THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARISH DEVELOPMENT MODEL AND ITS ROLE IN POVERTY REDUCTION: A CASE STUDY OF GOMA DIVISION, MUKONO MUNICIPALITY”

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DECLARATION

In line with the university's principles of integrity and diligence, I hereby declare that this work is my work, prepared honestly and without unauthorized help. To the best of my knowledge, the content is original, free from plagiarism, and does not involve unethical practices. Any external sources have been properly referenced and acknowledged for academic purposes only.

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NASIRA JANE LENNY

APPROVAL

I confirm that this dissertation was carried out and completed by **NASIRA JANE LENNY** under my supervision. It is approved in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award for the degree of Bachelor of Business Administration.

Signature: ………………………………………… Date: 13/04/24

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Finally, I appreciate my biggest support system; Grace Owori for everything you did to make this whole journey a wonderful success, I pray that the Almighty God blesses you in all aspects of life.

DEDICATION

This report is dedicated to my beloved parents; James Ama Wasike and Juliet Otiti for cheering me on and believing in me all through, and to my biggest support system; my little one Mercy Owori and his Dad Grace Owori, I am very lucky to have you in my life. I am grateful to God for you.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND THEIR FULL MEANINGS

Acronym	Meaning
AI	Artificial Intelligence
BRAC	Building Resources Across Communities
CVI	Content Validity Index
CDD	Community-Driven Development
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NPV	Net Present Value
PDM	Parish Development Model
R	Correlation Coefficient
SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UCU	Uganda Christian University
UGX	Uganda Shillings
UWEP	Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Program
YLP	Youth Livelihood Program
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences

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ABSTRACT

The study was inspired by the continued existence of poverty and lack of income security even after government interventions. The purpose of the study was to investigate the role of PDM revolving funds in promoting income generation, evaluate enterprise development projects, and identify difficulties in implementation.

A descriptive and analytical approach through a case study design was employed where both quantitative and qualitative research techniques were applied. Eighty respondents, including household beneficiaries, parish committee members, and municipal authorities, were interviewed and asked to complete questionnaires. Quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS software, whereas qualitative data were analyzed thematically.

It was found that the program has been successful in improving household living standards with regard to the fulfilment of basic requirements, payment of school fees, and access to medical care. Also, there have been increased cases of income generation and asset acquisition. Some of the problems facing the implementation of the project include delayed release of funds, insufficient funding, poor monitoring, political involvement, and lack of business skills.

The study concludes that while PDM is capable of helping to enhance income generation and alleviate poverty, implementation difficulties limit its effectiveness.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

This study gives us the starting point for this research. It contains the background of the study, tells us the problem being studied, the purpose of the research, its objectives, research questions, scope, and justification.

1.1 Background of the Study

Uganda's economy has seen a significant growth though this growth has not directly improved the livelihood of its population. A big number of its people especially those who rely of subsistence farming and informal businesses are still victims of poverty which leaves them vulnerable with income insecurity. The Uganda Bureau of statistics captures that the population stay in

That is why the Ugandan government launched the PDM program in the year 2022. It was made in a way that it is able to shift the economy to an enterprise driven economy from one that heavily depended on subsistence production for a living. In this model, the parish is the lowest unit for making strategic plans, budgets, etc. and the services were designed in a way that they directly positively make a difference in the households of the beneficiaries. (MoFPED, 2022).

Development initiatives are more effective when implemented close to the population that are the target of the program and that is why they decided to focus on the parishes. This program wants to minimize inefficiencies that come with centralized implementation through decentralizing decision making, allocation of resources. This alone shows that the model represents a shift to a more inclusive and community centered approach of development. (MoLG, 2022).

Every pillar here targets a certain hindrance affecting generation of income and productivity of households. Among the above-named pillars, financial inclusion has turned out to receive the most attention in this PDM. This is because it is the basis for funding SACCOS. Each parish in Mukono is getting a revolving fund of about shillings 100 million annually. This money is therefore given out as affordable loans to the households taking part in productive income generating activities like agribusiness, trade, cottage industries or services. (MoFPED, 2022).

It is assumed that affordable access to financial services makes it possible for households to inject money into activities that are productive, and this therefore increases levels of income of which it results into accumulation of assets, reduction of poverty levels, to mention but a few, in the long run. Meanwhile, according to Scoones, (2015), only the access to finance alone minus other factors may not obviously lead to improvement in livelihoods where they face more hindrances like limited skills, low market availability and poor infrastructure.

