

**AN INVESTIGATION OF POVERTY ERADICATION AND WOMEN
PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OF AKALO SUB-COUNTY,
APAC DISTRICT NORTHERN UGANDA**

BY

NGIDA SANDRA

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DECLARATION

I **NGIDA SANDRA** a student of Kampala International University main campus, declare that the work in this dissertation is my own and has never been submitted to any institution of higher learning.

NGIDA SANDRA

Signed.......... Date .....

APPROVAL

This dissertation has been successfully done under my supervision in accordance with the relevant University regulations.

MS. NATURINDA RHONA

Signature  Date 

DEDICATION

I have dedicated this work to my beloved parents Mr. Fred Okello and Mrs. Rose Okello, sisters Apio Suzan, Ajok Harriet and my beloved friends Acion Sharon, Sharon Namwanje and my brothers Odongo Emmy, Enon Tonny, my nephew Ogwang Jessy for their endless support both financially and morally ever since my childhood.

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ACRONYMS

ADB	African Development Bank
CS	Civil society
CBO	Community Based Organisations
FAO	Food Agricultural Organizations
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MOUA&E	Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment's
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture in Rural Development
NHG	Neighbourhood Group.
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
RCVs	Resident Community Volunteers
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Education Fund
UPA	Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme
UWONET	Uganda Women Network
WSHGs	Women Self Help Groups
WID	Women in Development
WB	World Bank

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter included introduction, background to the study, problem statement, objectives of the study, research questions, scope of the study, significance and the theoretical framework.

1.1 Background of the study

Globally, over the last 200 years the world as a whole has seen a marked decline in the incidence of absolute poverty. In the past decade, there has been significant growth in the illicit trafficking of drugs, people, firearms and natural resources. Poverty in these and other commodities is generally characterized by high levels of organization and the presence of strong criminal groups and networks. While such activities existed in the past, both the scale and the geographic scope of the current challenge are unprecedented, (Glazer, 2010).

This therefore brought the need to work with women in development, for example through Women Self Help Groups (WSHGs), emerged in the 1970s as mainstream development had, according to feminists, been mainly aimed at men and this was due to an intention of reducing poverty and high dependence. This was due to factors such as normative assumptions about the sexual division of labour, something that Boscrup (1970) made a strong case against by emphasizing the productive potential of women. The 1970s Women in Development (WID) framework grew out of this, with a shift in focus by development agencies from welfare to equality for women, as well as women specific development projects. In 2009, the value of illicit trade around the globe was estimated at US\$1.3 trillion and is increasing (Johnson, 2012).

In Africa, the colonial experience that introduced Western gender perceptions and practices affected the traditional involvement of African women in the development of their societies, leading to women's marginalization and economic and political disempowerment. A gender and development approach in postcolonial development discourse seeks to reinstate the importance

of women in development, while recognizing that the destructive effects of poverty and disease touch both women and men (Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy, 2004).

In East Africa in 1967 under the Arusha Declaration, Tanzania declared itself to be a socialist country under the leadership of Julius Kambarage Nyerere the first president of Tanzania. In response to the Arusha declaration the country established 'ujamaa' villages and self-reliance in 1974. This was to promote rural development by encouraging community participation in food and cash crop production and to ensure equal provision of social services in rural areas, (Hulme et al 2005).

On the side of Uganda, the Ugandan SAP package in the 1980s included extensive privatisation, cutbacks in public spending and the dismantling of social welfare (Johnson, 2012). The WB (1994) asserted that by the State cutting back on services the 'community' and the 'family' would participate in providing the services that they needed. This according to Johnson, (2012) forced many women and men to seek innovative strategies of coping with their worsening situations; one such strategy was to set up WSHGs.

Ugandan government economic liberalisation policies in the late 1980s and early 1990s went hand in hand with decentralisation policies. The 1997 affirmative action policies deemed a minimum of 30% representation of women on councils from the village level to the national level. This is significant as study by Johnson (2012) found that 67% of female MPs recognised that they had a special mandate to represent women and to encourage them to participate more fully in their communities (Murray, 2004).

In Apac district, the Directorate of Community Services is charged with the responsibility of community empowerment in all spheres of social, economic and political development in order to improve on the quality of life. It is made up of the following subsections; youth and children affairs, probation and welfare, disability and elderly, gender and culture, Labour and productivity, and community development. The sector promotes issues of social protection, gender equality, equity, human rights, culture, decent work conditions and empowerment for different groups such as women, children and the unemployed Youth, internally displaced persons, the elderly and persons with disability. These characteristics and many others pose great

constraints in the social and development of the district and have made the district one of the least developed districts in Uganda coupled with the insurgencies which characterized most parts of the district for the last 20 years which resulted into massive loss of lives, properties and mass displacement of the affected people causing a break down in the community and social fabric. Thus in regard to the above, the researcher will provide for solutions to poverty alleviation and women's contribution to community development (Narayan, 2012).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

According to African Development Bank (ADB) (2013), over one billion of people in the world today live under unacceptable conditions of poverty mostly in rural areas and this forced many countries to resort to women empowerment through creating a gap for women to participate in development of not only their families but also the countries in which they live. However, despite the incident, women are still challenged by low level of participation in community development especially in Northern Uganda which is borne out of the sentimental attachment on feminine gender. Still to make matters worse women constitute about half of the Uganda's population yet they are not given prime of place in its development. As citizens of this great nation who form the bulk of the population, they are supposed to contribute much of their quota to the development of the country. Regrettably, they still suffer a lot of constraints and inhibition which militate against their personal development which consequently retard their contribution to the growth and development of Ugandan society (Baulch, 2010). Some of the women have been conditioned by socio-cultural structure not to be heard in public especially in the presence of their husbands even when they have good ideas. In agriculture, women in Northern Uganda are disadvantaged relative to men. Women in this male dominated social structure are denied equal access to land. They are not allowed to own a piece of land or to inherit it from the parents or the husband. In some cases in conflict situation, women are not allowed or consulted in the discussion of land related issues. This therefore has increased poverty in families, increased government expenditure and lawlessness in society and made the researcher to make an analysis of the coping strategies to poverty reduction and women participation in community development, (Gaiha, 2003).

1.3 Objectives of the study

1.3.1 General objective of the study

The general objective of this study was to investigate poverty eradication and women participation in community development of Akalo sub-county, Apac district Northern Uganda.

1.3.2 Specific objectives of the study

This study was specifically designed:

- i) To investigate poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development in Akalo Sub County.
- ii) To assess Women Participation in Community Development of Akalo Sub County.
- iii) Assess the relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development of Akalo Sub County.

1.4 Research Questions

- i) What are the poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development in Akalo Sub County?
- ii) What is the participation of women in community development of Akalo Sub County?
- iii) What is the relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development of Akalo Sub County?

1.5 Scope of the study

1.5.1 Geographical scope

The study was conducted in Apac district with a case study of Akalo Sub-county in northern Uganda.

1.5.2 Content scope

The study was carried to investigate poverty eradication strategies and women participation in community development of Akalo sub-county, Apac district Northern Uganda.

1.5.3 Time scope

The study was carried out for a period of three months that is to say from May to August 2016.

1.6 Significance of the study

- i. The findings of this study will be used to demonstrate the importance of women not only in community development but also in the overall development of the country.
- ii. It will also be important in investigating the poverty eradication strategies used in Uganda and the challenges faced in an attempt to apply such strategies.
- iii. It will also provide an understanding of the challenges faced by women in community development.
- iv. Through the findings of the study, the government of Uganda will be in position to meet the needs of women as well as providing space for them to deprive out of poverty.
- v. Lastly women themselves will be made aware of the obstacles they face and how they can make themselves succeed in the future.

