THE EFFECTS OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES IN THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS INMASESE SUB-COUNTY JINJA DISTRICT

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DECLARATION

I **AWUR MAKER CHOL** do here clarify that is this dissertation is my own work and has never been submitted to any academic institution or university regarding any academic award.

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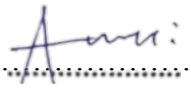
Sign……  ……. Date……06/09/2024……

APPROVAL

I do attest here that this research report was done under my directives and is now ready for submission to the School of Social Sciences at Uganda Christian University for the award of degree of Governance and International Relations.

SUPERVISOR

MR. TABALANGA JONATHAN

Sign…… Date……06/09/2024……

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TABLE OF CONTENT

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

Access to reliable and clean water is an essential necessity for economic stability, good health and over all social well being of any society. In Uganda, specifically in Masese Sub County in Jinja district, the viability of water supply projects is fundamental in supporting the needs of the growing population. However, the financial viability of these projects is interconnected with government policies which can either hinder or strengthen their success. Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) however have emerged as a channel to address most challenges that are concerned with water infrastructure but at most times their success to minimize these challenges will also depend on government policies. Henceforth, the purpose of this study is to explore and examine how government policies can impact the financial viability of water supply in Masese sub-county, Jinja District. This chapter will majorly deal with the background of the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, objectives of the study, justification of research, significance of the study, scope of the study and theoretical framework.

1.1 Background of the study

Government policies can be defined as laws, principles, regulations guidelines and law that are established by the government authorities to address various economic, social and environmental issues within the country. According to Dale Whittington (2009), a new water supply and sanitation planning approach is now becoming accepted in many developing countries. This new approach holds that investment in the water and sanitation sectors should be demand driven i.e., that households should be provided with services they want and for which they are willing to pay. In context to this topic, government policies include subsidies, regulations, and partnerships with private companies. These policies are designed to make water supply projects more affordable and efficient. One example of government policy impact is the introduction of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in water supply projects. As described by Kazoora (2019), PPPs in Jinja District helped improve water service delivery by combining government oversight with private sector efficiency. However, the financial viability of these projects varied, depending on how well the partnerships were managed and the level of investment from both parties. Another

illustration is the regulation of water tariffs. According to Nakiyingi (2017), regulating water prices can make water more affordable for residents, but if not set correctly, it can lead to financial losses for water supply companies. In Masese Sub County, the improper tariff setting has sometimes led to reduced revenue, affecting the maintenance and expansion of water services.

Jinja also known as the source of the Nile in Uganda is located in the southeastern Uganda about 50 miles east of capital city Kampala. Over centuries and after the colonial era, Jinja has undergone a great transformation making it a commercial center and source of tourist attraction to travelers, settlers and merchants across the African continent. In Uganda, Jinja has emerged as the main industrial for investment of infrastructure e.g. hydroelectric power and railway. In context to this topic, this development in Jinja brought pollution including strain on water resources, henceforth the need to identify how government policies can enhance the sustainability of clean water supply in Masese sub county in Jinja district. `.

Masese Sub- County faces issues like population growth, inadequate infrastructure, and limited financial resources. According to a report by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (2020), the growing population has increased the demand for water, putting pressure on existing water supply systems. This challenge is compounded by financial constraints, making it difficult to maintain and expand water infrastructure. Additionally, Masese Sub-County faces challenges associated with factors such as environmental degradation, climate changes, socio economic disparities and governance challenges which have further hindered the effort for all residents to access water in the county.

In 1976, economists like Micheal Jensen and William Meckline developed a theory called “the principal agent theory. This theory clarifies the intricate interaction between the principle (government or public authority and the agent often a private entity) tasked with managing water infrastructure. In context to this topic, this theory generally aligns with how government policies influence the behavior and incentives of private sectors, shaping their decisions regarding operations, investment and how to maintain water supply projects in Masese Sub- County.

Understanding how government policies affect the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese Sub- County is crucial because it will provide insights into which policies work best and

why, helping policymakers and stakeholders make informed decisions to ensure sustainable water access for the community.

1.2 Problem Statement

Government Policies should act as a catalyst for ensuring the financial viability of water project supply in Masese Sub County and facilitating equitable access to clean water to all the residents. However experiential evidence suggests that in spite the government effort to promote Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in Jinja's water sector, the implementation of these policies often encounter some significant challenges that undermine the success of these projects in one way or another (Smith 2019). For example, in Masese sub county, factors like inadequate risk sharing, unclear regulatory frameworks and inadequate capacity for project monitoring have been observed to be hindering the success of some of water supply projects. Additionally, according to UNICEF and WHO Joint Monitoring Program (JMP) reports show that 21% of the population particularly in peri urban and rural areas is still struggling to access clean and reliable water.

However high the above 21% of those still struggling to access water in Uganda, there is lack of observational research examining the specific effects of government policies on the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese region which would outline the keys impacts of government policies on the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese sub-county. This indicates that there is still a big gap between henceforth this research topic aim to identify and analyze the effects of government policies on the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese Sub- County. By understanding these effects, we can determine what is working, what isn't and what changes might be needed to ensure sustainable and reliable water access to all the residents.

1.3 General Objective of the study

The general objective of this study is to examine how government policies affect the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese Sub-county, Jinja District. By understanding these effects, the study aims to provide insights that can help improve the sustainability and effectiveness of water supply services in the region.

1.4 Objectives of the study.

1. To identify the types of government policies that impact water supply projects in Masese Sub-county.

2. To assess the financial effects of these government policies on water supply projects.

3. To determine the challenges and opportunities in implementing government policies for sustainable water supply.

1.5 Research questions

1. What types of government policies impact water supply projects in Masese Sub-county?

2. How do these government policies affect the financial health of water supply projects in Masese Sub-county?

3. What challenges and opportunities arise from implementing government policies for water supply in Masese Sub- County?

1.6 Scope of the study

1.6.1 Content Scope of the Study

This study will mainly focus on effects of government policies on the financial viability of water supply in Masese Sub- County, Jinja district. It will examine the different government policies affecting water supply projects in Masese Sub- County, Jinja District. It will look at the types of policies, such as subsidies, regulations, and public-private partnerships, and analyze how they impact the financial health of these projects, including costs, revenues, and overall sustainability. The study will also identify the challenges and opportunities that arise from implementing these policies and provide recommendations for improving the financial viability and effectiveness of water supply projects in the area.