Goma division provides a specifically important atmosphere for this study because it carries out crop growing, livestock rearing, small-scale production, hospitality and transport services, to mention but a few. Though this is being carried out, records from (Mukono Municipal Council, 2023) show that poverty and income insecurity is still a problem being faced by many households in the division. This poverty is caused by different factors, for example; high costs of living, high levels of unemployment, difficulty in accessing credit and high competition within the local markets. These factors question whether a nationally standardized program like PDM effectively addresses the problems directly and address realities of urbanizing divisions in municipalities.

Evidence from Turok & Scheba, (2019) show that urban households are usually more complicated and likely to change more quickly unlike the rural ones and this brings the need to use specific responses to policies. Emerging reports show that there are many challenges associated with the implementation of PDM despite it being built on strong policies and theoretical foundations.

Despite the model being built on strong theoretical foundations, there are findings that are showing various challenges faced by its implementation for example; delay in release of funds, beneficiaries have limited knowledge on how to handle finances, and also; political interference and poor data management. (Nambuya,2024). The challenges mentioned are capable of affecting the model's success in improving livelihood of the beneficiaries.
The model's framework is got from community development and sustainable livelihoods frameworks. According to Scoones (2015), community driven development encourages ownership, local participation and these fuel up accountability resulting into development. And in the same way, the sustainable livelihoods approach hints the urge to strengthen the access to finance for households in order to alleviate poverty.
Meanwhile, very little empirical evidence is there to show PDM's performance in urban and semi urban areas like Goma division. A research gap; of understanding how the model has

improved the livelihood of households that accessed the funds remains.

1.2 Statement of the problem.

Stagnant household income levels and economic insecurity persist in Uganda in spite of numerous government interventions aimed at combating poverty. Based on statistics released by UBOS (2021), many households in the country have incomes classified as low, engaging in informal economic ventures, lacking access to affordable financial services and unstable earnings. In an effort to address these problems, the government of Uganda has put in place numerous development programs, namely NAADS, YLP, UWEP and Parish Development Model (PDM) among others. The above-mentioned programs are all under the development blueprint referred to as Vision 2040, aimed at transforming the country into a globally competitive middle-income nation by 2040.

Nevertheless, socio-economic disparities persist within Goma Division, Mukono Municipality. Although the division has shown improvement in economic activities and urbanization, some households still face constraints such as low financial literacy, delays in releasing funds, lack of effective supervision among recipients, and difficulties in recovering loans (Asiimwe, 2024). The PDM was initiated as a way of overcoming the barriers by disbursing revolving funds to boost household enterprises and parish planning.

Despite the aforementioned information, the extent of the influence of the PDM on household income levels and poverty alleviation in Goma Division is not yet clear. Urban and peri-urban areas come with their own set of challenges which could affect the efficiency of the model. Such problems include high costs of doing business, land scarcity, and

However, socio-economic inequalities remain evident in Goma Division, Mukono Municipality. While there have been improvements in economic activities and urbanization in the division, there are still families who struggle due to factors such as poor financial knowledge, time delays in disbursal of the money, inefficient management of recipients, and recovery of the loans (Asiimwe, 2024). The development of the PDM aimed at addressing such obstacles by providing revolving funds to encourage the growth of family businesses and parish planning.

Nonetheless, despite all the information provided above, there is no indication as to the level of impact that the PDM will have on the income levels of families as well as poverty reduction in the Goma Division. There are different obstacles that exist in urban and peri-urban areas that may hinder the effectiveness of the model.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The primary objective of this study is to evaluate the effect of the Parish Development Model on improving incomes for households as well as alleviate poverty in Goma Division in Mukono Municipality. Primarily, it will evaluate how funds channeled through the PDM improve enterprise development and what influence household livelihoods have experienced due to the structure of implementing the PDM at the parish level. The main objective of this study is to provide an evidence-based assessment of PDM to inform decision-makers on how best to implement it.

1.4 Objectives of the study.

The main objective of this study is to assess the impact of the Parish Development Model on income enhancement of households and poverty reduction in Goma division.