1.7 Theoretical framework

There are a number of theories that attempt to explain poverty. It is difficult, however to select just one or a few that can be made responsible for causing poverty, as well as potential strategies that can be addressed in response to poverty. How those strategies can be implemented is another story. Despite the one-sided view often taken by theorists, these theories do not add to the broader understanding of poverty in society. According to Bezuidenhout (1998:167-168), the Deficiency theory can be considered and it asserts that community development strategies/programmes are designed, selected and implemented in response to different theories about the cause of poverty that justify community development. This theory has its roots in Social Darwinism. Spencer, an advocate of Social Darwinism, was often of the 'opinion that the poor are poor because it is nature's way of eliminating those who are "not fit" to make room for those who are, and who are therefore entitled to the rewards of wealth. Later this concept was

adopted by Jensen (1969) and Hernstein (1971), who suggested that the poor are impoverished because they do not possess the same intellectual endowment as the more affluent members of society. According to Jensen, the difference between the poor and the non-poor can be attributed to genetic and environmental factors. Individuals who are intellectually more tenacious are less likely to be poor. Hernstein maintains that social stratification can be attributed to inborn differences based on mental ability and the ability of an individual to use his inherited mental capability to acquire a prestigious job, enabling him to earn sufficient finances and thus preventing impoverishment. Although mental ability may be a contributing factor as to why some individuals are poor, this explanation is biased and does not take other concomitant factors such as economic, social, environmental, political and other factors into account. There are a number of theories that attempt to explain poverty. Despite the one-sided view often taken by theorists, these theories do add to the broader understanding of poverty in a society. Therefore this theory will illustrate the relationship between poverty alleviation and women empowerment.

1.8 Operational definition of key terms

Poverty

According to the United Nations Human Development Report, (1998), poverty is defined as a complex phenomenon that generally refers to inadequacy of resources and deprivation of choices that would enable people to enjoy decent living conditions.

Community

It is the people living in one particular area or people who are considered as a unit because of their common interests, social group, or nationality

Development

According to business dictionary.com development is the part of a movement or composition in which a theme or themes are developed, or unfolded and elaborated, by various technical means, so as to reveal their inherent possibilities.

Community Development

It is when a community is empowered to take control of their own development. It is an umbrella term for projects that actively include beneficiaries in their design and management.

Strategy

Is the art and science of planning and marshalling resources for their most efficient and effective use.

CHAPTER TWO

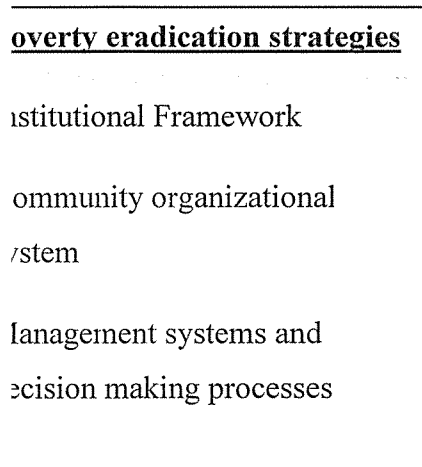
LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

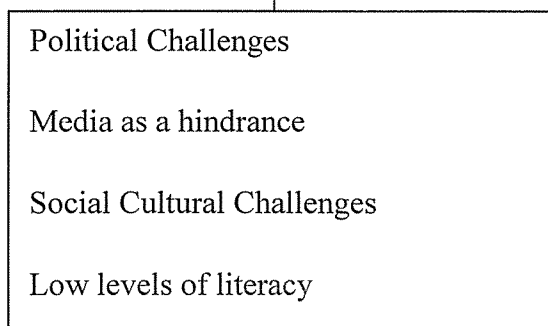
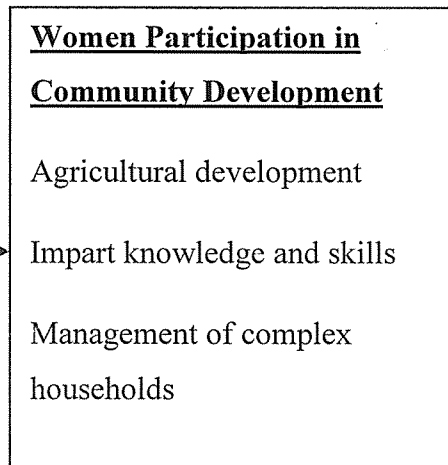
This chapter presented a review of literature relating to the variables under investigation; it presented the literature review in accordance to the specific objectives of the study. The related literature was presented with the objectives of the study and cited to suit relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development.

2.1 Conceptual framework

Independent variables



Dependent variables



Hulme et al, 2016

From the above conceptual framework, there are many strategies to women emancipation like Institutional Framework, community organizational system and management systems and decision making processes. These therefore create space for women to participate in community development through agricultural development, impart knowledge and skills and management of complex households. However, these are challenged by political Challenges, media, social Cultural Challenges and low levels of literacy.

2.2 Conceptualization of key terms

2.2.1 The Concept of Poverty

The word “poverty” and / or “poor” originated from the Latin word pauper meaning poor which has its roots in the words pau and pario that is “giving birth to nothing”; referring to unproductive livestock and farmland. Historically, the idea that some people are trapped in poverty while others have spells in poverty was a central element of most analysis (Hulme et al, 2005) for example, officials and social commentators in eighteenth century France distinguished between the pauvre and the indigent. The former experienced seasonal poverty when crops failed or demand for casual agricultural labour was low. The latter were permanently poor because of ill health (physical and mental), accident, age or alcoholism. The central aim of policy was to support the pauvre ways that would stop them from becoming indigent. In contemporary times this durational aspect of poverty has been relatively neglected and conceptual development, and more particularly measurement, has focused on severity/depth and multidimensionality (Hulme et al, 2005).

Encyclopaedia Encarta defines poverty as the condition of having insufficient resources or income. In its most extreme form, poverty is a lack of basic human needs to sustain as useful and working efficiency such as adequate and nutritious food, clothing, housing, clean water and health services. Yunus (1994) on the other hand defines it as the denial of human rights relating to the fulfillment of basic human needs, (Narayan, 2002).

2.2.2 The concept of community development

Community Development is when a community is empowered to take control of their own development. It is an umbrella term for projects that actively include beneficiaries in their design

and management. Community Development is achieved by a variety of mechanisms including through Local Government and Community Based Organisations (CBO). CBO's are normally membership organisations made up of individuals within a self-defined community or united by a common factor, such as religion or interest (Obadan, 2007).

Community development can be viewed by different authors as a process that requires a certain procedure aimed at achieving specific goals. As a process it does not take place in isolation, but there is inter-sectoral collaboration where it ensures that there is cost effective in the sense that it ensures that there is no service overlap and in their own development has been measured as key factor in the success of projects According to Goebel (2006) if agriculture is to be an effective sector for development, women need to be able to fully participate. The government will need not only mainstream in national and local governance. Government action should ensure that legislation does not discriminate against women in areas such as inheritance, wages and property ownership.

2.3 Poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development

In Uganda for example, the Government has used several strategies to improve the economic empowerment of women. The first strategy was to make access and equitable control of means of production possible for women. The Government therefore revised the National Land Policy of 1995 and enacted the Land Law Act of 1999 as well as the Village Act of 1999. This has enabled women to own clan and family land on equal rights with men. The Government working with NGOs and international donor agencies have made a step to educating men and women on the importance of women owning land and other means of production. The role of women and their contributions at the family and community levels in the development process have been emphasized. The other constraint still to be addressed is educating the society about these changes and how women can benefit from these changes (Patterson, 2010).

Institutional Framework; at the national level, UBSP is one of several programmes under the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment's MOUA&E) Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme (UPA), with specific objectives of women's empowerment; attainment of social sector goals; and convergence with other Government schemes for long-term sustainability. State Urban

Development Agencies or Cells manage the programme with structures also at the district level, especially those which have many cities and towns (Sindzingre, 2010).

