local radio stations, local TV stations, short message service, use of posters, partnering with local churches campaigns, use of local use door-to-door campaigns, and county website to promote public awareness and take part in the formulation of the annual development plan of the county.

4.6.3 Examining participants’ feedback mechanisms in county annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County.

The survey’s objective was to scrutinize the effect of participants’ feedback mechanisms on the Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County. Participants were inquired to rate the statements on a 5- Likert scale from 5- Strongly Agree to 1-strongly disagree for the determination of how well participants' feedback systems in relation to public engagement are implemented. For purposes of interpretation, a mean score of 0 to 1.5 indicates that participants strongly disagreed about the extent of participants' feedback mechanisms, 1.50 to 2.50 indicates that participants disagreed but aren't sure, 2.50 to 3.50 indicates that participants felt this way, 3.50 to 4.50 indicates that they strongly agreed about this, and above 4.50 indicates
that participants strongly agreed that there are participants' feedback mechanisms within the county.

Table 4.10 Examining participant's feedback mechanisms in county annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants feedback mechanisms</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Dev.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The county provides feedback on issues raised by the public during public participation</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>1.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The county provides feedback to the issues raised by the public</td>
<td>3.81</td>
<td>0.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of local community members participating in ADP have generally increased</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>1.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Projects initiated by county government are operating efficiently under the management of the local community members.</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of complaints from local community members on county development programs or policies has decreased</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>0.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local community Support development projects initiated by county government have increased</td>
<td>3.87</td>
<td>1.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More positive comments on citizen engagement by county government have been received from the public</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>1.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.61</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.95</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participants feedback mechanisms has helped counties improve public participation hence effective annual development plan formulation in the county with a standard deviation 0.95 and a mean 3.61. This suggests a beneficial relationship between participants' feedback mechanisms and the creation of the county government's annual development plan; as a result, there is a need to dynamically focus on participants' feedback mechanisms to promote public engagement. This leads to the construction of an effective annual development plan. According to a study by Seimuskane and
Vorslava (2011), a key factor in determining how people feel about their local authority is how satisfied they are with its work and programs. At the level of local governments, trust levels have a very significant correlation with citizen satisfaction, meaning that when trust levels are high, citizens are utmost contented with the local government work.

4.6.4 Public participation rating

Participants were enquired to rate the level of public input into the creation of the county's yearly development plan.

Table 4.11 Public participation in ADP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public participation level</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>45.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>35.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>346</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The degree of public input into the creation of the county's yearly development plan is shown in Table 4.12. As per research results, 45.5% of participants said that public engagement in ADP was good, 35.0% said that it was very good, and 19.5% said they were unsure. This suggests that overall ADP public participation was strong.

4.7 Diagnostic Tests

In econometrics, diagnostic testing has become a crucial component of model specification. To make sure the coefficients of the estimations were reliable and could
be used to draw conclusions about the economy, a number of diagnostic tests were carried out. Regression estimates can only be made with accuracy, according to Greene (2002), if the fundamental premises of multiple linear regressions are taken into consideration.

4.7.1 Multi-collinearity Test

When one or more of the independent variables have a strong correlation with more or one of the other independent variables, a problem known as multi-collinearity arises. Perfect collinearity, which occurs if an independent variable is an exact linear amalgamation of the other independent variables, prevents OLS from being able to estimate a model (Brooks 2008). Regression coefficients and infinite standard errors result from not taking into account perfect multi-collinearity, but huge standard errors are produced by imperfect multi-collinearity. The precision and accuracy of rejecting the null hypothesis or failing to do so are impacted by large standard errors. It is the intensity of multi-collinearity rather than its absence that causes problems during estimate.

Gujarati (2004) claims that examining the explanatory variables correlation coefficients (CC), variance inflation factor (VIF) and condition index (CI) is the conventional statistical procedure for determining if data are multi-collinear. Therefore, tolerance and variance inflation factors were utilized in this investigation to determine multi-collinearity. Values of VIF that are greater than 10 are frequently viewed as representative multi-collinearity while values of tolerance that are less than 0.1 signal multi-collinearity.
Table 4.12 Independent variables’ Collinearity Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Collinearity Statistics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X1</td>
<td>.982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X2</td>
<td>.686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X3</td>
<td>.876</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participants’ selection criteria had VIF of 1.026 and tolerance of .982, methods of participants’ engagement had VIF of 1.760 and tolerance of .686, participants’ feedback mechanisms had VIF of 1.420 and tolerance of .876. This reveals that the variables’ tolerance value was larger than 0.1 and their VIF was much below 10, so inhibiting the risk of multi-collinearity (Field, 2009). The outcomes infer that multi-collinearity among the independent variables was not a problem.