1.4.1 Specific Objectives

i. To find out the extent to which the access to PDM revolving funds has influenced income levels in Goma division

ii. To find out the effectiveness of PDM supported enterprise development initiatives in boosting livelihoods of households and poverty reduction.

iii. To evaluate the constraints affecting PDM implementation and its influence on household income enhancement.

1.5 Research Questions

i. How have household income levels been influenced by access to the PDM's revolving funds?

ii. To what extent have PDM supported enterprise initiatives of development contributed to better livelihoods of households and reduced poverty?

iii. What are the hindrances affecting the implementation of the model, and how do they impact on the income of households?

1.6 Scope of the study

This research is confined to the Goma division within the Mukono Municipality. Goma division is situated in the western part of Mukono municipality. It is comprised of words such as Seeta, Kiwanga, Misindye, and Bukerere. The scope is mainly concerned with the assessment of the impact of the model on the income levels of households in Goma division. The study is confined to words such as Seeta, Kiwanga, Misindye, and Bukerere which have both the urban and peri urban environments. This will give evidence of socio-economic diversity in the region.

The study focuses on the key aspects of the model, including enterprise development, implementation, and access to revolving funds under the concept of financial inclusion. The timeframe of this study starts from 2022 when the model was introduced. The model will be assessed based on its past achievements and emerging constraints during its early operational stages.

The systematic scope of this study involves the beneficiaries of the model, municipal officials, parish leaders of SACCOs, and community development officers.

1.7 Justification of the Study

It is also the most ambitious economic reform project that the country has ever attempted, from the grass root level of the community. Even so, considering that the project is relatively new, there is not much empirical evidence regarding its success, particularly for areas adjacent to urban centers, or those that are developing economies. However, the study will provide empirical evidence on the effectiveness of the model, thus making it a justifiable study. As stated by Scoones (2015), the findings from this study will update the existing academic literature on poverty alleviation programs.

1.8 Significance of Study

1.8.1 Significance to the Government of Uganda

This study provides us with some knowledge that is supported by facts and figures from data collected in the field. This in itself makes it easy for the government to evaluate the model and ascertain whether it is meeting the country's national development objectives, identify any deficiencies in the process, improve policy formulation, and enhance resource allocation when transforming the economy of these parishes. The data collected in this study highlights many issues that need to be addressed in the model's guidelines; this improves efficiency and accountability.

1.8.3 Significance to Goma division

This study highlights the problems, opportunities, and successes within the model, thus making it possible for those in leadership positions to recommend practical ways to ensure increased SACCO manning and monitoring of the beneficiaries within the division.

1.8.2. Significance to PDM SACCO Leaders and Implementers

Undoubtedly, this research will assist in equipping these leaders with practical evidence on how their operating methods impact families; pinpoints loopholes, recommends training in certain areas, and even sheds light on any weaknesses in their operation that could inhibit their ability to recover the disbursed cash.

1.8.3. Significance to Households and PDM Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries are likely to benefit from improvements in how PDM resources are managed and delivered. Through this research, it will be possible to learn about how the beneficiaries utilize the funds, what problems they encounter, and how sensitization, business planning, and support services can improve income generation and livelihood sustainability, thus combating poverty.

The diagram above depicts how PDM interacts with other variables affecting it, referred to as dependent variables. As seen from the diagram on the left-hand side, PDM is realized through the provision of revolving fund access, development and growth of the business and parish planning. This involves the provision of affordable credits, growth of households enterprises as well as increased grassroots coordination. PDM is aware that the effects of PDM on households are not realized in a clear manner but rather, through several intermediary variables as illustrated by the model below.

As depicted in the diagram on the right-hand side, the independent variables include results realized through PDM like employment generation and asset accumulation, among others.

This chapter examines existing literature that focuses on the impact of the Parish Development Model (PDM) on the enhancement of household income levels and reduction of poverty levels. The primary objective of reviewing the literature is to develop a solid foundation for the research by looking at the theory, empiricism, and concepts in the subject matter; at the same time, identify gaps that require further research. The reduction of poverty rates is one of the most challenging development problems worldwide, especially in developing nations where many people lead subsistent lives.

Globally, poverty rate reduction has been a major focus of development policies, more so in underdeveloped and developing nations where many households rely on informal livelihoods that generate low productivity. Although many nations have experienced growth in terms of economic activities, this growth does not always ensure stability in income levels for all household members in many parts of the world, including Uganda. As a result, there has been a shift in development strategies from a purely macroeconomic perspective to one that focuses on the household level.