Within this overall national framework, the community organizational system is what makes UBSP a unique government effort for facilitating people's participation beginning in urban poor neighborhoods. One (or more) RCVs (Resident Community Volunteers) is elected by her neighbours (15-40 households) as a focal point for communication and interaction forming a Neighbourhood Group (NHG). Units of NHGs (around 10 groups) from Neighbourhood Committees where mini plans are prepared, resources mobilized, and action taken. When formally registered, they may receive programme resources for direct management of activities. In some States, Community Development Societies at city or ward level are registered for advocacy, planning and resource mobilization especially for thrift and credit. Through UBSP, one paid Community organizer is generally available for initial organizational and planning work for 2000 households (10,000 persons), expected to work intensively in the communities for several years, helping the women towards self-reliant action. After some time, Community organizers initiate efforts in other neighborhoods, often with the help of RCVs. At city level, Urban Poverty Alleviation Committees/Units are formed for convergence among departments and overall management (Supp, 2009).

Management systems and decision making processes; through broad national Guidelines (revised 1994), UBSP is managed and monitored by the MOUAE, at the national level. State Governments are encouraged to work towards the overall programme goals through systems appropriate to their needs and resources, with a range of institutional arrangements at State and District levels. Greatest flexibility is noted at city and community levels, with the neighbourhood associations of women directly involved in preparing community mini-plans which are reviewed, culminating in a city plan which links community needs with both sector and UBSP resources. UBSP's funds (average allocation \$ 1.70/capita) may be used as bridge-financing for basic community needs. The overall investments in these communities may be increased many times by establishing linkages with other programmes with UBSP resources to be then used for other community needs especially thrift and credit and income generation activities. Presently,

community based planning is operationalized in a variety of ways and effectiveness, however, in at least 11 large states and over 200 cities, poor women are directly involved (Swallow, 2005).

Through systems at national, state and city levels training, exchange visits, meetings and communications efforts to strengthen the programme are underway. A recently revised MIS from community to national level has been introduced to monitor processes. As a need based programme without a set package of inputs, it is a difficult programme to manage particularly at city and community levels, however, the flexibility which is encouraged is yielding positive results in better reaching the urban poor (World Bank, 2005).

Legislation/Regulatory frameworks; UBSP is the only centrally-sponsored programme which clearly and specifically targets all the urban poor. Two States have forged close links between community structures under UBSP and the representative structures under newly enacted 74 (Constitutional Amendment) Act in statewide legislation, also bringing together all urban poverty programmes with UBSP, by establishing state and city level Urban Poverty Alleviation (UPA) Cells and Funds. The women groups emerging under UBSP are encouraged to formally register as NGOs, important for access to other public resources with over 400 registered groups established (Zoomers, 2005).

Social policies; the National Commission on Urbanization (1988) recommended that urban community based programmes be universalized. Since 1990, UBSP has therefore been an integral component of the Government's Poverty Alleviation Programme, with the community systems available to all government programmes as a channel for planning, implementation and feedback. UBSP is referred as a strategy towards achievement of national goals outlined in the National Plan of Action for Children as well as state specific plans arising. Through city planning efforts underway in UBSP cities, sector specific strategies and programmes are being reviewed to meet the community demands generated with over 100 pro-poor city plans of action in place. In the banking sector, National Bank for Agriculture in Rural Development (NABARD) has for the first time provided concessional loans to the urban poor, reporting full recovery in the pilot state programme through UBSP (Englama et al 2007).

Gender; UBSP is a women centered programme. As one State Coordinator has emphasized; it is becoming a movement of women. It cannot be stopped. From a programme when it started a few years back and then changing into a strategy of empowerment, it has now become the way of life". Men are also involved in the programme and in a few states even as community volunteers but within the context of the overall goals. UBSP directly improves the quality of life within Indian cities especially for women, children and families living in poverty working towards its absolute reduction through this cooperative, participatory, women/community-centered approach (Fallavier, 2008).

Use of new and appropriate technology; low cost technology appropriate to urban communities is encouraged. This includes introduction of smokeless chullahs (hearth) and simple cement cast windows and slabs for roofing, useful innovations in the small, congested homes in urban slums. Hand pumps, maintainable at community level are used, with women trained to undertake basic repairs. Simple iodine test kits enable RCVs to test salt at community level, important for universalization of iodized salt and its objective that is to say eradicating Iodine Deficiency Disorders. In Kerala, the Coir Board provided to UBSP groups an improved spinning machine which is more efficient and less harsh on the women. Potable water testing kits enable the women to monitor water quality (Gaiha, 2003).

Access to Shelter; the Government has many programmes to help the poor improve their housing. UBSP groups help to identify beneficiaries. Through the formation of thousands of Thrift and Credit units, the credit-worthiness of many of those who are in need has been enhanced. Data from one State clearly showed the linkage of Thrift and Credit to housing with over 25,000 improved homes in a 2-year period. In Andhra Pradesh, over 70,000 credit groups have been formed mobilizing US\$ 1.6 million in the past 2 years. This combined with the State's decision to provide land tenure to thousands of poor households has resulted in home improvements on a large scale (Glazer, 2010).

Health and other sectoral services; UBSP has from its inception supported actively the achievement of health, nutrition, water, sanitation and other social sector goals providing an enabling and participatory community framework targeting the urban poor. Data collected over the years in over 300,000 urban households previously showed low immunization coverage of

children; low levels of ante and post natal care for women; high levels of malnutrition in children; high primary school drop out rates, poor sanitation, etc. In participating communities, this scenario has dramatically changed. Current efforts in city wide pro-poor planning shows that improved city-wide coverage through the UBSP systems are possible (Johnson, 2012).

Poverty Reduction: UBSP has a direct impact on poverty reduction, focusing on the effects of poverty and underlying causes; illiteracy, lack of information, lack of access to services. The community structures and collective actions undertaken help in building confidence, promoting a self-reliant direction for community and individual change. More directly, UBSP has made available programmes for skill development. Revolving funds for small loans are administered directly by the NHCs. With the recent introduction of thrift and credit, the previously untapped savings potential among these women is now emerging (Kumar, 2005).

Partnerships; UBSP is a partnership financed 60:40 between GOI and States, with city or community contributions, underway in at least 50% of cities. Each of the 25 participating states has its unique experience in this programme, with details available in the full report prepared for Habitat. Over 100 NGOs are involved, providing technical and mobilization support. Partnerships with sectoral programmes and other agencies such as water or electricity boards, banks are increasing based on community specific needs and plans. The Department of Health and Family Welfare has established working relationships with UBSP and the programme is an accepted strategy in the National Plan of Action for Nutrition. In one State, a financial formula for targeted sector allocations at the state and city level for the urban poor through city level urban poverty alleviation cells has recently been implemented, now serving as a national model (Lewis, 2010).

UNICEF continues as a partner, providing support towards training, management, research, communications, demonstration activities and NGO collaboration. The philosophy of UBSP is seen in programmes of other donors such as ODA-UK; Integrated Population Projects (World Bank) among others. A National Urban Poverty Eradication Fund (1995) seeks to tap resources in the private sector as well. Carry out periodic impact assessment of various interventions and initiatives and programmes undertaken by stakeholders in the process. The strategy will be implemented within a national framework that involves stakeholders at different levels of the

economy. The national level incorporates the national policy making organ in the government as well as National Stakeholders Forum, Thematic Groups, Sector Working Groups and Development Partners and implementing agencies (ministries, civil society, private sector, local authorities). At the district level the District administration, government departments, NGOs, religious organizations and other stakeholders will be involved and the community level will involve CBOs, households and other stakeholders. The government has utilized the outputs of the several studies that were initiated within the framework of PRSP to inform the process of establishing an appropriate institutional framework for monitoring and evaluation of the ERSWEC and reporting on the MDGs (Mead, 2006).

2.4 Women Participation in Community Development

There are both pull and push factors that influence women's participation in community development. Pull factors are those elements that enable or encourage women's participation while push factors are those elements that hinder women's participation. For instance, created and invited spaces like meetings, leadership positions and organisation rules can provide opportunities for women participation in development activities while power differences on the other hand can limit women's ability to participate in decision making and their attendance in project work (Murray, 2004).