4.7.2 Normality Test

To check if the sample data’s kurtosis and skewedness matched a normal distribution, the study used Jarque-statistic Berra. It is a test that uses the least squares regression model’s residuals. The anticipated value of JB statistics for a normal distribution is zero (Gujarati, 2004). This was the outcome of the investigation.
### Table 4.13 Normality test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>$X_1$</th>
<th>$X_2$</th>
<th>$X_3$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skewness</td>
<td>-0.509</td>
<td>-0.189</td>
<td>-0.752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Std. Error of Skewness</td>
<td>0.176</td>
<td>0.174</td>
<td>0.182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurtosis</td>
<td>-0.375</td>
<td>-0.301</td>
<td>0.724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Std. Error of Kurtosis</td>
<td>0.351</td>
<td>0.346</td>
<td>0.361</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEY:** $X_1$ is Participants’ selection criteria, $X_2$ is methods of participants engagement, $X_3$ is participants feedback mechanisms, $Y$ = Annual development plan formation

JB statistical scores for this study's participant selection criteria (0.509 and 0.375), participant engagement strategies (0.189 and 0.301), and participant feedback mechanisms (0.752 and 0.724). The JB measures are extremely close to zero, and the variables are quite close to having a normal distribution, as can be shown.

#### 4.7.3 Test of Linearity

Before doing a multiple linear regression analysis, it is necessary to evaluate the linearity assumption, which states that the result variable and the independent variables must have a linear relationship. In many cases, scatter plots are used to determine if the relationship is curvilinear or linear. The results of Table 4.14’s test of linearity between the dependent variable (the drafting of the annual development plan) and the independent factors were emphasized. If the p-value for linearity is greater than 0.05, there is no linear relationship. The results showed a linear association between public engagement policies and the creation of annual development plans. This indicates that the independent variables can be utilized to anticipate how the county's annual
development plan will be created because of the considerable linear relationships. Therefore, the linearity assumption is not broken. At the 0.01 significance level, none of the linearity deviations were significant. The outcomes of the linearity test are displayed in Table 4.14.

**Table 4.14 Linearity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sum of Squares</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>Mean F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X1*Y</td>
<td>Between Groups (Combined)</td>
<td>156.891</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>3.076</td>
<td>12.875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linearity</td>
<td>133.854</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>133.854</td>
<td>560.231</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviation from Linearity</td>
<td>23.036</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>0.461</td>
<td>1.928</td>
<td>0.115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sum of Squares</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>Mean F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X2*Y</td>
<td>Between Groups (Combined)</td>
<td>157.25</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>3.024</td>
<td>12.672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linearity</td>
<td>139.033</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>139.033</td>
<td>582.629</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviation from Linearity</td>
<td>18.217</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>0.357</td>
<td>1.497</td>
<td>0.079</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sum of Squares</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>Mean F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X3*Y</td>
<td>Between Groups (Combined)</td>
<td>142.837</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>5.494</td>
<td>21.324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linearity</td>
<td>126.817</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>126.817</td>
<td>492.241</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviation from Linearity</td>
<td>16.021</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>0.641</td>
<td>2.487</td>
<td>0.041</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*KEY: X1 is Participants’ selection criteria, X2 is Methods of participants engagement, X3 is participants feedback mechanisms, Y=Annual development plan formulation*
4.8 Inferential Results

The subsections of this document present inferential results based on simple and complex regression models.

4.8.1 Participants’ selection criteria and Annual development plan formulation

The objective one was to determine how the participants' selection criteria affected how Nyandarua County's annual development plan was created. The outcomes uncovered that there is a positive, significant correlation between the participants' selection criteria and the formulation of the annual development plan (correlation coefficient (R) = 0.231), and that the R-Square value of 0.053 indicates that the model accounts for 4.6% of the variation or change in the formulation of the annual development plan in Nyandarua County.