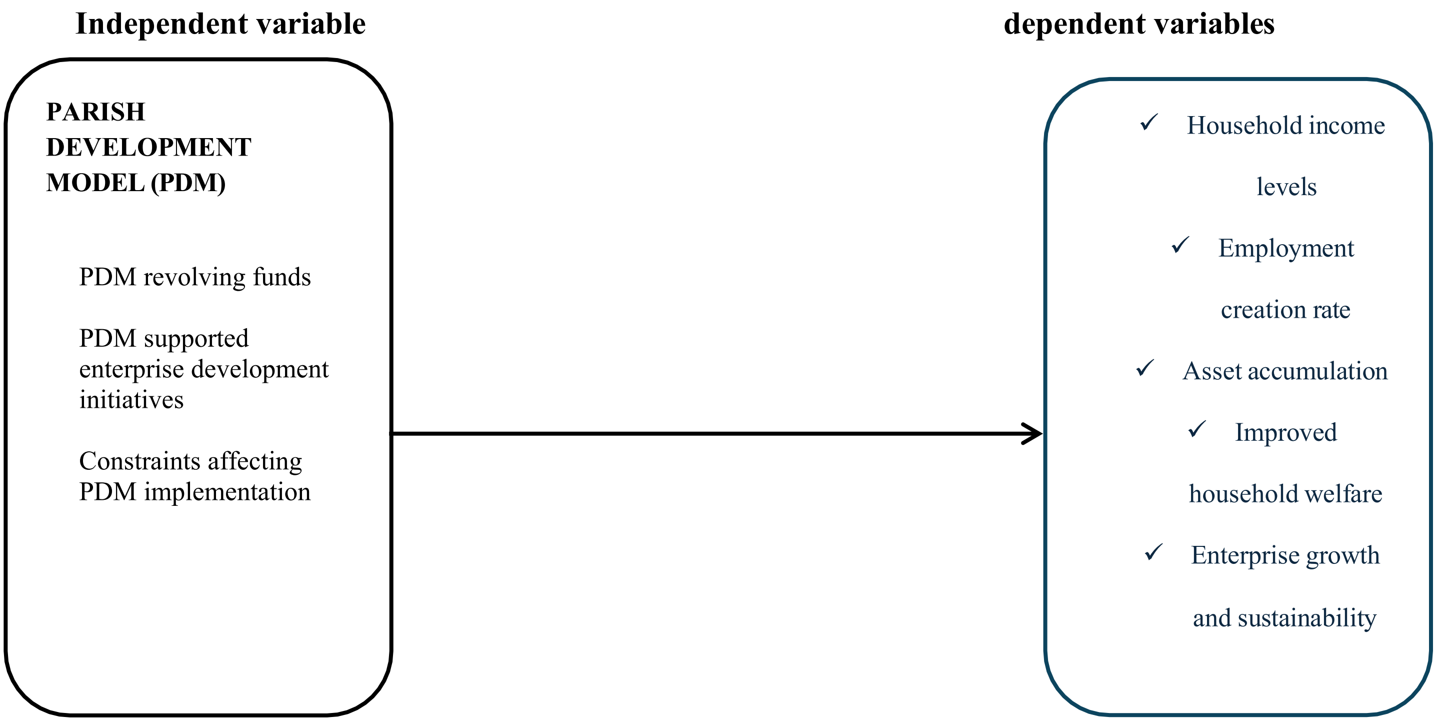
There has been an increased emphasis on decentralized and participatory development models in the past few years. The rationale for these models lies in the belief that poverty is most effectively tackled when policies and programs are developed and implemented in proximity to those whom the policies intend to reach. Increasingly, it is becoming clear that financial access, skills training, enterprise development, and local participation are essential components in enhancing the well-being of households and decreasing their vulnerability.

In Uganda, various poverty reduction and livelihood improvement programs have been put in place since independence, and there have been varied outcomes. While some programs provided better access to inputs and credit, others faced challenges with inadequate monitoring, lack of sustainability, and ineffective targeting.

The Parish Development Model introduced in 2022 represented a conscious effort to overcome the problems encountered before by ensuring that the parish was the center of development planning and service provision (MoFPED, 2022). The PDM aims at converting subsistence-based families into proactive agents of the monetary economy through holistic assistance in production, financial inclusion, and mind-set transformation.