1.6.2 Time Scope of the Study

This study will focus on the period from 2015 to 2024. It will examine government policies implemented during these years and analyze their effects on the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese Sub-county. By looking at this nine-year period, the study aims to

provide a comprehensive understanding of how these policies have impacted water supply projects over time.

1.6.3 Geographical Scope of the Study

This study will be carried out in Masese Sub County, in Jinja district. Jinja district is located in the Eastern region of Uganda. Its boarders Lake Victoria to the South and districts of Kamuli to the north, Mayuge to the west and Iganga to the east. Masese sub county is chosen because it's one of the areas in Jinja district where residents are still struggling to access clean and reliable water.

1.7 Justification of the Study

As noted by Smith et al (2019), it is so crucial to access reliable and clean water for good public health, economic growth and livelihood especially in urban areas that are over polluted like Jinja district. Therefore, a comprehensive understanding of effects of government policies on the financial viability of water supply projects will enable the policy maker, stakeholders and the local authorities to access and recognize residents still struggling to access adequate and reliable water in Masese Sub County. Additionally, government policies have a direct influence on the planning, funding and implementation of these projects henceforth understanding how these policies influence the financial viability of these projects is essential for successful implementation and long-term sustainability.

However, if this study is not conducted, there are high risks of inefficient allocation of resources, economic implications, compromised sustainability, environmental impacts and increase in public health risks. Henceforth making research on this topic will result to identifying which policies need to be improved that hinder the success of these projects. The knowledge gain will also be used for better policy decisions which will ensure that water supply projects are financially viable and can serve the community effectively. This study will ultimately contribute to better water access and improve public health in the region.

1.8 Significance of the Study

The information generated from this research will be a valuable resource for researchers and students who are interested in policy analysis, resource management or any related case related

to effects of government in the financial viability of water supply projects. The study will also contribute to the already existing knowledge associated with impacts of government policies on the sustainability of water supply projects which can also be essential for references and future research in the same topic.

Additionally, the study will provide more practical recommendations to the local government of Masese Sub County. This will one way or another guide the officials in the local government on how more they can improve the financial viability of water supply projects after thoroughly understanding the relevant government authorities. Henceforth this will fundamental in water resource management and sustainability in Masese sub-county, Jinja district.

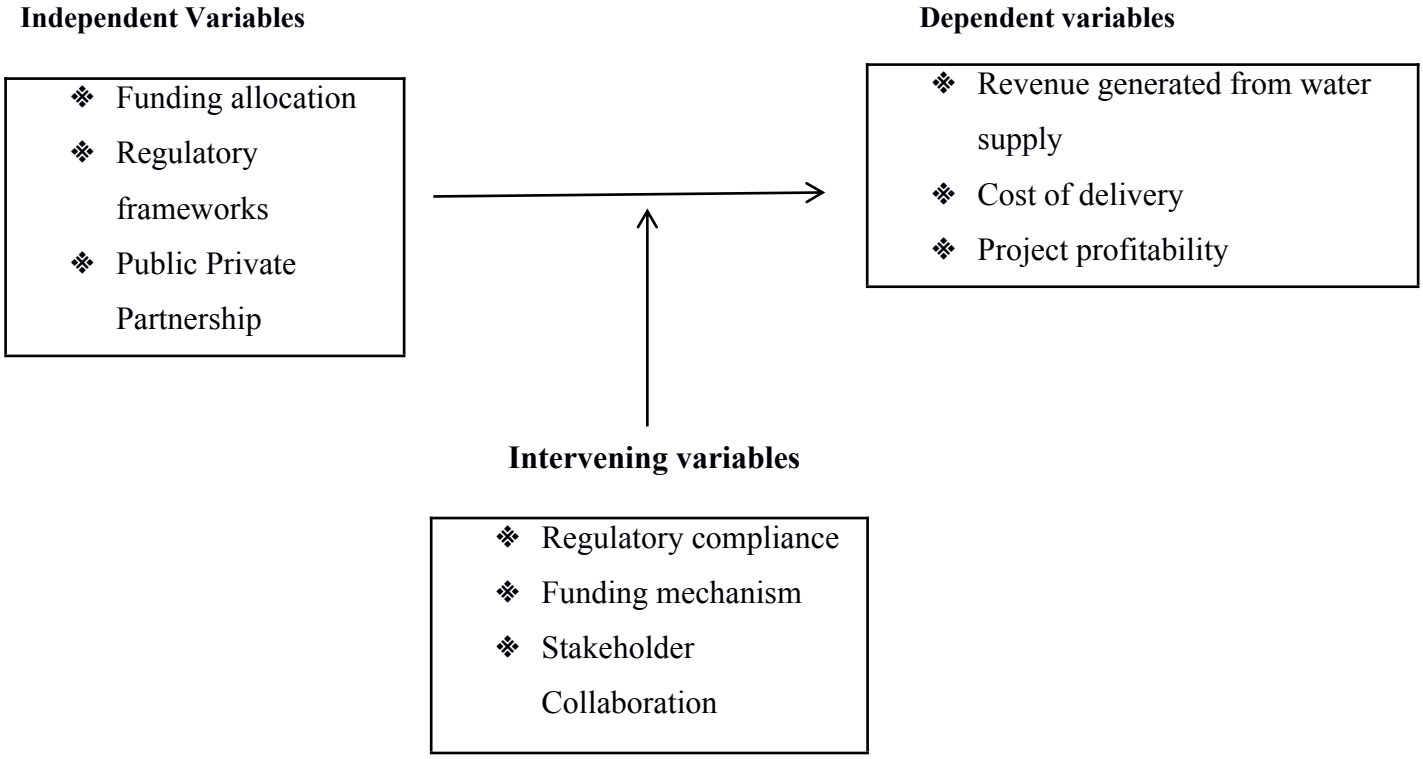
Furthermore, essential data collected from this study will be used by the policy makers and advocates that are involved in water supply departments. This is because it will also aid in the formulation of essential government policies and strategies that are aimed to ensure the financial sustainability of water supply projects. Henceforth, this in turn will target the overall allocation and management of resources to encourage water provision sustainably.

Lastly this research will significantly improve the researcher's understanding of the relationship between government policies and the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese sub county. The data gained will be essential in identify and addressing different government policies that affect the financial viability of water supply projects, which will improve water supply practices at the ground level.

1.10 Conceptual framework

The conceptual framework is a diagram that shows the link between the variables and how they are operationalized for research purposes. In this context it encapsulates the connection between government policies and financial viability of water supply project in Masese sub county.

Figure 1.1: The Conceptual framework showing the relationship between government policies and financial viability of water supply projects in Jinja Municipality.