Table 4.15 Model summary for Participants’ selection criteria and Annual development plan formulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>R Square</th>
<th>Adjusted R Square</th>
<th>Std. Error of the Estimate</th>
<th>Change Statistics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>.231&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>.053</td>
<td>.046</td>
<td>.46151</td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Predictors: (Constant), X₁
According to Table 4.16's results from the ANOVA test where the P-value of 0.004 is smaller than the predetermined significance level of 0.05 for data that is normally distributed. The model had an F-ratio of 8.140, which was significant at the 5%, according to the further results. The results demonstrate that the model is statistically significant in explaining the connection between the criteria used to choose participants and the creation of the annual development plan in Nyandarua County.

**Table 4.16 ANOVA for Participants’ selection criteria and Annual development plan formulation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Sum of Squares</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Mean Square</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regression</td>
<td>2.713</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.713</td>
<td>8.140</td>
<td>.004*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residual</td>
<td>331.766</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>.9616</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>334.479</td>
<td>346</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Predictors: (Constant), X<sub>1</sub>

b. Dependent Variable: Y

The coefficients of the effect of participant selection criteria on the creation of the annual development plan in Nyandarua County are displayed in Table 4.17. The beta coefficients, which were 0.314 at a p-value of 0.002, show how much a unit change in the participants' selection criteria 31.4% changes how the firm formulates its annual development plan.
Table 4.17 Coefficients for Participants’ selection criteria and Annual development plan formulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unstandardized Coefficients</th>
<th>Standardized Coefficients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Constant)</td>
<td>3.87</td>
<td>15.561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X1</td>
<td>0.414</td>
<td>0.345</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Y= β₀+β₁X₁+ε, keeping all other elements constant, this becomes,

Y₀=3.870+.414X₁

The positive Beta coefficients denote that a unit change in the participants’ selection criteria results in increased firm Annual development plan formulation, in this case, .314 units increase.

4.8.2 Methods of participants engagement and Annual development plan formulation

The objective two to ascertain how participant engagement impacted Nyandarua County's annual development plan creation. The outcomes uncovered that there is a positive, significant correlation between the participants' selection criteria and the formulation of the annual development plan (correlation coefficient (R) = 0.818), and the R-Square value of 0.700 demonstrates that the model accounts for 69.9% of the change in the formulation of the annual development plan in Nyandarua County.
Table 4.18 Model summary for Methods of participants’ engagement and Annual development plan formulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>R Square</th>
<th>Adjusted R Square</th>
<th>Std. Error of The Estimate</th>
<th>R Square Change</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>df1</th>
<th>df2</th>
<th>Sig. F</th>
<th>F Change</th>
<th>df1</th>
<th>df2</th>
<th>Sig. F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>.818</td>
<td>.669</td>
<td>.700</td>
<td>.17131</td>
<td>.000</td>
<td>.005</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>.849</td>
<td>.005</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>.849</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As per outcomes of the ANOVA test, Table 4.19’s normally distributed data has a P-value of 0.000, which is less than the predetermined significance level of 0.05. The model had an F-ratio of 88.114, which was significant at the 5% significance level, according to the further results. The results demonstrate that the model is statistically significant in describing the relationship between participant engagement strategies and the creation of the annual development plan in Nyandarua County; as a result, participant engagement strategies affect the creation of the annual development plan in the County.
The coefficients of the influence of participant engagement strategies on the creation of the annual development plan in Nyandarua County are displayed in Table 4.20. The beta coefficients, which were .804 at a p-value of 0.000, show how much an 80.4% change in participant engagement strategies affects how the organization formulates its annual development plan.

Table 4.19 ANOVA for Methods of participants’ engagement and Annual development plan formulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Sum of Squares</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Mean Square</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Regression</td>
<td>12.713</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12.713</td>
<td>88.114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residual</td>
<td>323.767</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>.679</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>336.470</td>
<td>345</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Predictors: (Constant), X<sup>2</sup>
b. Dependent Variable: Y

The equation; 

\[ Y = \beta_0 + \beta_2 X_2 + \varepsilon, \text{ keeping all elements constant, this yield,} \]

\[ Y_0 = 0.677 + 0.804X_2 \]

Table 4.20 Coefficients for Methods of participants’ engagement and Annual development plan formulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unstandardized Coefficients</th>
<th>Standardized Coefficients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Std. Error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Constant)</td>
<td>0.677</td>
<td>0.216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>0.804</td>
<td>0.027</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Dependent Variable: Y
The positive Beta coefficients suggest that change in one unit of methods of participants’ engagement results in enhanced firm Annual development plan formulation, in this case, .804 units increase.