Although the policy importance of the PDM cannot be underestimated, it represents a recent innovation, and information about its efficiency is just beginning to come out. Previous research is mainly oriented towards national or rural contexts, leaving little insight into the applicability of the model in urban or peri-urban municipalities with different livelihood systems, associated expenses, and risks. Thus, this chapter provides an overview of the relevant theories, literature, and concepts that help evaluate the effect of the PDM on income improvement and poverty reduction among local households, setting the basis for defining the research problem under investigation.

1.9 Conceptual framework



Source: Formulated by the researcher

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CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW

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2.1 Theoretical Literature Review

In this part, emphasis will be put on the theories that are applicable in explaining how Parish Development Model contributes to income enhancement and poverty alleviation in the community. The theories mentioned below are important because they act as lenses through which one can analyze household livelihoods, involvement of communities in development efforts and decentralization approaches that transform subsistence households. In the current study, the theories that will play an instrumental role in enhancing knowledge about income generation are sustainable livelihoods theory, community-driven development theory, poverty alleviation theory and decentralization theory.

Sustainable Livelihoods Theory

According to Scoones, the Sustainable Livelihoods Theory provides a practical tool that can be used to understand how households make money. The theory does not only focus on the level of income that the households have, but looks at livelihoods from a different perspective by looking at it as capability, assets and activities that enable people to earn a living and adapt to different situations. Livelihood can be said to be sustainable if it is capable of coping with external shocks and adapting.

Key to the whole theory is the concept of asset ownership by households based on a variety of assets, usually classified into five types of assets: human, financial, physical, social, and natural capital. Human capital pertains to abilities, education, and well-being; financial capital encompasses savings and ability to borrow; physical capital consists of tools, machinery, and other equipment used to produce income; social capital is related to networking, and natural capital has to do with land and other environmental assets.

It is essential to state that one of the factors making SLA relevant to this study is the acknowledgment that poverty is much more than an absence of income. There are many reasons why people cannot increase their income and move out of poverty. These include the lack of access to productive resources, markets, and the necessary competencies to develop. When people receive some money for a while, their situation is still unsustainable if they are unable to cope with any external or internal problems. That way, SLA explains the success of many short-term projects in terms of development. In turn, the Parish Development Model is linked to many components of Sustainable Livelihoods Theory. The revolving fund provided by PDM is aimed at boosting the capital by providing access to affordable finances. Sensitization activities can be considered a tool to increase human capital through improved management and production skills. Finally, using SACCO groups to establish business initiatives creates conditions for social capital development.

Whereas in the case of Goma division, where most of the households engage in small scale business, farming, and other economic activities, combining these resources will be important. It may not be enough to have access to credit if such households do not have the requisite knowledge to run their enterprises. Thus, the theory of sustainable livelihoods forms a good basis of determining whether the interventions by PDM are contributing to income and sustainability of livelihoods.

Community-Driven Development Theory

Community-Driven Development (CDD) Theory is premised on the idea that people are best suited for assessing their own needs and preferences than a central authority that is not in contact with them. According to the theory, community involvement is integral to effective and sustainable development efforts. Beneficiaries of development programs should not only be seen as recipients but also partners in the entire process. Local ownership is another principle under CDD. Communities are likely to take an active interest in projects and follow up to ensure that all proceeds go to the intended targets when they have control over available resources. Therefore, participation, transparency, and accountability form the bedrock of CDD.

The Parish Development Model incorporates many elements of CDD theory in the sense that it places the focus on parishes in development efforts. For instance, Parish Development Committees are responsible for determining who qualifies for the program, choosing the right business options, and monitoring the flow of money. Using local information to make decisions can ensure efficient targeting and inclusion.

Nonetheless, in reality, the success of the approach depends highly on the capability and accountability of the local leadership. In cases where there are strong and well-organized local leaders, the implementation of the PDM program is expected to result in favorable results. Otherwise, if the leadership is incompetent and the system is politicized, the decentralized approach could be prone to manipulation and favoritism. The two potential scenarios make CDD Theory highly applicable to the current study.