The face of agriculture around the globe is often female. In many of the world's regions, women work alongside men in the fields that provide nourishment and income for their families. They contribute to commercial agriculture, which includes high-value products such as vegetables and cut flowers for local and export markets. In some societies, women also sell agricultural goods. But more often than not, women's contributions to the agricultural sector go unrecognized. Few small-scale women farmers are paid for their labor and societal views of women's roles restrict women's input in household decisions. Such beliefs also limit their access to land ownership, farm equipment and credit all of which are needed to be economically successful. These barriers ultimately inhibit women's ability to produce and can make it difficult for them to escape poverty or provide food for their families (Narayan, 2000).

Women's empowerment through the provision of skills, leadership positions and social interaction was expected to expand their ability to participate in different development programs and to influence positive social change in all spheres of influence but at the same time poverty, social cultural norms and values, lack of external support and willingness by women themselves to act upon available resources can result in disempowerment and low participation. Religion, culture and gender also intersect and influence women's participation. For instance, norms and values in religions and culture can hinder women's participation due to the emphasis on women's submissiveness and male dominance hence gender roles can also hinder or allow participation of women in project activities (Narayan, 2012).

Gender planning can help project planners to introduce projects which could benefit both men and women hence motivating women to participate in the implementation of those projects for the aim of fulfilling their needs. Moreover, gender planning can help increase understanding related to the roles of men and women in a particular community. Hence during the preparation of a work plan, proper strategies could be employed to ensure a balance of women for the purpose of creating participatory spaces for women's voices (Abramovitz, 2006).

Often women manage complex households and pursue multiple livelihood strategies, their activities typically include producing agricultural crops, tending animals, processing and preparing food, working for wages in agricultural or other rural enterprises, collecting fuel and water, engaging in trade and marketing, caring for family members and maintaining their homes. Many of these activities are not defined as economically active employment in national accounts but they are all essential to the well-being of rural households (Balogun, 2009).

African women work far longer hours than men, on average, their workdays may be 50 per cent longer according to the World Bank (World Bank, 2008). Women also must devote time to other domestic chores as well, such as collecting water and fuel and to child care. Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation (CTA, 1993) reported that women in Africa make up more than one-third of the workforce. They account for 70 percent of agricultural workers; 80 percent of food producers; 100 percent of those who process basic foodstuffs, and they undertake from

60 percent to 90 percent of the marketing. Furthermore, Ohuegbe (1989) observed that women farmers contribute more to food production and family labour than men. It was estimated that over 95 percent of rural women are small-scale farmers who produce most of the food and bear the burden of day-to-day family subsistence (Baulch, 2010).

However, Access to and control over resources; in general, women today have a better opportunity to invest in and make use of "human capital", such as education and health. However, for poor women access to resources and basic services remains a critical problem. Also while there has been some progress in access to social services, there has been limited progress in recent decades in securing their access to natural and physical capital such as money and land. This unequal gender access has high costs at the individual, household and societal levels (Englama, 2007).

Many decisions about access to, control over and the distribution of resources are made within families and between men and women. This is not a straightforward process; it involves negotiation and the use of power, which are in turn strongly shaped by social context. Control of resources and bargaining power within the household helps determine women's status in society. Bargaining power is also shaped by what an individual brings into the household that is to say physical assets, wages or other income, transfer payments or welfare receipts or even prestige. These various forms of capital also affect a woman's ability to bargain and negotiate (Fallavier, 2008).

Decision making power; lack of economic resources is likely to restrict women's economic choices more than men's. Lesser purchasing power translates to lesser decision making power. In developing countries, the laws of inheritance and ownership generally disfavor women more than in developed countries, which may be a significant factor affecting the financial resources women have at their disposal. At the political level women also have less voice (Gaiha, 2003).

Social exclusion; for many years, the poverty and the social degradation that results from social inequality were considered largely an economic problem. In just the last few years, however, greater attention and analysis is being paid to a more complex set of social, economic, and cultural practices that comprise "social exclusion," in which certain populations are excluded

from the benefits of social and economic development based on their class, gender, ethnicity, geography and physical disabilities (Glazer, 2010).

As social exclusion so severely restricts access to basic social services and jobs needed for a minimal standard of living, and the ability to live in dignity and security, there is a high correlation between poverty and social exclusion. Even when socially excluded groups are not the majority of the poor, the socially excluded typically constitute the poorest of the poor. However, social exclusion is not only about material deprivation. Importantly, it is also about people's inability to fully exercise their social, cultural and political rights (Tango 2003). In this respect, social exclusion has much common ground with Sen's idea of capability poverty (Burchardt, et al 2002).

Labor market segregation and wages; in European countries, women earn on average roughly 80% of what men earn. A lot of empirical research has been done to identify the magnitude of wage discrimination. These studies use data on developed countries, and the results show that only a relatively small fraction of the wage differences are due to direct discrimination that is paying different wages for exactly the same job to persons of similar qualifications. The finer the classification of occupations and positions, the smaller the discrimination appears to be: with the same title men and women earn almost the same salary. Using detailed data on Finnish industries Luukkonen (2003) finds the discrimination to be 8% (Johnson, 2012).

By far the most significant reason for women's lower incomes on average is the segregation of the job market. This segregation is a more difficult issue for the economist to explain. It is difficult to evaluate the justification of the current situation, where occupations employing women are valued less in terms of pay and prestige. One potentially useful view comes from the insights offered by the literature on statistical discrimination (Kumar, 2005).

Low levels of literacy (DEM Group, 2006). The Uganda National Household survey 1999-2000 put the literacy rate for women at 51% compared to 77% for men indicating that only 30% of the Ugandan women can exercise control over decision making as well as national policies. In relation to strategic decision-making, women constitute only 39% of the over 17,000 persons in prominent positions, showing 44% compared to the non-political one (12%). In a study by

UWONET, 1998 in most districts on the 1997 elections revealed that only the elite women emerged to take up the challenge of occupying posts on local councils. Most voters confessed that lack of education hindered them from participating in the elections, as they did not know what was expected of them as candidates and voters hence the study aimed at investigating whether lack of education was a hindrance to women participation (Lewis, 2010).

Social Cultural Challenges; Bonepath and Stoper (2011) identified women's gender roles as a challenge and argued that lack of political recognition of women's reproductive and labour roles made it difficult for them to campaign because they were busy washing dishes, dispensing cough syrups to children and cleaning the house. More so Mahatma Gandhi, in his writings was a believer in harmonizing and equalizing productive roles of men and women which were referred to as so called, women's Jobs". Joshi (1986) quotes Gandhi, "More often than not, a woman's time is taken up, not only by the performance of essential domestic duties but in catering for the egoistic pleasures of her remnant of barbarism. It is high time that our woman kind freed from this incubus".

The media as a hindrance, the media at times does not adequately inform the public about the rights and roles of women in society and, if they do, the publications done are written in English leaving the illiterate with no idea about what is going on. UWONET (2006) reported that the media did more of what it always did to women, less coverage, negatisation and trivialisation. The overall analysis of the media's performance especially in the election was that it gave prominence to the male candidates (especially presidential). Media coverage for women in the 2006 elections was much less and when it occurred, it mainly looked out for weaknesses as one woman candidate (Miria Obote) asserted, the media has never been friendly to us women. It always looks for the negative side". It was noted that the media concentrated on personal attacks such as whether a woman was beautiful, married, divorced or otherwise (Sindzingre, 2010).

Political Challenges; limited numbers of women in politics and the fewer they are, the more difficult it becomes for them to push for women's issues. In a country like Uganda where the majority numbers of the leaders are male, lobbying becomes very difficult. Drude (1997) a political scientist in an extensive research on women's participation quoted a respondent saying, "Don't expect us to make much difference as long as we are only a few in politics. It takes a

critical mass of women to make a fundamental change in politics. His research, however, contradicts with Novelist countries where the significant numbers of women in elective positions show they could make a difference in pushing for women's concerns (Sindzingre, 2010).