### 4.8.3 Participants feedback mechanisms and Annual development plan formulation

Examining how participants’ feedback mechanisms affected the creation of Nyandarua County's annual development plan was the third objective. Based on the results, the R-Square value of 0.238 indicates that the model explains 23.2% of the variation or change in the formulation of the Annual development plan in the County. The correlation coefficient (R), which is positive and indicates a significant relationship between participants’ feedback mechanisms and the formulation of the Annual development plan, is 0.498.

#### Table 4.21 Model summary for Participants feedback mechanisms and Annual development plan formulation

| Model | R   | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | R Square Change | F   | df1 | df2 | Sig. F | Change
|-------|-----|----------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|--------
| 1     | 0.498 | 0.248    | 0.232             | 0.44131                     | 0.000          | 0.005 | 1   | 343 | 0.877  |

a. Predictors: (Constant), X3
According to the results of the ANOVA test, the normally distributed data in Table 4.23 has a P-value of 0.000, which is less than the predetermined significance level of 0.05. The model had an F-ratio of 47.567, which was significant at the 5% significance level, according to the further results. The results indicate that the model is statistically significant in describing the relationship between participant feedback mechanisms and the formulation of the annual development plan in Nyandarua County; as a result, participant feedback mechanisms affect the formulation of the annual development plan in Nyandarua County.

**Table 4.22 ANOVA for Participants feedback mechanisms and Annual development plan formulation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Sum of Squares</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Mean Square</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Regression</td>
<td>8.856</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8.856</td>
<td>47.567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residual</td>
<td>330.767</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>.296</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>339.623</td>
<td>345</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c. Predictors: (Constant), X<sub>3</sub>

d. Dependent Variable: Y

The coefficients of the effect of participant feedback mechanisms on the creation of the annual development plan in Nyandarua County are displayed in Table 4.23. The Beta coefficients of .452 at a p-value of 0.0000.05 show how much a unit change in participants' feedback mechanisms by 45.2% affects the County's Annual Development Plan formulation.
Table 4.23 Coefficients for Participants feedback mechanisms and Annual development plan formulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unstandardized Coefficients</th>
<th>Standardized Coefficients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Std. Error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Constant)</td>
<td>0.844</td>
<td>0.216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X3</td>
<td>0.452</td>
<td>0.027</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Dependent Variable: Y

The equation;

\[
Y = \beta_0 + \beta_3 X_3 + \epsilon
\]

Keeping all other elements, this yield,

\[
Y_0 = 0.844 + 0.452 X_3
\]

The positive Beta coefficients infer that one change in the participants’ feedback mechanisms results in enhancing participation in Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County, in this case, .452 units increase.

4.8.4 Overall Model (Multiple Regression Model)

According to Table 4.24, the independent variables that make up the public involvement procedures may account for 85.9% of the variation in how Nandarua County's annual development plan is created. This affirms the widely held belief that methods of public participation are crucial in influencing how annual development plans are created.
Table 4.24 Model Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>R Square</th>
<th>Adjusted R Square</th>
<th>Std. Error of the Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>.931a</td>
<td>.859</td>
<td>.214</td>
<td>60.31114</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Predictors: (Constant), X3, X2, X1

The combined model's ANOVA test yields a P-value of 0.000. This falls below the predetermined level of significance for normally distributed data, which is 0.05. The model's F-ratio was 245.018, which is significant at the 0.005 level and clearly explains the impact of public engagement on the design of a firm's annual development plan, according to the data. The findings suggest that public participation has a significant impact on the creation of annual development plans in Nyandarua County, suggesting that participant selection criteria, participant engagement strategies, and participant feedback mechanisms all had a positive and significant influence on the creation of annual development plans in Nyandarua County.