The theory of Poverty Reduction addresses the welfare improvement of the poor by dealing with both monetary and non-monetary aspects of poverty. According to the theory, poverty is not just a lack of income; instead, it involves the inability to access education, health care facilities, productive resources, and social activities (Sen, 2015). Thus, measures to reduce poverty should be beyond providing temporary income assistance to the affected people. Modern poverty reduction strategies focus on productive inclusion. This includes providing poor families with the opportunity to take part in money-making activities through asset acquisition, skill development, and sustained assistance. Research indicates that projects incorporating these factors have higher chances of yielding sustainable welfare gains compared to projects with standalone approaches (Banerjee et al., 2016).

The Parish Development Model follows a similar concept since its emphasis is on enterprise development rather than the provision of cash handouts. Through the encouragement of investment in agriculture, trade, and entrepreneurial activities, PDM attempts to offer a viable path out of poverty for poor families based on self-dependence and market involvement. Increased income levels will ultimately lead to increased access to basic necessities, educational opportunities, healthcare services, and asset ownership. In the case of poor households in the Goma division, their experience of poverty stems from inconsistent sources of income, high cost of living, and lack of credit.

It offers a good framework for analyzing if PDM-assisted businesses are making efforts to lift families out of this problem or if their successes are fleeting. In addition, it will assist in determining whether any improvement in economic status is accompanied by an overall improvement in quality of life, which is the crux of this investigation.

Poverty Alleviation Theory

Poverty Alleviation Theory focuses on improving the well-being of the poor by addressing both income and non-income dimensions of deprivation. The theory recognises that poverty extends beyond low earnings to include limited access to education, healthcare, productive assets, and social participation (Sen, 2015). As such, effective poverty reduction strategies must go beyond short-term income support and enable households to build sustainable sources of livelihood.

Contemporary poverty alleviation approaches emphasise productive inclusion. This involves supporting poor households to engage in income-generating activities through access to assets, skills training, and continuous support. Evidence shows that programs combining these elements are more likely to produce lasting improvements in household welfare than those offering isolated interventions (Banerjee et al., 2016). The Parish Development Model aligns with this thinking by focusing on enterprise development rather than direct cash transfers. By supporting households to invest in agriculture, trade, and small-scale businesses, PDM seeks to create pathways out of poverty that are based on self-reliance and market participation. Improved income is expected to translate into better access to basic needs, education, healthcare, and asset accumulation over time. For households in Goma division, poverty is often shaped by unstable incomes, high living costs, and limited access to affordable credit.

It provides a useful lens for examining whether PDM-supported enterprises are helping households overcome these constraints or whether benefits remain short-lived. It also helps to assess whether income gains are accompanied by broader improvements in living standards, which is central to the objectives of this study.

Decentralization Theory

The Decentralization Theory is anchored on the premise that granting autonomy and resources from central government control to lower levels of governance will yield more positive results in development activities. Through decentralization, decisions will be made at lower levels, and efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability will be increased (Smoke, 2015). With decentralization, local authorities are well placed to comprehend the situation at ground level and devise measures accordingly.

Nevertheless, the theory also acknowledges that decentralization alone cannot guarantee favorable results. Poor institutional capabilities, poor management abilities, and lack of oversight may hinder the potential advantages associated with decentralization (Bardhan & Mookherjee, 2017). The Parish Development Model applies decentralization by delegating planning, implementation, and monitoring to parish-level entities. In this context, parish leadership is actively involved in beneficiary selection and management of revolving funds. This strategy is expected to minimize bureaucratic processes and facilitate resource delivery to households effectively.

The success of the PDM in Goma division, therefore, relies heavily on the performance of parish and municipal organizations. Effective coordination among parish committees and municipal councils will make the implementation process easier. In contrast, coordination deficiencies may pose challenges. Decentralization Theory offers an analytical tool for assessing how institutional capability and governance affect the effects of PDM on household earnings and poverty alleviation efforts.

2.2 Empirical Literature Review

2.2.1 Global Empirical Studies

In various countries, governments and development institutions have expended large resources on income-oriented programs as means of enhancing welfare among households. Based on experiences from such initiatives, there has been a wide disparity in results achieved, which are largely attributable to the design and implementation conditions.
The literature review from studies done on community-based and household-focused interventions has emphasized the need for integrating cash incentives, skill enhancement, and institution building into the programs. The absence of these three components in program designs has been found to result in temporary increases in income levels. Results reported

from Asia and Latin American settings have underscored the significance of access to low-cost loans for small-scale enterprises at the household level, especially when the loan component is supplemented by non-monetary inputs. For instance, Banerjee et al. (2016), in their cross-country analysis of livelihood interventions, showed that households who were provided with productive assets and enterprise training performed better than those given monetary grants alone. Nevertheless, it was observed that without adequate supervision, households failed to run enterprises successfully, resulting in unsustainable income levels.