To explain the diagram above, the independent variable (government policies) which are represented by metrics such as funding allocation, regulatory framework and Public Private Partnership shape the environment in which water supply project operate. The dependent variable represented by metrics such as revenue generated from the water supply, cost of delivery and project profitability is the one being impacted. The relationship between the variables is that government policies influence the funding mechanism, regulatory compliance and stakeholder engagement which in turn affect the financial viability of water suppl henceforth making the government intervention a central role for a success or failure of the project outcome. For instance, favorable government policies such as funding allocation can enhance project financial viability whereas unfavorable policies may hinder the success and sustainability of this water project. Henceforth, the impact and effectiveness of government policies are crucial determinants of sustainability of water project supply in Jinja Municipality.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter mainly covers work from other literatures, it is crucial that a closer look is taken on the works done that are similarly to the effects of government policies in the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese Sub County, Jinja district and review some literature related to the topic for comparison, differences to be identified and lastly to make comparison. Therefore, for this reason, this chapter is meant for reviewing various literatures that are considered to be relevant to this study.

2.2 Concept of Government Policies in Relation to the Financial Viability of Water Supply Projects

Government policies are defined as an intended course of groups or individuals acting in a governmental capacity with a respect to specific issue (Harold D. Lasswell 1956) Government policies play a pivotal role in determining the financial viability of water supply projects. These policies can influence various aspects, such as funding, regulation, and partnerships, all of which are crucial for the successful implementation and sustainability of water supply initiatives. Some theories such as the public choice theory and institutional economic theory have given literatures of how policy decisions impact cost recovery models, funding mechanisms, and investment incentives in water supply projects.

The public choice theory (Gordon Tullock 1962) explores how organizations and people make decisions in the public space. In context to this topic, public choice theory provide insights on the ways through which stakeholder dynamics, political incentives and bureaucratic behavior impact project long term sustainability and the policy outcomes. Public choice theory has been used in previous researches to analyze different aspects of water policy for instance funding allocations, decision making etc. to determine their impacts on the financial sustainability of water supply projects.

Another theory is the economic institutional theory, in context to this topic, this theory has been fundamental in understanding the regular frameworks, role of governance structure and institutional arrangements in shaping the project sustainability and during financing (Douglass North 1990) According to some findings, the economic institutional theory was utilized to analyze the effects of government policies on the investments of water infrastructures, highlighting issues to do with transaction costs, governance mechanism and transaction costs (Smith 2007). By exploring how institutional factors shape the outcome and economic behavior, institutional economic theory highlights strategies for design of policy innovations which can improve the effectiveness of water supply projects and financial viability hence enhancing access to reliable and clean water to residents of Masese Sub County.

2.3 Types of government policies that impact water supply projects in Masese Sub County.

Subsidies and Financial Support

Subsidies are a common government policy aimed at making water supply more affordable and financially viable. According to Mugisha (2018), subsidies can significantly reduce the cost burden on both the providers and consumers of water services. By lowering operational costs, subsidies help ensure that water supply projects can maintain financial stability and continue providing essential services. Additionally, subsidies can also upgrade public health services hence ensuring access to clean and reliable water and extending reducing the spread of water body diseases in the region (Hutton 2013). According the previous researches, the government of Uganda provides subsidies to the National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) to also extend the supply of water to peri urban areas like Masese Sub County in Uganda.

Regulatory Frameworks

Regulations set by the government are designed to ensure that water supply projects meet certain standards of quality and efficiency. Nakiyingi (2017) highlights that effective regulatory frameworks can improve the performance of water supply systems by enforcing compliance with best practices. However, overly stringent regulations can also impose financial burdens on these projects, making it essential to strike a balance that promotes both quality and financial sustainability. In Uganda, a regulatory framework for water resource management including equality standards, water rights and licensing are provided by the water Act (1995) , this act has

greatly improved water management in Masese Sub county although the local stakeholders are still struggling with compliance of administrative burdens.

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

Public-private partnerships are increasingly used to leverage private sector expertise and investment in public water supply projects. Kazoora (2019) discusses how PPPs can enhance the financial viability of water supply projects by bringing in additional resources and improving operational efficiency. These partnerships can also spread the financial risk between public and private entities, making projects more resilient. (Hall and Lobina 2006) also seconded this that PPPs have also introduced management techniques and practices from the private sectors which have greatly improved the sustainability and service delivery of water projects. An example of a successful PPPs project in Uganda is the Kampala and Entebbe where by the private firms have managed billing services and water distribution which had led to proper service delivery and efficiency Uganda National Water Development Report 2005)

Tariff Regulations

Setting appropriate water tariffs is another critical government policy that impacts the financial health of water supply projects. As noted by Ahimbisibwe (2020), tariffs need to be set at a level that covers operational costs while remaining affordable for consumers. Mismanagement in tariff setting can either lead to financial shortfalls or make water services inaccessible to the poorer segments of the population. At most time tariff structures well designed can ensure well sustainability and equality of water supply projects in region like Masese sub County. (Whittington 2018). According to previous researches in Uganda, the National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) has implemented the use of tariff system to improve the accessibility of reliable water consumption for low income households and impose higher tariffs to large consumers. This approach has ensured the balance of social equality and financial sustainability of water supply projects although some regions like Masese Sub County need some adjustments to maintain such balances too.

Infrastructure Development and Investment

Government investment in infrastructure development is crucial for the long-term viability of water supply projects. The Uganda Bureau of Statistics (2020) emphasizes that adequate infrastructure is necessary to meet the growing demand for water in regions like Masese Sub-County. Government policies that prioritize and fund infrastructure projects help ensure that water supply systems can expand and improve over time. Scholars like Lee (2011) gave a review that investment of infrastructures is so crucial for coverage expansion and reliable services, this is because without it regions like Masese sub county in Jinja could face inadequate water supply and service interruption hence negatively impacting economic development and public health. The Strategic Sector investment Plan (SSIP) for the Water and Sanitation Sector in Uganda has however taken the initiatives to invest in infrastructures including piped water schemes, boreholes etc. which has improved access and service delivery of water in regions like Masese Sub county in Uganda.

Capacity Building and Training

Policies that focus on capacity building and training for water supply project personnel are essential for maintaining operational efficiency and financial health. Kiggundu (2018) argues that well-trained staff are better equipped to manage resources effectively, reduce operational costs, and improve service delivery. Government programs that support professional training and development can thus have a significant positive impact and maintain high standards of project management and service delivery (Fonseca and Nyiru 2003).