2.5 Relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development

Poverty is one of the main reasons that limit girls' opportunities to participate in education. Traditionally girls have to help their mothers to work the farm as well as doing the housework, looking after the younger siblings, collecting firewood, water and food from the forest, cooking, cleaning and feeding animals. Another reason is the lack of resources and awareness of parents regarding girl's education. Parents cannot afford clothing and school supplies and the school is far from the village. Many parents are not comfortable allowing their daughters walk a long distance to school. Lao is the official language and it is taught in school over all Laos. Many ethnic girls, who do not speak the Lao language, are also faced with language barriers in school. Kaufmann (2007) found that the lack of formal education and/or not being able to speak, read or write Lao constrains Khmu people from participating in economic and development processes. For example, people would not be able to participate adequately in business and trade and make use of social services around them. In addition, many parents still believe that girls are not worth educating because they will drop school to get married and leave home (ADB, 2004).

Women's responsibilities mean they have to make decisions on daily finances. Gianotten et al. (1994) agrees that women traditionally have greater control over daily financial matters to meet basic needs such as food, education and health care than men do. However, men provide direction and appear to have the final say. When a women's role is not recognised, women do not have influence. This is consistent with the Lao context.

Culture and social participation happen within the community. Women's participation tends to relate to household responsibilities such as washing clothes at the river together. Hand weaving is a traditional occupation of Lao women particularly the Lao-Tai ethnic group (GRID, 2005). Women also prepare food for funerals and weddings. These responsibilities are important for the community. They bring people together socially in an informal setting. Many social activities rely on women's participation to be organised. However, Khmu women's contribution can be

seen only in preparing food and making sure that men have enough. Cultural and social participation is an accepted part of life; therefore there are few barriers to participation (Supp, 2009).

Women are involved in land preparation, irrigation and preparing bunds and seedbeds. Men on the other hand are involved more in irrigation, heavy cultivation, guarding fields and hunting wild animals (FAO). In rural areas, girls often have the responsibility for grazing and watching the goats. Men and older boys, on the other hand are primarily responsible for care of buffalo and oxen, hunting and fishing (FAO, 1998). For upland rice farming, both men and women are involved in all activities. However, there are some activities in which women are involved more than men and vice-versa. However, women spend more time weeding, which involves less risk and responsibility outside the household (Swallow, 2005).

In addition, women are also involved in trading and small businesses in the informal sector, which is considered a secondary job for women. For example, women on average spend 0.5 hours a day more on trading compared to men and 0.1 hour on handicrafts such as weaving and sewing. In rural areas handicrafts generate a significant amount of household cash income. Today livestock such as pigs, cows and chickens are a source of cash income for most villages. Women play an important role in trading produce and would benefit from training in this area.

The International Land Coalition (2010) states that “women’s lack of access to and control over land is a key factor contributing to their poverty with devastating results for households and communities and thus needs to be addressed if poverty and hunger are to be reduced”. They argue that the two key reasons for promoting women’s access to land include “women’s rights as human rights are violated” and “women’s key role in ensuring food security and sustainable natural resource management is not sufficiently recognized”. Women’s daily participation in the household, community and livelihood activities provide an opportunity for access to resources. However, Khmu women cannot work far from home or at night which restricts their participation. In day to day life women are responsible for many resources and making decisions on livelihoods (World Bank, 2005).

Presently there is little or no doubt that the participatory approach is top among the prevailing methodologies in development organization for local level and enhanced community mobilization and decision-making (Njeru, 2005). This has not always been the case. In the colonial era all development activities were centred around the government which formulated and implemented policies. The post-colonial period was characterized by efforts to correct the development imbalances created by the previous colonial government. The emphasis was more on economic development which embraced the trickle-down approach to development. It was argued that the weaknesses of the indigenous private sector in most African states made it necessary for the state activity to expand into the economic field. This led to a strong centralized public bureaucracy which had negative consequences such as poor service delivery. When the government failed in its service delivery mechanisms, the third sector (civil society) came up to fill the gap. Civil society (CS) also grew rapidly because the donors, having lost faith in the government, decided to channel their funds through non-government organizations (NGOs) and community-based organization (CBOs). This brought about tension and suspicion between the government and CS (Zoomers, 2005).

Lao women are primarily responsible for the health care of the family particularly for their children. However, often their status in the household and community prevents access to public services. In 2005, the under-five mortality rate was 98 per 1,000 live births, and the infant mortality rate was 70 per 1,000 live births (UNDP, 2008). Most of the child deaths in Laos were caused by neonatal conditions and communicable diseases, in particular malaria, acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea and epidemics such as dengue fever, measles or meningitis (UNDP, 2008). In addition women are also faced with their own health issues, in particular maternal mortality. The maternal mortality rate in Laos is still high. In 2005 the rate was 405 deaths per 100,000 live births (UNDP, 2008). This was caused by the strenuous work, frequency of pregnancies, anaemia and poor nutrition, malaria and inadequate health services especially in rural areas. Women also have a lack of awareness of health and sanitation which affects the health of children (Johnson, 2012).

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presented the methodology which was used by the researcher to carry out research. It described the research design, the area of study, target population, sample size, study population, sampling technique, data collection sources, data collection tools, procedure, ethical consideration, limitations of the study and dissemination of results.

3.1 Research Design

The research was carried out using a case study design where information was obtained systematically using interview schedules and questionnaires. Researcher by Robert K.Yin (2004) defines the case study research method as an empirical inquiry that investigates a contemporary phenomenon within its real-life context; when the boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident; and in which multiple sources of evidence are used. Therefore this design was relevant to a research involving poverty eradication and women participation in community development because it involved information about a group of women who were examined intensively.

3.2 Study Area

The study area was Apac district with special emphasis on Akalo Sub County in northern Uganda. Apac became a District in 1974 when it was curved out of the then Lango District. Oyam District was further curved out of Apac in July 2006, essentially to enhance service delivery to the communities. As with most other Ugandan districts, it is Apac District is approximately 300 km from Kampala. It lies between longitudes 32o E and 34o E and latitudes 2o N and 3o N. It is bordered by the Districts of Oyam in the North, Lira in the East, Masindi in the West and Amolatar in the south-east. The southern boundaries of the district are also along Lake Kwana and the River Nile. . The District covers a total area of 3,908 km² of which 9 % is under open swamps, water while 15% is under forests leaving 2,970 km² for human settlement. Arable land covers 2,524 km².

3.3 Target population

In Apac district, a target population of 120 respondents was selected out of the total population of the whole district which amounts to 498,300 selected groups of people in Apac district. The sample size was arrived at through the use of a formula to ensure that there was no bias in the sample selection.

Target population	Total target	Sample size
Administrators	10	5
Women	90	83
Local leaders	20	5
Total	120	93

3.4 Sample size

In order to get the sample from a population of 120 the researcher used Slovinc's formula which is a formula used to calculate an appropriate sample size from a population. This formula was used because the researcher had no idea about a population's behavior hence she had to use Slovinc's formula to find the sample size. The formula (sometimes written as Slovin's formula) was formulated by Slovin in 1960. Hence for this research because of the use of that formula results below were collected;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

$$n = N / (1 + Ne^2)$$

n = Number of samples

N = Total population

e = Error tolerance

$$n = 120 / (1 + 120 * 0.05 * 0.05)$$

$$n = 120 / 1.3$$

$$n = 92.30$$

Hence making a sample size of 93

3.5 Sampling technique

The Sampling technique involved stratified sampling including administrators, women, local leaders and purposive sampling for women especially housewives that were found in Apac district all totaling to 93 respondents.

3.6 Data Collection sources

(i) Primary data

This was data which was collected for the first time and it will be original in character. Primary data involved direct experience and observation and thus distortion by other observers was avoided and therefore it was made more reliable. The data was got through interviews which the researcher conducted; questionnaire which was formulated by the researcher and also through observations.