Research on decentralized implementation highlights improved targeting in certain contexts, although at the same time, the emergence of risks related to the process at the local level becomes noticeable. According to Mansuri and Rao (2019), community-based programs tend to have greater efficiency if there is an efficient local governance structure and inclusiveness in the process. In cases where the process is characterized by inefficient local governance or marked by high levels of social fragmentation, benefits will not be equal to all participants.

This evidence contradicts the idea that community-based programs are generally more efficient than central ones. When considering policy, global research shows that policies aimed at reducing poverty should be based on local realities. Programs developed at national level and then implemented equally in various regions ignore the specifics of livelihoods, markets, and capacities of households in different regions.

2.3.2 Empirical Studies from Africa

In many cases, income growth for households has been a core part of poverty alleviation policies in many African nations due to the continuous vulnerability experienced by poor households. Studies have shown that such income growth programs help boost the incomes and consumption of households, particularly those involved in agricultural and informal trade practices. These results do not occur consistently, but success is normally determined by the capacity and commitment of institutions to such programs. An evaluation of community development programs in Sub-Saharan Africa highlights the importance of financing in initiating small businesses.

As explained by Karlan et al. (2017), households which benefited from low-interest loans from community groups were more likely to engage in income-boosting activities compared to those using informal channels.

Nevertheless, the study revealed that the misuse of loans and problems with repayment occurred frequently among those lacking financial literacy skills.

In Africa, decentralized models have been employed as mechanisms to increase the quality of services and community participation. Evidence from the research reveals that decentralization improves responsiveness; however, it imposes considerable pressures on local institutions. According to Smoke (2015), local governments face problems related to inadequate skills and poor monitoring, affecting project implementation. In such cases, the absence of institutional capacities results in slow allocation of funds and poor supervision of businesses benefiting from projects.

Several analyses carried out in Africa discourage evaluating poverty reduction efforts based on income measurements only. Households continue to be vulnerable to different kinds of hazards including ill health, weather conditions, and market uncertainty. Therefore, programs that ignore these hazards might yield income gains while failing to reduce poverty. This fact supports the importance of taking a livelihoods-based approach in evaluating PDM.

2.3.3 Empirical Studies from East Africa

In East Africa, there has been an increasing adoption of development programs that are locally led to deal with household poverty issues. Studies from Kenya, Tanzania, and Rwanda give a mixed perspective of the outcomes of such programs. Whereas some of the programs indicate improvements in household incomes and entrepreneurship, others reveal problems with governance, targeting, and sustainability. In studies conducted in Kenya, where the focus was on constituent and community development funds, there was evidence that involving locals in development projects increases the relevance of such projects, including selecting income-generating activities (Ng'ang'a & Mwangi, 2018). On the other hand, the studies observed that political pressure in local levels can be detrimental in beneficiary targeting.

Studying group-based financing of village savings and credit schemes in Tanzania revealed that this practice helps micro enterprises in the communities, especially among women and young people (URT, 2020). At the same time, poor record-keeping and business skills were identified as limiting factors.

The above-mentioned issues reflect those that have been identified in other parts of East Africa, where availability of funding may not necessarily equate with proper technical assistance.

In Rwanda, the results of research on decentralized development programs have been relatively more positive because of better structure monitoring and accountability in the programs (Ansoms et al., 2017). From these experiences in East Africa, it can be understood that effective institutional framework and follow-ups play an essential role in program performance.

2.3.4 Empirical Studies from Uganda

There are quite a number of livelihood programs in place in Uganda in order to alleviate poverty in recent times, namely NAADS, Operation Wealth Creation, and the Youth Livelihood Programs. From empirical findings, there are some successes as well as limitations observed in these programs. Though some people gained more access to inputs and capital through these livelihood programs, problems such as delays in releasing funds, lack of monitoring, and lack of sustainability have been widely observed (MoGLSD, 2019). Household Income Dynamics research in Uganda indicates that many beneficiaries tend to engage in informal and semi-formal sectors of the economy that provide very little profits. According to UBOS (2021), livelihood program involvement may lead to more income generation for individuals, but income generated is small and highly sensitive to external shocks.