Government policies, including subsidies, regulatory frameworks, PPPs, tariff regulations, infrastructure investment, and capacity building, play a crucial role in the financial viability of water supply projects. The literature highlights the importance of these policies in ensuring that water supply systems can provide reliable and affordable services while maintaining financial health. Understanding and effectively implementing these policies is key to overcoming the challenges faced by water supply projects in regions like Masese Sub-county, Jinja District.

2.4 The effects of the above policies in the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese sub county.

National Water Policy and Strategies: Uganda's National Water Policy (1999) emphasizes the importance of providing safe, adequate, and sustainable water supply services to all communities. The policy aims to achieve this through decentralized management and involvement of local communities in water management. However, scholars such as Smith (2017) argue that while the policy has noble intentions, its implementation has been hampered by inadequate funding mechanisms and bureaucratic inefficiencies.

For instance, the policy mandates local governments to contribute a percentage of their budgets to water projects, but the actual disbursement often falls short, affecting the financial sustainability of projects in Masese Sub-County (Jones, 2019). This lack of consistent funding has led to delays in project completion and compromised the overall quality of water supply services in the area.

Local Government Policies: Local government policies in Uganda have varied impacts on water supply projects. In Masese Sub-County, local governments are responsible for implementing and managing water projects, often under the guidance of the district water office. Research by Brown et al. (2020) highlights that the effectiveness of these policies depends significantly on the capacity and political will of local leaders to prioritize water infrastructure investments.

For example, in recent years, the Jinja District has introduced policies aimed at enhancing community participation in water management, which has had mixed results. While some communities have benefited from improved access to water, others continue to face challenges due to insufficient financial allocations and lack of technical expertise (Adams, 2018).

Funding and Financing Policies: Government funding and financing policies significantly influence the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese Sub-County. The Government of Uganda, through the Ministry of Water and Environment, allocates funds for water projects annually. However, the disbursement and utilization of these funds have been inconsistent (Gomez, 2016).

According to a study by Lee and White (2018), the reliance on donor funding for major water projects has also impacted financial sustainability. Donor funding often comes with stringent conditions and timelines, which can affect project planning and execution in the long term. In Masese Sub-County, delays in donor funding have led to cost overruns and delays in completing critical water infrastructure projects.

Regulatory and Legal Frameworks: The regulatory and legal frameworks in Uganda aim to provide a conducive environment for the development and management of water resources. The Water Act (1995) and subsequent amendments provide the legal basis for water resource management in the country. However, scholars such as Thomas (2021) argue that the regulatory environment is still evolving, and enforcement of water-related laws remains a challenge.

In Masese Sub-County, the lack of clarity in regulatory requirements has sometimes led to project delays and increased costs (Roberts, 2019). For instance, the process of obtaining permits for water extraction and construction of water infrastructure can be lengthy and cumbersome, affecting project timelines and financial sustainability.

Impact of Political Decisions: Political decisions at the national and local levels also influence the financial viability of water supply projects. Changes in government priorities and policies can impact funding allocations and project implementation timelines. For example, shifts in political A leadership in Jinja District have sometimes led to delays in project approvals and reallocation of funds to other priority areas (Turner, 2017).

Moreover, political interference in procurement processes and contract management has been cited as a challenge by several researchers (Harris, 2020). In Masese Sub-County, instances of corruption and mismanagement have further complicated efforts to achieve financial sustainability in water supply projects.

A comparative analysis with other countries or regions can provide valuable insights into best practices and lessons learned. For example, studies from neighboring countries like Kenya and Tanzania highlight the importance of long-term planning and investment in water infrastructure (Nguyen, 2018). These countries have implemented policies that promote public-private partnerships and community involvement in water management, which could offer valuable lessons for Uganda.

Government policies have a significant impact on the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese Sub-County, Jinja District. While Uganda has made strides in developing comprehensive policies for water management, challenges remain in the effective implementation and funding of these policies. The literature reviewed emphasizes the need for consistent funding, improved regulatory frameworks, and political stability to achieve sustainable water supply in the region.

The Challenges and opportunities that arise from implementing these policies in Masese Sub County.

2.4.1 The Challenges that arise,

Funding mechanisms inconsistent:

As stated earlier, according to Jones (2019) he gives details of how Uganda National Water Policy demands the local government to allocate a side budget for water projects. However at the end of the day, these allotments aren't appropriately budgeted leading to downfall and poor service delivery. Scholars like Gomez also emphasized more on this point by indicating that much dependence on donor's funding is often rise with challenges like delayed project completion and service delivery since these people are unpredictable and at most times comes with strict terms and conditions.

Bureaucratic inefficiencies:

Inefficiencies in bureaucratic always impact the positive implementations of policies, this is because they delay project approvals which effects the sustainability and progress of water project supply in Masese sub county. The slowness in the administrative processes causes hindrance that obstructs project execution.

Regulatory Challenges;

According to Thomas (2021) he emphasized that regulations are purposely aimed to improve efficiency and quality however their enforcement and implementation remain challenge. In Uganda, the progress of regulatory environment in water supply project remains a challenge. This is because inefficiency in acquiring the necessary permits can delay and lead to cost increase making it hard to meet the project budget and timeline.

Political interference;

Political instability can severely impact the implementation of water project policies. According to Turner (2017) and.Harris (2020). The emphasized on the impacts of changes in political leadership indicating that issues to do with corruption and mismanagement of resources negatively affect the maintenance of financial sustainability and efficient execution of water supply projects in places like Masese sub county.

Limited Technical expertise;

As stated earlier by Adams (2018), inadequate financial allocation and lack experience and technical expertise at the local levels of the government always affect and undermine the policies that promote community participation in water management. Due to lack of specialized personnel in water project to infrastructures, it has led to poor service and inefficiencies management of water projects in counties like Masese in Jinja.

2.4.2 The Opportunities that arise,

Diversified Funding Sources

Local revenue generation and use funding mechanism like use of PPP can greatly have a positive impact in enhancing the financial viability of water supply projects by reducing too much dependence on the unpredictable funding of different donors. To utilize this opportunity, Masese Sub County can actively engage in with private sector entities to invest in their water infrastructure projects. Additionally, Green bonds can help Masese sub county to attract investors that are interested in funding water infrastructure projects (World bank, 2021).

Efficient Financial Planning Budget Allocations.

Transparent allocations of budgets and effective financial planning are fundamental for hindering risks and proper utilization of resources. For instance in Masese sub county, they can strengthen their financial planning by adopting the use of Performance Base Budgeting (PBB) which will improve transparency and accountability of resources. Previous researchers discovered that Performance Base Budget have improved project performance in other regions by aligning strategic goals with the financial resources.