(ii) Secondary data

This was the form of data which was collected before, by other authors and which already passed through statistical process for instance the literature review sources. These included all data obtained from documented records, books, journals, newspapers, academician surveys and government surveys. Secondary data was important in that statistical information and records were of particular use for answers of research questions and objectives. They also needed fewer resources (expenses) because they had already been prepared.

3.7 Data collection Tools

3.7.1 The questionnaire

The semi-structured questionnaire was the main instrument of the study administered to the selected groups of people. The researcher used this method because of its ability to gather information from respondents within a short period of time as supported by Gupta (2000). These were used to collect data from more especially people who could easily read and write. Moreover, respondents were given time to consult records to ensure that sensitive questions were truthfully answered (Bukonya, 2008). These helped the researcher to collect large amounts of information can be collected from a large number of people in a short period of time and in a relatively cost effective way.

3.7.2 Interviews

Structured interviews

Interviews were administered to women in rural areas of Akalo sub county especially those who can hardly read and write. Structured interviews were designed in such a way that more specific and truthful answers related to the topic of study are got. Interviews were preferred because according to Gay (2007), they provide solutions to problems and obtain detailed information on the issue under study. The interviewer ensured she they took special care when interviewing vulnerable groups such as the disabled women. However, due to limited time these were not used.

3.8 Procedure

The researcher got an introductory letter from the department of development studies to introduce her to the respective respondents and authorities at the district. Respondents were located and appointments fixed especially with the key informants.

Pre-testing of the research instruments was done to ensure that correct and valid data was collected. Data collection was done by skilled research assistants under close supervision by the researcher to ensure that all the information required was collected and then information was edited before leaving the respondents and daily evaluation of field progress was done.

3.9 Data analysis

Data was analyzed adequately and a report was compiled. Questions were coded, tabulated and edited before leaving the respondents. Coding was based on themes basically to enhance clear and concise presentation of data. Thereafter data was entered into the computer for analysis and entered into the computer using frequency tables and percentages. Data analysis was important since it helped the research to rule out human bias through proper statistical treatment at, helped in structuring the findings from different sources of data collection like survey research, in breaking a macro problem into micro parts and also acted like a filter when it comes to acquiring meaningful insights out of huge data-set. Under analysis therefore, every researcher has sort out huge pile of data that he/she has collected, before reaching to a conclusion of the research question.

3.10 Ethical Considerations

During data collection, the rights of individuals were respected. The researcher first got consent of all the respondents for their responses, she then assured confidentiality of information to protect and enable respondents trust her with the information from the sensitive questions. Sensitive information/issues were not explored unless the researcher requested the respondents to provide that information. All the necessary protocol was observed and all the respondents were thanked for their participation in the study. A lot of research skills were used by the researcher to collect data from women in Akalo Sub County. Hence ethical considerations were addressed at individual and at local government levels to analyze the way women were affected by the conduct of poverty eradication.

3.11 Expected limitations of the Study

Some respondents feared to disclose information about their assets for fear of insecurity especially from their husbands. To overcome this limitation the researcher educated the respondents about the purpose of the research and assured them of the security of the information to alley their fears.

Some groups exaggerated the contribution of women in community development in Apac district. The researcher however probed as much as possible to segregate data.

3.12 Dissemination of Results

Study report was submitted to Head of Department for development studies to make proper approval to the researcher for the award of a Bachelor's Degree.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF THE FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presented the findings of the study. The findings presented and discussed in this chapter included; sex of respondents, marital status and the education level and discussion of the four research objectives of the study. The verification of the research objectives was guided by the conditions that described the data.

4.1 Bio data of respondents

Table 1 showed sex of respondents

Response	Frequency	Percentages
Female	53	56.9
Male	40	43.1
Total	93	100

Primary Data, September 2016

From table 1, 53 out of 93 respondents representing 56.9% were female and 43.1% were male. This was due to the fact that the study targeted more female counterparts than men.

Table 2 showed marital status of respondents

Response	Frequency	Percentages
Married	73	78.4
Single	20	21.6
Total	93	100

Primary Data, September 2016

Study findings further revealed that 73 out of 93 respondents representing 78.4% were married yet 20 out of 93 respondents representing 21.6% were single implying that women participating in community development activities are married with responsibilities.

Table 3 showed education level of respondents

Response	Frequency	Percentages
Primary and below	40	43.1
Secondary	23	24.7
Diploma	10	10.7
Degree	5	5.4
Above degree	15	16.2
Total	93	100

Primary Data, September 2016

From the study, 40 out of 93 respondents representing 43.1% had finished primary, 23 out of 93 respondents representing 24.7% had secondary qualifications, 10 out of 93 respondents representing 10.7% were diploma holders, 5 out of 93 respondents representing 5.4% were degree holders and 16.2% were above degree. This therefore implied that most respondents could easily read and write though Akalo is 100 plus miles from Kampala the city centre.

SECTION B

4.2 Poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development in Akalo Sub County.

Table 4 showed poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development in Akalo Sub County.

Response	Frequency	Percentages
Make access and equitable control of means of production	26	27.9
Institutional Framework	37	37.8
Community organizational system	10	10.7
Management systems and decision making processes	5	5.4
Legislation/Regulatory frameworks	10	10.7
None of the above	5	5.4
Total	93	100

Primary Data, September 2016

4.2.1 Make access and equitable control of means of production

Further 26 out of 93 respondents representing 27.9% argued that making access and equitable control of means of production is one of the poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development in Akalo Sub County since it makes it possible for women to get routes for selling their produce. This view is supported by authors like Patterson, (2010) who argued that the Government working with NGOs and international donor agencies has made a step to educating men and women on the importance of women owning land and other means of production. The role of women and their contributions at the family and community levels in the

development process have been emphasized. The other constraint still to be addressed is educating the society about these changes and how women can benefit from these changes.

4.2.2 Institutional Framework

From the study, 37 out of 93 respondents representing 37.8% institutional Framework has also been used to reduce poverty amongst women of Akalo Sub County for example empowerment of women groups by the government through NAADs program has also been achieved in the sub county. This has been supported by Sindzingre, (2010) who argued that at the national level, groups empowerment is one of several programmes under the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment's plus Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme (UPA), with specific objectives of women's empowerment; attainment of social sector goals; and convergence with other Government schemes for long-term sustainability. State Urban Development Agencies or Cells manage the programme with structures also at the district level, especially those which have many cities and towns

4.2.3 Community organizational system

From the study, 10 out of 93 respondents representing 10.7% argued for community organizational system which involves receiving programme resources for direct management of activities like social wellbeing and funds management to avoid company closure. This according to respondents from the field has empowered many women and taught them how to save. This as stipulated by scholars like Supp, (2009) who argued that within this overall national framework, the community organizational system is what makes such community based programs unique in facilitating people's participation beginning in urban poor neighborhoods. He further argued that Units from Neighbourhood Committees where mini plans are prepared, resources mobilized, and action taken. When formally registered, they may receive programme resources for direct management of activities.

4.2.4 Management systems and decision making processes

Further 5 out of 93 respondents representing 5.4% argued that management systems and decision making processes have also been applied and helped to change most of the women's standards of living and uplifted their economic base. This as supported by Swallow, (2005) is always

achieved through state governments which are encouraged to work towards the overall programme goals through systems appropriate to their needs and resources, with a range of institutional arrangements at State and District levels. Greatest flexibility is noted at city and community levels, with the neighbourhood associations of women directly involved in preparing community mini-plans which are reviewed, culminating in a city plan which links community needs with both sector and UBSP resources. Hence to him the overall investments in these communities may be increased many times by establishing linkages with other programmes with supportive resources to be then used for other community needs especially thrift and credit and income generation activities.

4.2.5 Legislation/Regulatory frameworks

From the study, 10 out of 93 respondents representing 10.7% argued for legislation and regulatory frameworks for instance there is always bringing together all urban poverty programmes and city level Urban Poverty Alleviation Cells and Funds to uplift people in rural areas and this has been the case in Akalo where women form groups and start collecting funds from government and non governmental organizations.