Table 4.25 Combined ANOVA results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sum of Squares</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Mean Square</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regression</td>
<td>34.389</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8.59725</td>
<td>245.018</td>
<td>.000a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residual</td>
<td>101.129</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>0.2957</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>135.518</td>
<td>346</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Predictors: (Constant), X3, X2, X1  
b. Dependent Variable: Y

Coefficient analysis was carried out, as given on Table 4.26, to determine the direction of the link, whether it be directly or inversely.
Table 4.26 Coefficients for overall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unstandardized</th>
<th>Standardized Coefficients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Std. Error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Constant)</td>
<td>.342</td>
<td>0.139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X1</td>
<td>.518</td>
<td>0.216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X2</td>
<td>.644</td>
<td>0.687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X3</td>
<td>.389</td>
<td>0.383</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Dependent Variable: Y

The Equation below presents model before modification

\[ Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \varepsilon, \]

Where;

\[ Y= \text{Annual development plan formulation}, \]
\[ \beta_0 = \text{Constant} \]
\[ \beta_{(1-3)} = \text{Coefficients of independent variables} \]
\[ X_{(1-3)} = \text{Independent variables} \]

The 4.25 exhibits the coefficients for the overall regression model. The regression coefficients for the participants’ selection criteria, methods of participants’ engagement, participants’ feedback mechanisms, are 0.518, 0.644, and 0.389 respectively. The model was transformed as shown below.

\[ Y=.342+.518X_1+.644X_2+.389X_3 \]

The p-values for participants’ selection criteria, methods of participants’ engagement, participants’ feedback mechanisms, were 0.000, 0.000, 0.000, and 0.001 respectively. The outcomes imply that participants’ selection criteria, methods of participants’
engagement, participants’ feedback mechanisms, had a significant and positive impact on the Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County.

Bastidas (2004) in order to engage the public and create a relationship between the two that benefits both the public and the government, governments must better take into account public participation. Omolo (2010) contends that for devolution to succeed, citizens must be politically aware, aware of their rights and responsibilities, and capable of exercising their rights and responsibilities.

4.9.1 Results on research objective 1

To exploring the impact participants’ selection criteria on the Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County

Model summary outcomes designate that participants’ selection criteria has significant influence on Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County ($\beta_1 = 0.518$ at $p< 0.05$). Other residual elements of participants’ selection criteria, explains 51.8% of changes in Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County. This positive coefficient infer that a unit change in utilization of participants’ selection criteria outcomes in a rise in the county Annual development plan formulation by 0.518 units.

4.9.2 Results on research objective 2

To determine the influence of methods of participants engagement on the Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County.

Model summary outcomes designate that methods of engagement has significant influence on Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County ($\beta_1 = 0.644$
at p< 0.05). Other residual elements constant of methods of participants engagement influence the County Annual Development plan by 64.4%. This positive coefficient infer that a unit change in utilization of methods of participants’ engagement results in a rise in the county Annual development plan formulation by 0.644 units.

4.9.3 Results on Research objective 3

To examine the impact of participants feedback mechanisms on the Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County.

Model summary results indicate that participants feedback mechanisms has significant influence on Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County ($\beta_1 = 0.389$ at p< 0.05). Other residual elements constant of participants’ feedback mechanisms, influence the Annual development Plan formulation by 38.9%.
CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction
The findings of the survey on the impact of public involvement on the annual development plans implementation in Nyandarua County are summarized in this chapter. For further action and research direction, conclusions and suggestions are also provided.

5.2 Summary of the Findings
The survey’s response rate was 90.1%, which was considered appropriate for analysis and informing on the survey’s conclusions and recommendations. The pilot study revealed that the research instrument adopted in the study obtained the appropriate reliability and validity threshold and was valid to give the expected results. Most of the participants were male at 72%. The demographic results revealed that most of the participants 45.4% had college/university education with them. Most of the participant surveyed were within the 35–44 years age hence deep understanding of the annual development plan formulation and this indicates good public participation rate in the Nyandarua County. 80.6% of the participants have heard about public participation in annual development plan formulation. The demographic findings implied the study obtained diversity hence diverse responses would be achieved in the main findings.

5.2.1 Participants’ selection criteria
The objective one was to explore the influence of Participants’ selection criteria on the Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County. Results revealed that considering participants’ selection criteria had positive influence on Annual
development plan formulation in Nyandarua County. The alternate hypothesis was accepted since the significance test revealed that the influence was statistically significant. Most of the participants agreed that through participants’ selection criteria Counties should adopt effective public participation thus enhancing their annual development plan formulation.