Capacity Building in Financial Management

According to Kiggundu (2018), he emphasized the significance of investing in the capacity building programs which can improve the financial management skills among the project managers and the local officials. Additionally, besides traditional financial management trainings, use of digital financial tools can enhance transparency and streamline processes. Advance technologies for instance block chain for tracking funds can be used in Masese sub county to improve accessibility and data security which enhances better financial decision making (IFC,2022).

Community Financing and Engagement

As highlights by Brown et al (2020), it is so crucial for the community to engage in the managing and financing of water projects. This is because it because it signifies ownership, enhances resources mobilization for project implementation and promotes sustainability of projects. As an opportunity, Masese would also establish a community managed water funds which would be supported by microfinance institutions. These funds from the community can be used to sustain financing mechanisms which can be used to maintain and improve water infrastructures (USAID 2021)

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter mainly focuses on how the study will be conducted. These include the research design, the study area and the population, sampling procedures, sample size and composition, methods of data collection, data processing, and methods of data analysis, data quality control, reliability and lastly ethical considerations

3.1 Research design

Cross sectional research design will be used to conduct this research which is defined as the collection of from a population at a single point. The mixed method which is the combination of qualitative and quantitative will also be included in carrying out this study. For instance, quantitative study will be conducted using interviews where by the leaders such as the LC1 chairman and division councilors so us to get a deep understanding of the topic. Qualitative will also be conducted with questionnaires with the selected residents that are still having hard time to access clean and reliable water

3.2 Study area

This study will be carried out in Masese Sub County approximately 4 Kilometers from Jinja town. Jinja district is located in the Eastern region of Uganda. Its boarders Lake Victoria to the South and districts of Kamuli to the north, Mayuge to the west and Iganga to the east. It covers an area of about 35 square kilometers and is characterized by a mix of urban and peri-urban settlement. Masese sub county is chosen because it's one of the areas in Jinja district where residents are still struggling to access clean and reliable water.

3.3 Study population and size

A population can be defined as people or items with the same characteristic an individual wishes to understand, it maybe intangible or tangible. In 2014, a population census was caried out in Uganda and approximately 29,300 out of the 37 million people in Uganda where from Masese sub county (Uganda Bureau of Statistics). Masese sub county has 4 parishes e.g. Masese i,

Masese ii, Masese iii and Wanyama. A population of 22 people will be used in this study when collecting this data. It will consist of households having difficulty in accessing clean water, officers from department of water supply projects and LCI chairman and other local councilors in Masese Sub County.

Table 1: Population, sample size and sampling method

Category of respondents	**Study population**	**Sample size**	**Sampling method**
LCI and local councilors	10	7	Purposive Sampling
Households still struggling to get clean and reliable water	65	60	Simple random sampling
Officers from water supply project department	25	13	Purposive Sampling
TOTAL	**100**	**80**	

Source: ***Jinja District Local Government, 2024***

3.44 Sample size determination

The researcher will use Slovin's formula to determine sample size from the 105 population of the selected categories of people as follows;

"n" is sample size, "N" is population, "e" is error (0.05) or level of confidence 95%

"N" (population) = 100

n=80

Therefore from the table above, the sample size will be 80 respondents got from a total population of 100 people that do not have access to clean and reliable water. The study will also

include a sample of five key informants who are the LC1 chairman of and the local council the division.

3.5 Sampling method

Here in sampling method, both the purposive and simple random method will be used, The purposive sampling method will be used in selecting the officers in the department of water supply project and LCI chairman and local councilors in Masese sub county. These personalities are important to be part of the respondents because they more familiar with the topic and they are the first people that deal with cases related to water supply in the region.

Secondly, a sample of 60 households that are still struggling to access water will be taken. The population in Masese sub county especially those having difficulties to access clean and reliable water is big hence forth for it to be fair and non-bias, people will be selected using the random simple method. The random sample method is crucial because it makes the process more practical.

3.6 Sources of data

As this research is going to be carried out, we shall use both the primary and secondary source of data;

Primary source: Data will be obtained from the field from the field using interviews and questionnaires by the researcher which will be used for their specific study purposes. The researcher will then collect the data personally herself and for those who don't know how to read, the researcher will translate for them

Secondary Source: The researcher here will have to make a review from the annual reports containing the prevailing situation in Masese sub county. These reports will examine the effects of government policies in the financial viability of water supply in Masese sub county.

3.7 Data collection methods and instruments

Questionnaires and the in-depth interview method will be the methods and instrument used to collect this data

3.7.1 Questionnaires

The self-administered questionnaires will be used to obtain data from the 15 selected households that are still struggling to access water in Mases Sub County. These self-administered questionnaires are crucial because they save time compared to interviewing all the 15 households. The questionnaires shall be used to collect numerical data on the effects of government policies on the financial viability of water supply projects in Masese sub division. The questionnaires will be measured using a Likert e.g. 1(strongly Disagree), 2(Disagree), 3(Neutral), 4 (Agree) 5 (strongly agree).

3.7.2 Interviews

For the case of LC1, local councilors and officers from water supply department in Masese Sub County will be interviewed since they few in number. It is crucial to interview these informants because the respondents always need to clarify and expand their own ideas and answers broadly such that a clear understanding will be reached easily later on the findings of the study.

3.8 Data collection procedure

First the researcher will obtain an introductory letter from the Faculty of Social Sciences in Uganda Christian University, afterwards she will request permission from leaders and different respondents in Masese Sub County. Lastly the researcher will approach different respondents to distribute questionnaires guidelines and administer interviews.

3.9 Quality and error control

3.9.1 Validity of the research instrument

The researcher will critically ensure the validity of the tools to be used by first conducting a pretest of the questionnaires as well as involving data collection and analysis so as to avoid errors during the research. Henceforth the validity will be measured by addressing the how accurate the instrument outcome will be and how to construct an intervention that aim to influence it.

3.9.2 Reliability of the research instrument

If an instrument consistently measures the same thing under different situations even when administered by various researchers, it is considered dependable. It should also be able to provide consistent results. Furthermore before the questionnaires are distributed to different

respondents, a pilot study with little number of respondents on this research topic will be conducted. As a result of this, the researcher will undergo first to a pre and a post test. The retest method, which includes giving some of the participants the same test again after a short period of time, will be utilized to access the reliability of the empirical measurement. Henceforth, the consistency of the response will be explored so as to determine the test's reliability.