4.2.6 None of the above

However, 5.4% of the response was of the view that none of the above methods has been applied and to them it is only God the almighty that have achieved success and reduced poverty. Thus from the response given by most women the researcher also tried to analyze whether those strategies have been effective

Table 5 showing whether those strategies have been effective

Response	Frequency	Percentages
Yes	70	75.4
No	13	13.9
Not sure	10	10.7
Total	93	100

Primary Data, September 2016

Study findings showed that 70 out of 93 respondents representing 75.4% argued that it is true such strategies have been effective and changed their way of living, 13 out of 93 respondents representing 13.9% argued that it is not true since at times such policies are discriminative and 10 out of 93 respondents representing 10.7% argued that they are not sure because they have never heard of it. This therefore showed that more women in Akalo Sub County have reduced poverty through poverty eradication strategies.

4.3 Women Participation in Community Development of Akalo Sub County

Table 6 showing whether women participation in Community Development has improved their ways of living

Response	Frequency	Percentages
Yes	80	86.1
No	13	13.1
Total	93	100

Primary Data, September 2016

Still 80 out of 93 respondents representing 86.1% argued that it is true that women participation in Community Development has improved their ways of leaving since most of them regardless of being married can financially support their families and pay school fees for their children.

Further 13 out of 93 respondents representing 13.1% said that it is not true because most of them find themselves at home and not allowed by their counterparts to look after children at home and promised to be paid.

Table 7 showing ways in which women have participated in Community Development

Response	Frequency	Percentages
Agricultural development	63	67.8
Impart knowledge and skills	10	10.7
Management of complex households	5	5.3
Work far longer hours	12	12.9
None of the above	3	3.3
Total	93	100

Primary Data, September 2016

4.3.1 Agricultural development

From table 7, 63 out of 93 respondents representing 67.8% argued that women have participated in Community Development through agricultural development that is practicing in both commercial and home consumption. This view as supported by Narayan, (2000) women contribute to commercial agriculture, which includes high-value products such as vegetables and cut flowers for local and export markets. Hence to him in some societies women also sell agricultural goods but more often than not, women's contributions to the agricultural sector go unrecognized. Few small-scale women farmers are paid for their labor and societal views of women's roles restrict women's input in household decisions. Such beliefs also limit their access

to land ownership, farm equipment and credit all of which are needed to be economically successful. These barriers ultimately inhibit women's ability to produce and can make it difficult for them to escape poverty or provide food for their families

4.3.2 Impart knowledge and skills

Study results also revealed that 10 out of 93 respondents representing 10.7% argued for imparting knowledge and skills for example women groups after getting community training spread the issue to other members which has helped to strengthen them both financially and strategically. This according to scholars like Narayan, (2012) has always been the only way of expansion of women's ability to participate in different development programs and to influence positive social change in all spheres of influence but at the same time poverty, social cultural norms and values, lack of external support and willingness by women themselves to act upon available resources can result in disempowerment and low participation. He further argues that besides skills women have strong religious beliefs which help them to interact and influence their participation. For instance, norms and values in religions and culture can hinder women's participation due to the emphasis on women's submissiveness and male dominance hence gender roles can also hinder or allow participation of women in project activities

4.3.3 Management of complex households

Further 5 out of 93 respondents representing 5.3% argued for the view of management of complex households that is women in northern region have been found to be the key drivers of family management in looking for food and taking care of their extended families which strategy most of them have used to provide community development initiatives. This view is further supported by Balogun, (2009) who argued that often women manage complex households and pursue multiple livelihood strategies, their activities typically include producing agricultural crops, tending animals, processing and preparing food, working for wages in agricultural or other rural enterprises, collecting fuel and water, engaging in trade and marketing, caring for family members and maintaining their homes. Many of these activities are not defined as economically active employment in national accounts but they are all essential to the well-being of rural households

4.3.4 Work far longer hours

Further 12 out of 93 respondents representing 12.9% argued that most women work for longer hours in agriculture and craft work which help them to attain basic necessities of life. This according to World Bank, (2008) African women work far longer hours than men, on average, their workdays may be 50 percent longer according to the World Bank and women also must devote time to other domestic chores as well, such as collecting water and fuel and to child care. Further technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation (1993) reported that women in Africa make up more than one-third of the workforce. However, 3 out of 93 respondents representing 3.3% said that none of the above has been experienced indicating that some women do not participate in community initiatives. However, it was also relevant to find out challenges faced by women in community development as results depicted below;

4.4 Challenges faced by women in community development

Table 8 showing the challenges faced by women in community development in Akalo Sub County

Response	Frequency	Percentages
Political Challenges	33	35.5
Media as a hindrance	50	53.7
Social Cultural Challenges	5	5.3
Low levels of literacy	5	5.3
Total	93	100

Primary Data, September 2016

Study results showed that 33 out of 93 respondents representing 35.5% argued for political challenges for example at times politicians especially from the opposition side take every development initiative to be political hence a hindrance and most women in northern region do not go for politics. This as supported by Sindzingre, (2010) limited numbers of women in politics

and the fewer they are, the more difficult it becomes for them to push for women's issues. In a country like Uganda where the majority numbers of the leaders are male, lobbying becomes very difficult. Further Drude (1997) argued that a political scientist in an extensive research on women's participation quoted a respondent saying, "Don't expect us to make much difference as long as we are only a few in politics. It takes a critical mass of women to make a fundamental change in politics.

Further study findings depicted that 50 out of 93 respondents representing 53.7% argued for media as a hindrance for example media doesn't expose women activities than does to women. This view as supported by UWONET (2006) the media at times does not adequately inform the public about the rights and roles of women in society and, if they do, the publications done are written in English leaving the illiterate with no idea about what is going on. It further reported that the media did more of what it always did to women, less coverage, negatisation and trivialisation. The overall analysis of the media's performance especially in the election was that it gave prominence to the male candidates especially presidential. Media coverage for women in the 2006 elections was much less and when it occurred, it mainly looked out for weaknesses as one woman candidate asserted, the media has never been friendly to us women.

Still 5 out of 93 respondents representing 5.3% argued that social cultural challenges also limit women for instance a woman's time is taken up, not only by the performance of essential domestic duties but in catering for the egoistic pleasures of her remnant of barbarism. It is high time that our woman kind freed from this incubus. This is further supported by Bonepath and Stoper (2011) who identified women's gender roles as a challenge and argued that lack of political recognition of women's reproductive and labour roles made it difficult for them to campaign because they were busy washing dishes, dispensing cough syrups to children and cleaning the house. More so Mahatma Gandhi, in his writings was a believer in harmonizing and equalizing productive roles of men and women which were referred to as so called, women's Jobs". Joshi (1986) quotes Gandhi, "More often than not, a woman's time is taken up, not only by the performance of essential domestic duties but in catering for the egoistic pleasures of her remnant of barbarism.

Like the above, 5.3% argued that low levels of literacy also challenge women since most of them do not go for education which makes them not catch up with some advanced technology. This view as supported by Lewis, (2010) who argued that most voters confessed that lack of education hindered them from participating in the elections, as they did not know what was expected of them as candidates and voters hence the study aimed at investigating whether lack of education was a hindrance to women participation.

4.5 Relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development

Table 9 showing relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development

Response	Frequency	Percentages
Poverty is one of the main reasons that limit girl's opportunities	53	56.9
Women's responsibilities mean they have to make decisions on daily finance	30	32.2
Culture and social participation happen within the community	10	10.7
Total	93	100

Primary data, September 2016

Study findings revealed that 53 out of 93 respondents representing 56.9% argued that poverty is one of the main reasons that limit girl's opportunities to involve themselves in community development for instance some women initiatives involve contributions in financial issues like fundraising which most women do not have. This therefore according to African Development Bank, (2004) poverty is one of the main reasons that limit girl's opportunities to participate in education. Traditionally girls have to help their mothers to work the farm as well as doing the housework, looking after the younger siblings, collecting firewood, water and food from the

forest, cooking, cleaning and feeding animals. Another reason is the lack of resources and awareness of parents regarding girl's education. Parents cannot afford clothing and school supplies and the school is far from the village. Many parents are not comfortable allowing their daughters walk a long distance to school. Hence if they are poor cannot participate in community development initiatives.