### 5.2.2 Methods of participants engagement

Methods of participants’ engagement are an important dynamic capability that influences the public participation leads to superior Annual development plan formulation. The success of public participation depends not only on how well and inclusively the structures are designed to meet the local communities, but also on how well the government's engagement approach is matched to the local population's behavioral norms.

The survey outcomes uncovered that the County's approaches for participant involvement have a favorable and significant impact on the creation of her yearly development plan. This implies that the county leadership should able frequently revise and adjust their participatory methods that support public participation efforts to achieve better annual development plan formulation hence null hypothesis was rejected.

### 5.2.3 Participants feedback mechanisms

The objective three was to explore the impact of participants feedback mechanisms on the annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County. Results revealed that considering participants feedback mechanisms had positive influence on Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County. The alternate hypothesis was
accepted since the significance test revealed that the influence was statistically significant.

The several stages of the county's integrated development planning process are well-engaged by the local population, and they are regularly informed about public involvement forums that will be place nearby. These outcomes validate those of Thwala's (2010) study, which uncovered that a familiarity with participation program permits intrigued communities an opportunity to impact the outcome. The outcomes support the World Bank's (2004) findings that, via community involvement and awareness of development initiatives, stakeholders can influence and have control over decisions that have an impact on their lives and means of subsistence.

The research likewise found that county government got additional positive criticism from the general population in regards to resident commitment, less neighborhood local area objections about district advancement strategies or projects, more nearby local area allies of district improvement undertakings, and more individuals who upheld area government improvement projects. The review found that great public cooperation helped area coordinated improvement arranging overall.

5.3 Conclusions

This part exhibits research’s conclusion as per objective.

5.3.1 To establish the influence of participants’ selection criteria on Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County

The research results indicated that participants’ selection criteria impacted positively on Annual development plan formulation in the Nyandarua County. This is because
public engagement in the county's integrated development planning process is determined by selection criteria for participants, such as the degree of community awareness, leading to effective formulation.

5.3.2 To examine the influence of methods of participants engagement on Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County

It was established that methods of participants’ engagement enhance Annual development plan formulation in the Nyandarua County. This is related to the effective ways of participant involvement, including county portals, short message services, posters used in door-to-door campaigns, and local radio stations. The results confirm those of McCommon (2013), who found that community involvement and knowledge are important for enhancing community welfare, educating citizens about local government, and enhancing government control through individual initiative.

5.3.3 To determine the influence of participants feedback mechanisms on Annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County

Participants’ feedback mechanisms was found to have a significant and positive relationship with Annual development plan formulation in the Counties. This was attributed to the county providing feedbacks on issues raised by the public during public participation.

5.4 Recommendations of the Study

This study discovered a favorable and significant impact of the participant selection criteria on the creation of the Nyandarua County's annual development plan. It follows that in order to improve the effectiveness of formulating annual development plans, the Nyandarua County leadership needs to strengthen, cultivate, and change their dynamic
capacities with regard to selection criteria to suit the constantly changing demands of society.

The study also discovered a strong and favorable correlation between Nyandarua County's annual development plan drafting and participant engagement strategies. It may be argued that one significant factor that contributes to a greater understanding of the variations in county annual development plans is the ways used by participants to engage the government.

According to the study, there is a need to implement significant steps to increase public awareness of integrated development planning because low levels of public awareness negatively impacted public engagement in the process.

According to the study, factors influencing public participation in ADP included levels of confidence, clarity, fairness, and transparency of the processes, engagement and coordination level, and community perceived value in the process of participation. Since public relations, reporting, and policy communication were exhibited be positively connected to levels of public participation in ADP, the survey advises that the county government enhance these areas.

5.5 Areas for Further Research

The primary goal of this survey was to determine how public participation in county annual development plan formulation in Nyandarua County. A comparable study has to be conducted in other counties. Additionally, a more thorough research is required to see whether non-governmental, not-for-profit groups may report similar outcomes.
Evaluating the success of the county-initiated citizen participation measures would make for a fascinating research topic.
REFERENCES


Mohammad, S.N. (2010). *People’s participation in development projects at grass-root level*- North South University, Bangladesh.


Rajesh Tandon, MohiniKak (2007). Citizen Participation and Democratic Governance: in our hands


APPENDICES

Appendix I: Introduction Letter

Date: ..............................................