3.10 Data analysis

3.10.1 Analysis of quantitative data

Data analysis will be done with the aid of the package (SPSS) which besides being user friendly, is appropriate for handling the correlations between the variables plus regressions in the study. All variables will be assigned with names and coded for computer entry. Secondly all the responses will be coded to facilitate computer data in-put. Thirdly, after data entry is completed, negatively worded scales will be recorded and assigned with new values. Fourthly, in order to get composite scores for items on a scale, target variables will be computed. Fifthly, data will be screened in order to minimize data entry errors. Quantitative data will be analyzed using descriptive statistics and Pearson Correlation to examine the relationship between the independent and the dependent variable in the study.

3.10.2 Analysis of qualitative data

The analysis of qualitative data will use a thematic approach to identify categories, themes and patterns. The results will include the recurring that which surfaces in response to each of the interviews leading questions with any selected direct quotes which will be used as examples.

3.11 Ethical considerations

Concerning ethical considerations, the researcher will follower the following,

On the questionnaires, respondents confidentiality will be upheld, so to avoid their important information from being linked, their identifications numbers will be used instead of their names.

Before beginning the research, the procedures will be explained to the respondents and an informed permission will be obtained.

All the literature reviews and citations will be acknowledged through out the research with proper citation and referencing.

During interviews, data analysis and reporting, personal biasness shall be eliminated through out the entire research.

3.12 Anticipated limitations and delimitations of the study

First and foremost, some respondents may be reluctant to provide information if they have any concerns with the intended use of data and they be suspicious. This will be solved by means of university excellent and notable reputation as a learning institution by acquiring an introductory letter from the university.

The researcher is likely to be limited with funds that will be used for encouraging responders, printing costs and daily transportation to the county to collect data. However the researcher will mobilize financial help from the family that will support her throughout the study.

At most time some individuals may delay to return back the questionnaires which will influence the researcher's targeted time. This will be solved through assuring many questionnaires to beyond the targeted number and this will fill the gap for those who may delay to return theirs.

Conclusively, the researcher assistants can raise issues concerned in the administration of questionnaires in terms of time administration, understanding of the items in the questionnaires and explanation given to the respondents. To hinder this, the researcher's assistants will be well oriented of the whole processes to be down in data collection

CHAPTER FOUR:

Data Presentation, Analysis, and Interpretation

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the results of the study, which are analyzed and interpreted based on the methodology outlined in Chapter Three. The findings are presented systematically and are consistent with the study objectives. Data from different categories of participants, including local councilors, officers from the water supply project department, and households struggling to access clean and reliable water, are analyzed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the issues.

4.1 Table 1: Response Rate

Type of Population	Population target	Sample size
LCI and local councilors	7	5
Household still struggling to get clean and reliable water	60	40
Officers from water resource department	13	10
Total	80	55

Source is Jinja district local government 2024

4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

4.2.1 Sex of the respondents.

This was purposely collected to establish the composition of respondents in regard to different sex of male and female.

Table 2 Gender of respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	30	55%
Female	25	45%
Total	55	100

Source Jinja district local government 2024

On the above table 2, it indicates that out of 55 respondents, 30 were males representing 55% whereas 25 were female being represented by 45% of the respondents. The High percentage of male respondents indicates the facts that boys still have opportunities in everything than males.

Table 3 Age of respondents

Category	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
18-30	**20**	**36.4%**
30-39	**15**	**27.3%**
40-50	**12**	**29%**
51 years and above	**8**	**14.6%**
Total	**55**	**100**

Source Jinja local government 2024

On the table 3 above, it indicates that 20 (36%) of the total respondents were between 18 and 30, 15(27.3%) were between 30-40 years, then between 40-50 years, there were 12 (29%) of the the respondents and then lastly 8 respondents were in the age bracket of 51 years and above representing 14.6% of the respondents. At the end of the research, it was concluded that the majority of the respondents were the youth in the age bracket of 18-30 years old taking the highest percentage of 36.4%.

Table 4 Education background of the respondents

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Primary level	11	20%
Secondary level	16	29.1%
Diploma level	5	9.1%
Degree and above	13	23.64%
None of these	10	18.9%
Total	55	100

Source Jinja local government 2024

In table 4, it indicates that the highest number of respondents were from secondary level with 16(29.1%) population. On the other hand, 11(20%) respondents were from primary level, 5(9.1%) were doing diploma, 13(23.64%) are degree holders and above and the lastly 10(18.9) of the respondents were not educated.

Table 5: Occupation of the respondents

Category	Frequency	**Percentage**
LC1 and local councilors	7	12.8%
Officers from water department	8	14.6%
Peasant farmers	17	31%
Businesswoman	13	24%
Religious leaders	10	18.18%
Total	55	100

Source Jinja local government 2024

According to table 5, the LCI and local councilors had a frequency of 7 (12.8%), officers from the water departments had respondents of 8 (14.6%), the farmers were 17 (31%) of the total respondents where as the businesswomen took a share of 13(24%) and lastly religious leader had

a total of 10(18.18%) of the total respondents. The research was carried out fairly with all the occupations. It was concluded that the peasant farmers had the highest number of the respondents during my research.

4.2 Determine the effectiveness of access to clean and reliable water in Masese sub county

Table 6: Whether government policies have positively impacted the financial viability of water supply in Masese sub county

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly agree	21	38.18%
Agree	17	30.91%
Disagree	9	16.4%
Strongly disagree	8	14.6%
Total	55	100

Source Jinja local government 2024

Table 6 above indicate that 21(38.18) of the respondents strongly agreed that government policies have impacted water supply projects, 17(31%) on the hand agreed with the statement, whereas 9(16.4) of the respondents disagree and the remaining 8 (14.6) strongly degree with the statement. It was concluded that majority of the respondents strongly agree that government policies have an impact on the financial viability of water supply projects.

Table 7 whether government funding for water project is sufficient in Masese sub county

Category	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Strong Agree	4	7.3%
Agree	5	9.1%
Disagree	30	54.6
Strongly disagree	16	29.1
Total	55	100

Table 7 indicates that 30 (54.6%) of the respondents strongly disagree that government funding for water projects is sufficient in Masese sub county making it the biggest percentage. Whereas (7.3%) strongly agree, 5(9.1%) agree and lastly 16(29.1) of the respondents strongly disagree. As the researcher I concluded that there is still inadequate government funding of water projects in Masese Sub County

Table 8: Whether government policies have effectively addressed the financial challenges facing water supply projects in Masese Sub County

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly agree	11	20%
Agree	10	18.9%
Strongly disagree	12	21.9%
Disagree	22	40%
Total	55	100

Source Jinja local government 2024

On the table 8 above, 11(20%) of the respondents strongly agreed, 10(18.9%) agree, 12(21.9) strongly disagree and lastly 22 (40%) of the respondents totally disagreed. Therefore it was concluded by the research that most respondents disagree that government policies have not effectively address the challenges of water projects.