Study findings also revealed that 30 out of 93 respondents representing 32.2% argued for women's responsibilities that they mean they have to make decisions on daily finance through for example taking greater control over resources. This as stipulated by Gianotten et al. (1994) who agrees that women traditionally have greater control over daily financial matters to meet basic needs such as food, education and health care than men do. However, men provide direction and appear to have the final say. When a women's role is not recognised, women do not have influence.

Findings also revealed that 10.7% agreed with the view that culture and social participation happen within the community for instance World Bank, (2005) some of the reasons for promoting women's access to land include "women's rights as human rights are violated" and "women's key role in ensuring food security and sustainable natural resource management is not sufficiently recognized". Women's daily participation in the household, community and livelihood activities provide an opportunity for access to resources. However, Khmu women cannot work far from home or at night which restricts their participation. In day to day life women are responsible for many resources and making decisions on livelihoods. Further UNDP, (2008) argued that most of the child deaths in Laos were caused by neonatal conditions and communicable diseases, in particular malaria, acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea and epidemics such as dengue fever, measles or meningitis. In addition women are also faced with their own health issues, in particular maternal mortality. This was caused by the strenuous work, frequency of pregnancies, anaemia and poor nutrition, malaria and inadequate health services especially in rural areas.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

5.0 Introduction

In this chapter we look at the summary of findings from the research carried out in Nsambya hospital. It also gives the recommendations for the different respondents that were involved in this research about the usage of contraceptives among women of reproductive age in Nsambya hospital and therefore it will give the conclusion of that was reached at.

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 Poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development in Akalo Sub County

The study came up with positive responses where by all the 93 questionnaires submitted were retrieved. This showed a high level of cooperation among respondents and a smooth process of collecting data. Among those who responded to the questionnaire, 56.9% were female and 43.1% were male. From the study findings on the poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development in Akalo Sub County, institutional Framework took the highest percentage of 37.8% of the strategies used in uplifting women out of poverty in Akalo Sub County. This view was further supported by Sindzingre, (2010) who argued that at the national level, groups empowerment is one of several programmes under the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment's plus Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme (UPA), with specific objectives of women's empowerment; attainment of social sector goals; and convergence with other Government schemes for long-term sustainability. State Urban Development Agencies or Cells manage the programme with structures also at the district level, especially those which have many cities and towns. Hence in summary, agricultural institutions in Uganda need to be strengthened to reduce poverty.

5.1.2 Women Participation in Community Development of Akalo Sub County

According to the findings of the research, most respondents agreed that agricultural development has been one of the indications of women participation in community Development of Akalo Sub County. This was revealed by a 63 out of 93 respondents representing 67.8% argued that women have participated in Community Development through agricultural development that is participating in both commercial and home consumption. This view as supported by Narayan, (2000) women contribute to commercial agriculture, which includes high-value products such as vegetables and cut flowers for local and export markets. Hence it can be summarized that agriculture being the back born of the country, it is the mostly common way in which Akalo women have fought poverty amongst themselves.

5.1.3 Relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development of Akalo Sub County

The research findings showed that women's responsibilities mean they have to make decisions on daily finance with a highest percentage of 32.2% and that it was the only way they could use to reduce poverty as supported by Gianotten et al. (1994) who agreed that women traditionally have greater control over daily financial matters to meet basic needs such as food, education and health care than men do. However, men provide direction and appear to have the final say. When a women's role is not recognised, women do not have influence.

5.2 Recommendations

5.2.1 Poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development in Akalo Sub County

There are many strategies like institutional framework, legislation and community organizational system which are used in Akalo Sub County to reduce poverty. However, **the** government should take in developing supportive policies for involving women and the local leaders in the development programmes as it is that the government is responsible for protection of all citizens in the country at large. Ideal collaboration between such groups of individuals and the government will help to reinforce the good adoption of all policies which target women.

Government should accept to open up an equal basis, discuss and formulate policies jointly with women in all regions plus local leaders in different sectors governing the country. The government should engage a general policy dialogues because the local councils being so close to local people especially women like those in Akalo sub county get to know what their problems are and if need arises they find possible solutions when the issue is still urgent.

5.2.2 Women Participation in Community Development of Akalo Sub County

There are many reasons for women participation in community development of Akalo Sub County for example changing their standards of living and looking after their families. However, they still face challenges which are political, economical and strategic hence women groups in the sub county need to be empowered by government, humanitarian organizations and women themselves attend meetings and community sensitization forums targeted to develop them. Hence the government is recommended to sensitize women on what to do before they start community groups.

5.2.3 Relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development of Akalo Sub County

From the study poverty and women participation in community development are two sides of the same coin. Hence emphasis needs to be put on creating basis for poverty reduction in rural areas like developing infrastructures to create easy access to women products and also giving girls a chance to get education at all levels.

5.2.4 General

Hence study results depicted that there is a strong relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development since it is at times due to the poverty reduction base that women get development. Thus the Ugandan government in connection with humanitarian organizations needs to work hard and support women initiatives like buying products by women and also cutting taxation on what they produce and provide support in finance.

5.3 Conclusions

Due to the fact that women provide a more advanced basis for development, it is wise to put focus on empowerment of women groups, reducing taxes and as well create gender balance and abolishment of all women mistreatments. Thus women's rights as human rights are violated" and "women's key role in ensuring food security and sustainable natural resource management is not sufficiently recognized". Women's daily participation in the household, community and livelihood activities provide an opportunity for access to resources. In day to day life women are responsible for many resources and making decisions on livelihoods

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

QUESTIONNAIRES FOR WOMEN IN AKALO SUB COUNTY

KAMPALA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY,

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

I am Ngida Sandra a student from Kampala international University pursuing a Bachelor's degree in development studies, year three, semester two. In our final year we are required to carry out research on a topic of our choice therefore my topic is about "Poverty Eradication and Women Participation in Community Development" Therefore the questionnaire below will help me gather the data required for my topic of research. I kindly request you to respond to the following questions appropriately thanks.

SECTION A

1. BIO DATA OF RESPONDENTS

Age.....

Sex

Female ☐

Male ☐

Marital status

Married ☐

Single ☐

Education level

Primary and below ☐

Secondary ☐

Degree ☐

Diploma ☐

Above degree ☐

SECTION B

2. Poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development in Akalo Sub County.

Do most of you understand the meaning of the term poverty?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If yes, explain in details the meaning of the term

.....

.....

Do you think Uganda has education strategies used in community development?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Not sure ☐

If yes, in the questions above, outline some of them

.....

.....

.....

Below are the different types of poverty eradication strategies used to achieve community development?

Make access and equitable control of means of production ☐

Institutional Framework ☐

Community organizational system ☐

☐

Management systems and decision making processes

Legislation/Regulatory frameworks ☐

Do you think those strategies have been effective

Yes ☐

No ☐

3. Women Participation in Community Development of Akalo Sub County

Do you think women participation in Community Development has improved their ways of leaving?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If yes how has it been achieved?

.....

.....

Women have participated in Community Development in the ways below;

Agricultural development ☐

Impart knowledge and skills ☐

Management of complex households ☐

Work far longer hours ☐

Challenges faced by women in community development

Political Challenges ☐

Media as a hindrance ☐

☐

Social Cultural Challenges

☐

Low levels of literacy

4. Relationship between poverty eradication and women participation in community development of Akalo Sub County

Poverty is one of the main reasons that limit girl's opportunities

☐

Women's responsibilities mean they have to make decisions on daily finances

☐

Culture and social participation happen within the community

☐

Women are involved in land preparation

Women are also involved in trading and small businesses in the informal sector

☐

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