Dear Participants,

The attached questionnaire aims to gather data that will be used only for scholastic aims on “Influence of Public Participation in County Annual Development Plan Formulation in Nyandarua County, Kenya”. As a requirement, the survey is a partial fulfilment for the award of a Master’s Degree of Arts of Kenyatta University. By agreeing to participate in this study, you are guaranteed that all information you disclose through this questionnaire will be treated as private, utilized exclusively for the objectives of the survey, and kept anonymous for the duration of the investigation. Your patience and cooperation are much valued. Thank you in advance.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Mungai Kiongo

Student, Masters, Arts

Reg. No. C153/NKU/PT/20705/2021
Appendix II: Research Instruments

Part I: Demographics

Section A: General Information

1. What is your age group?
   - □ 18-24
   - □ 25-34
   - □ 35-44
   - □ 45-54
   - □ 55 and Above

2. Gender
   - □ Female
   - □ Male

3. Indicate your educational level
   - □ No school education
   - □ Primary School
   - □ Secondary School
   - □ University

4. a). Have you heard of Public Participation?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

b). If you answered yes above, where did you hear it (Check all that applies).
   - □ National Government Programs
   - □ County Government Program
   - □ Local Authority Programs
   - □ Public or Private Companies
5. Do you understand the meaning of Annual Development Plan?
   - Yes
   - No

Section B: Selection Criteria

1. Do you think the selection of participants for the formulation of annual county development plans is dependent on some factors?
   - Yes
   - No

2. If you answered yes in the above question, which of the following factors do you think are used when selecting the participants? (Check all that applies).
   - Gender
   - Age
   - Area of residence
   - Level of education
   - Occupation
3. Indicate your level of agreement to the following parameters in respect to public participation in county annual development plan process from 5 strongly agree to 1 strongly disagreed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The selection criteria used during the selection of participants is effective</td>
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<tr>
<td>The criteria used eliminates selection bias</td>
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<tr>
<td>The county selects the persons to participate in the formulation of annual county development plans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community members are always notified of public participation forums within their regions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Majority of residents participate in formulation of annual county development at the very basic level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low levels of education among local communities have decreased public participation in ADP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation of young people in ADP is relatively low compared to older citizens across the counties</td>
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<tr>
<td>People with higher trust on the integrated development planning formulation process participate more effectively</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citizen attitude toward county government determines the extent of citizen's participation in ADP</td>
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<tr>
<td>The level of community awareness determines their public participation in county integrated development planning process</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section C: Methods of Engagement**

1. Have you ever taken part or been involved in the formulation of county development plans?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
2. Indicate which method do county government utilize to enhance public participation and awareness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local radio station</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tv stations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short message service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door to door campaigns</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Barazas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus Group Discussions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Show your level of agreement to the following parameters in respect to public participation in county annual development plan process from 5 strongly agree to 1 strongly disagreed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nyandarua County engages with the members of the public in the formulation of the annual development plans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicating resources to support matters of importance to the citizens encourages public participation in ADP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceived benefits by the citizens on county development initiatives influences their participation in ADP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens expect mutual interactions with county government and they seek a balance between the social costs of interaction.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acting in the best interest of local people encourages community participation in ADP</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community attitude to the process of governance limits their participation in ADP</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of Participation program gives interested Communities opportunity a chance to influence the outcome.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Would you be interested in attending a public participation in the formulation of the annual county development plans?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Section D: Feedback Mechanism

1. Are there clearly defined feedback mechanisms utilized by the public to relay their responses or receive replies to their questions from the county government?

Yes {   } No {   }

ii. If you answered yes above, which of the following method is commonly used?

Public hearing {   } Grievances procedure {   }

2. Show your agreement level to the following parameters in respect to public participation in county annual development plan process from 5 strongly agree to 1 strongly disagreed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The county provides feedback on issues raised by the public during public participation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The county provide feedback to the issues raised by the public</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of local community members participating in ADP have generally increased</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Development Projects initiated by county government are operating efficiently under the management of the local community members</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The number of complaints from local community members on county development programs or policies has decreased</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local community supporters of development projects initiated by county government have increased</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>More positive comments on citizen engagement by county government have being received from the public</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kindly rate the public participation in county government of Nyandarua

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation rate</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Don’t Know</th>
<th>Bad</th>
<th>Very Bad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Part 2: Interview Schedule**

**Name of Participant (Optional)** ________________________________

**Sub-County** ________________________________

**Position Held/Rank** ________________________________

**Gender** ________________________________

1. Does the Nyandarua County Government conduct public participation in the formulation of annual development plans?

2. How does the Nyandarua County Government select the members of the public who will take part in public participation?

3. Are there some factors that are considered by the Nyandarua County Government when selecting participants? If any, please explain.