Table 9. Whether government policies have led to significant financial benefits for water project supply in Masese sub county

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly agree	12	23.7%
Agree	27	49.1%
Strongly Disagree	5	9.1%
Disagree	10	18.18%
Total	55	100

Source Jinja local government 2024

The table above indicates that 12(23.7%) of the respondents agree strongly, 27(49.1) which was the biggest percentage strongly disagree that government policies have not led to the significant financial benefit for water supply in Masese, then 5(9.1) of the respondents strongly disagree and the lastly 10(18.18) of the respondents strongly disagree.

Table 10 Weather government policies have increased the financial risks associated with water supply projects in Masese sub county.

Category	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Strongly agree	15	27.3%
Agree	3	5.45%
Strongly disagree	7	12.8%
Disagree	30	54.6%
Total	55	100

Source Jinja local government 2024

On the above table, majority of the respondents 30(54.6%) disagreed that government have not increased the financial risks associated with water supply project in Masese sub county, 15(27.3%) strongly disagreed, 5.45% agreed and lastly 7 (12.8%) of the respondents strongly disagreed.

4.4 Challenges faced in Accessing clean and reliable water in Masese sub county

Table 11 : Challenges affecting residents of Masese to access clean and reliable water.

Category	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Long distance to water	12	21.9%
High cost of water	10	18.18%
Inadequate infrastructure	20	36.4%
Poor quality water	13	23.7%
Total	55	100

Source Jinja local government 2024

On the table above it shows that the most challenge facing people of masese sub county is Inadequate infrastructure for water supply which had 20 (36.4%) of the respondents voting it, the 12 (21.9%) of long distance, 10(18.18) of high cost of water the lastly 13(23.7%) of the respondents voted for poor quality of water .

4.6 Possible strategies to improve water access in masese sub county.

The respondents provided various suggestions to improve access to clean and reliable water. The suggestions were categorized and analyzed thematically.

Table 12: Suggested Strategies to improve water access in Masese sub county

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Improvement of water infrastructure	13	23.7%
Implement Water Conservation practice	7	12.8%
Enhance community involvement	8	14.6%
Increase funding for water projects	14	25.5%
Strength policy implementation	12	23.64%
Total	55	100

Source Jinja local government 2024

In table 12, majority of the respondents strongly agreed with 14 (25.5%) that increase in funding water project in Masese sub county would greatly improve the water access in the region. Others like , improvement of water infrastructure had 13(23.7%), implementation of water conservation practice had 7 (12.8%), Enhance community involvement was voted 8(14.6%) and lastly 12 (23.64) of the respondents supported strength policy implementation.

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Improvement of water infrastructure	13	23.7%
Implement Water Conservation practice	7	12.8%
Enhance community involvement	8	14.6%
Increase funding for water projects	14	25.5%
Strength policy implementation	12	23.64%
Total	55	100

CHAPTER FIVE:

Discussion, Conclusions, and Recommendations

5.0 Introduction

This chapter discusses the implications of the findings presented in Chapter Four in relation to the existing body of knowledge. It also addresses the controversies and discoveries made during the research, acknowledge the limitations of the study, and integrate the findings into the final research statement, and presents obstacles and gaps identified in the findings. Finally, recommendations for policy and practice are provided.

5.1 Discussion

5.1.1 Demographic characteristics.

5.1.1.1 Distribution of respondents by gender.

In table one it is indicated that 30 out of 55 respondents were males representing 55% whereas the remaining 25 were females representing 45% of the respondents. From the above results obtained, it was observed that the male gender had the high number of 55% than the females.

5.1.1.2 Distribution of respondents by age

From the results obtained in table 2, respondents of 20 fall under the age bracket of 18-30 years representing 36.4%, 15 fall under the age of 30-39 representing 27.3%, 12 fall between 40-50years representing 29% and lastly 8 respondents fell under the age of 50 years and abover representing 14.6%. From the results obtained the youth took the biggest percentage of respondents (36.4%) during the research.

5.1.1.3 Distribution by education

When we come table 4 , 11 (20%) of 55 respondents were at primary level, 16(29.1%) were in secondary level, 5(9.1%) were in secondary level ,the number of degree holders and above were 12(23.64%) and then lastly 10 (18.9) of the respondents were illiterates. According to the results obtained, those in secondary level hard the highest number of respondents with 29.1% where as those with diploma had the lowest.

5.1.1.4 Distribution by occupation

Table 4 indicates that 7 (12.8%) of 55 respondents were LCI and local councilors, 8 (14.%%) were officers from the water department , peasant farms were 17(31%) whereas the businesswoman were 13 (24%) and lastly religious leader were also represented in number of 10 representing 18.18 % . According to the results obtained the peasants farmers had the biggest number of respondents were as the LCI and local councilors were few.

5.1.2 The effectiveness of access to clean and reliable water in Masese sub county

The findings in table 5 indicated that table 5 above indicate that 21(38.18) of the respondents strongly agreed that government policies have impacted water supply projects, 17(31%) on the hand agreed with the statement, whereas 9(16.4) of the respondents disagree and the remaining 8 (14.6) strongly degree with the statement. It was concluded that majority of the respondents strongly agree that government policies have an impact on the financial viability of water supply projects henceforth the need to investigate more.

The findings in table 6 above indicate that 21(38.18) of the respondents strongly agreed that government policies have impacted water supply projects, 17(31%) on the hand agreed with the statement, whereas 9(16.4) of the respondents disagree and the remaining 8 (14.6) strongly degree with the statement. As a researcher, I concluded that majority of the respondents strongly agree that government policies have an impact on the financial viability of water supply projects.

Table 7 findings indicates that 30 (54.6%) of the respondents strongly disagree that government funding for water projects is sufficient in Masese sub county making it the biggest percentage. Whereas (7.3%) strongly agree, 5(9.1%) agree and lastly 16(29.1) of the respondents strongly disagree. Therefore it was confirmed that the that the government need to put more effort in funding water projects.

The findings on the table 8 above, 11(20%) of the respondents strongly agreed, 10(18.9%) agree, 12(21.9) strongly disagree and lastly 22 (40%) of the respondents totally disagreed. Therefore it was concluded by the research that most respondents disagree that government policies have not effectively address the challenges of water projects.