4. What strategies has the Nyandarua County Government put in place regarding public participation?

5. Are there feedback mechanisms in place to ensure that the public receives timely responses to the issues raised?

6. How often does the public receive feedback from the county government on the issues they raise?
### Appendix III: The Study Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/No.</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Amount (Ksh)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Proposal Typesetting and Printing</td>
<td>4 Booklets X 1,500</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Printing Papers for Rough Draft</td>
<td>1 Rim X 500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Biro Pens</td>
<td>1 Packet</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Envelopes</td>
<td>5 Dozen A4 Size X 120</td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>White Out</td>
<td>1 Small Bottle X 200</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Pilot Study Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Data Collection and Travelling Expenses</td>
<td>5 Sub-Counties @ 5,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Typing And Printing Questionnaire</td>
<td>400 Questionnaires X 18</td>
<td>7,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Airtime And Communication Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>51,700</strong></td>
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## Appendix IV: Work Plan

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Approval of topic</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Writing and Submitting Concept Paper</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Proposal Writing</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Questionnaire Preparation</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Data collection</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Data Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Research Findings</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Typing of the Draft</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Draft Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Submission of Final Project Report</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Appendix v:Nacosti Permit
THE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ACT, 2013 (Rev. 2014)
Legal Notice No. 100. The Science, Technology and Innovation (Research Licensing) Regulations, 2014

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, henceforth referred to as the Commission, was constituted under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act 2013 (Revised 2014) hereinafter referred to as the Act. The objective of the Commission shall be to regulate and ensure quality in the science, technology and innovation sector and advice the Government in matters related thereto.

CONDITIONS OF THE RESEARCH LICENSE

1. The Licensee is granted subject to provisions of the Constitution of Kenya, the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, and other relevant laws, policies and regulations. Accordingly, the Licensee shall adhere to such procedures, conduct, code of ethics and guidelines as may be prescribed by regulations made under the Act or prescribed by provisions of international treaties of which Kenya is a signatory to.

2. The research and its related activities as well as outcomes shall be beneficial to the country and shall not in any way:
   i. Endanger national security
   ii. Adversely affect the image of Kenya
   iii. Be in contravention of Kenya’s international obligations including Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN)
   iv. Result in exploitation of intellectual property right of communities in Kenya
   v. Adversely affect the environment
   vi. Adversely affect the rights of communities
   vii. Endanger public safety and national cohesion
   viii. Plagiarize someone else’s work

3. The License is valid for the proposed research, location and specified period.

4. The license may not be transferred or assigned to any other person.

5. The Commission reserves the right to cancel the research at any time during the research period if in the opinion of the Commission the research is not implemented in conformity with the provisions of the Act or any other written law.

6. The Licensee shall inform the relevant County Director of Education, County Commissioner and County Governor before commencement of the research.

7. Excavation, filming, movement, and collection of specimens are subject to further necessary clearance from relevant Government Agencies.

8. The License does not give authority to transfer research materials.

9. The Commission may monitor and evaluate the licensed research project for the purpose of assessing and evaluating compliance with the conditions of the License.

10. The Licensee shall submit one hard copy, and upload a soft copy of their final report (thesis) onto a platform designated by the Commission within one year of completion of the research.

11. The Commission reserves the right to modify the conditions of the License including cancellation without prior notice.

12. Research findings and information regarding research systems shall be stored or disseminated, utilized or applied in such a manner as may be prescribed by the Commission from time to time.

13. The Licensee shall disclose to the Commission, the relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee, and the relevant national agencies any inventions and discoveries that are of National strategic importance.

14. The Commission shall have powers to acquire from any person the right in, or to, any scientific innovation, invention or patent of strategic importance to the country.

15. Relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee shall monitor and evaluate the research periodically, and make a report of its findings to the Commission for necessary action.

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