The findings in table 9 indicate that 12(23.7%) of the respondents agree strongly, 27(49.1) which was the biggest percentage strongly disagree that government policies have not led to the significant financial benefit for water supply in Masese, then 5(9.1) of the respondents strongly disagree and the lastly 10(18.18) of the respondents strongly disagree. At the end of the research, it was observed that government polices have a low percentage in significantly benefiting from water supply projects.

The findings in 10 table indicates that th majority of the respondents 30(54.6%) disagreed that government have not increased the financial risks associated with water supply projects in

Masese sub county, 15(27.3%) strongly disagreed, 5.45% agreed and lastly 7 (12.8%) of the respondents strongly disagreed. Therefore after the research, it was concluded that government policies have not contributed much risks that are associated with water supply project instead they tend to improve the supply of water projects.

5.1.3 Challenges faced in accessing clean and reliable water in Masese sub county.

The findings on this table 11shows that the most challenge facing people of masese sub county is Inadequate infrastructure for water supply which had 20 (36.4%) of the respondents voting it, the 12 (21.9%) of long distance, 10(18.18) of high cost of water the lastly 13(23.7%) of the respondents voted for poor quality of water . Therefore at the end of the research it was obtained that the government need to put more effort in building water infrastructures since it is one of the most effective challenges facing people.

5.1.4 Possible strategies to improve water access in masese sub county

In table 12 the findings shows that the majority of the respondents strongly agreed with 14 (25.5%) that increase in funding water project in Masese sub county would greatly improve the water access in the region. Others like , improvement of water infrastructure had 13(23.7%), implementation of water conservation practice had 7 (12.8%), Enhance community involvement was voted 8(14.6%) and lastly 12 (23.64) of the respondents supported strength policy implementation. Therefore, the researcher observed that there is need for the government to sufficiently provide enough funds for water projects in Masese sub county.

5.2 Relationship to Existing Knowledge

The study's findings on the challenges of accessing clean and reliable water in Masese Sub County align with existing literature on water access issues in developing regions. Previous studies have highlighted similar challenges, such as long distances to water sources, high costs, poor water quality, and inadequate infrastructure. The demographic characteristics of the

respondents also reflect common trends observed in rural communities, where farming is a predominant occupation, and education levels are relatively low.

5.2.1 Controversies and Discoveries

One notable discovery was the mixed perceptions of the effectiveness of water supply projects. While some respondents found these projects highly effective, others deemed them ineffective. This discrepancy points to varying levels of project implementation and success across different areas within Masese Sub County. Additionally, the study revealed a significant gap in policy implementation and resource allocation, which is a critical area for government and stakeholders to address.

5.2.2 Limitations

The study had several limitations. Firstly, the sample size was relatively small, which may not fully represent the entire population of Masese Sub County. Secondly, the study relied on self-reported data, which could be subject to bias. Lastly, the qualitative data collected through interviews may have limited generalizability due to the subjective nature of the responses.

5.2.3 Integration into Final Research Statement

The findings from this study confirm that access to clean and reliable water in Masese Sub County remains a significant challenge. Despite efforts by the government and other stakeholders, gaps in policy implementation, resource allocation, and infrastructure development continue to hinder progress. The study highlights the need for comprehensive strategies that address these issues to improve water access for the local population.

5.2.4 Obstacles and Gaps

Several obstacles and gaps were identified during the study. These include:

- Insufficient funding for water projects, leading to incomplete or poorly maintained infrastructure.

- Lack of community involvement in water management, resulting in low sustainability of projects.
- Ineffective policy implementation and monitoring by government agencies.
- Limited awareness and practice of water conservation techniques among the community members.

5.3 Conclusions

The study concludes that addressing the challenges of water access in Masese Sub County requires a multifaceted approach. Improving infrastructure, increasing funding, enhancing community involvement, and strengthening policy implementation are critical steps towards ensuring reliable access to clean water. The mixed perceptions of the effectiveness of current water supply projects indicate the need for tailored solutions that consider the specific needs and conditions of different areas within the sub-county.

5.2 Implications of Findings

The findings underscore the urgent need for targeted interventions to improve water access. Addressing these challenges is crucial for enhancing community well-being, economic productivity, and environmental sustainability in Masese Sub County. Effective solutions require collaborative efforts and sustained commitment from government agencies, NGOs, private sector entities, and local communities.

5.3 Recommendations

5.3.1 Policy Recommendations

1. **Increase Funding for Water Projects:** The government should allocate more resources to water supply projects to ensure comprehensive coverage and maintenance.
2. **Strengthen Policy Implementation:** There should be better monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure that water supply policies are effectively implemented and resources are efficiently utilized.

5.3.2 Community Involvement

1. **Enhance Community Involvement:** Encouraging community participation in water management can improve the sustainability of water supply projects. Training programs on water conservation practices should be conducted to raise awareness and promote responsible water usage.

5.3.3 Infrastructure Development

1. **Improve Water Infrastructure:** Investments in infrastructure, such as constructing new water sources and improving existing ones, are essential to reduce the distance to water sources and ensure consistent water quality.

5.3.4 Research and Development

1. **Conduct Further Research:** More extensive studies should be conducted to explore innovative solutions for water access and management. This can include exploring alternative water sources, such as rainwater harvesting and the use of technology in water distribution.

5.3.5 Collaboration and Partnerships

1. **Foster Collaborations:** Partnerships between government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private sector entities can enhance resource mobilization and implementation of water projects. Collaborative efforts can lead to more effective and sustainable solutions.

5.4 Final Research Statement

The study on water access in Masese Sub County highlights significant challenges that require urgent attention. Despite various efforts, the community continues to face issues related to infrastructure, funding, and policy implementation. Addressing these challenges through increased funding, community involvement, improved infrastructure, and effective policy implementation is crucial for ensuring reliable access to clean water for all residents.

Chapter Summary

Chapter Five discussed the study's findings in relation to the existing body of knowledge, highlighted controversies and discoveries, acknowledged limitations, and integrated the findings into the final research statement. It also identified obstacles and gaps in the study and provided comprehensive recommendations for policy, community involvement, infrastructure development, further research, and collaboration. These recommendations aim to improve water access in Masese Sub County and contribute to the broader goal of ensuring sustainable water supply solutions for rural communities.

5.5 Areas for further research.

There is a need for further research on “Impact of policy changes on water supply project finance) in Masese Sub county.

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