The emerging literature regarding the Parish Development Model demonstrates its applicability in filling the gaps existing in previous poverty alleviation strategies. In that case, the model incorporates the financial inclusion, enterprise development, and change in mind-set to enhance coordination of poverty alleviation at parish level (MoFPED, 2022). Nevertheless, due to the recent adoption of the strategy, there exists a limited number of empirical studies regarding the application of PDM in the context of poverty reduction. Most studies conducted in Uganda have mainly concentrated on the rural areas and ignored the urban and peri-urban municipalities. Livelihoods in the case of municipalities like Mukono are influenced by different challenges, which include high operational costs and intense competitions.

2.4 Research Gap

There have been many efforts made by academic scholars and policymakers in the area of household income increase and poverty alleviation using decentralized and community-based developmental initiatives. Global and regional studies have considered the role of access to financial services, participatory processes, and institution building in livelihoods achievements. Such studies reveal useful lessons for understanding the reasons behind success or failure of certain approaches in livelihood promotion. Nevertheless, there are still many gaps that need to be identified with regard to the literature mentioned above in reference to the Parish Development Model in Uganda.

The first gap relates to empirical works conducted in the country focusing on livelihood programs like NAADS, Operation Wealth Creation, and the Youth Livelihood program. Although these works highlight the problems experienced during implementation of these programs, their lessons learned cannot be extrapolated to the Parish Development Model since the latter involves different aspects. The PDM emphasizes parish-based planning and revolving funds, which are distinctive features of the new initiative.

The second gap involves the fact that most studies tend to focus on rural areas characterized by livelihood practices dominated by agricultural activities. Very few studies have been conducted focusing on urban and peri-urban municipalities, which, apart from having larger numbers of people compared to rural areas, have other forms of livelihood practices that differ from those in rural areas. Households in urban and peri-urban areas such as Mukono use mixed sources of livelihood such as trade and services besides farming practices.

The third gap involves the method used in measuring the success of the programme. Most studies focus on broad measures of program effectiveness and success, such as the number of participants or overall income levels, without considering how the households implement the program.

The lack of understanding of these practical aspects makes it harder to account for differences in the results obtained from the beneficiaries. In the case of the PDM, which relies on local institutions and the behavior of its beneficiaries in achieving its aims, this is crucial.

Finally, few empirical investigations have attempted to explore the link between household income increase and poverty alleviation. An increase in income does not necessarily mean that there is vulnerability reduction or improvement in living conditions. It is therefore imperative to conduct research to explore not just whether there is an increase in household income but whether there is sustainability in it.

This paper seeks to fill this gap by investigating the role played by the Parish Development Model in increasing household incomes and alleviating poverty in the Goma Division.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

In this part of the dissertation, the methodology employed in conducting the research is described. The methodological aspects considered here include research design, study location, study population, sample size and sampling techniques, sources of data, data collection methods, research tools used, validity and reliability of the tools, data analysis techniques, ethics, and limitations. The objective of this chapter is to provide a systematic process through which data were collected and analyzed for assessing the impact of the Parish Development Model (PDM) on household income enhancement and poverty alleviation in Goma division.

3.1 Research design

The research used a descriptive and analytical design approach where a case study technique was applied. Descriptive design was employed to describe the features of the households involved in PDM initiatives, while analytical design helped the researcher to explore the relationship between PDM measures and income improvement/poverty alleviation effects.

The suitability of using a case study design can be attributed to the fact that it provides an opportunity to analyze phenomena in their natural setting (Yin, 2018). Mukono Municipality is one of the areas experiencing PDM and was thus deemed appropriate for use in this study. Mixed methods design, involving the application of both qualitative and quantitative approaches was applied to evaluate household income and the experiences of its recipients respectively.

3.2 Study Area

The study was carried out in Goma division; Mukono district and major economic activities in this region included small business trade, agriculture and transport services. Despite being both rural and urban in nature, this region has been showing economic progress. The research therefore considered this particular place as an appropriate study area due to its economic potential.

3.3 Study Population

Creswell (2014) refers to a population as a group of individuals who possess similar attributes relevant to the study being carried out.

This study had;

- ✓ PDM household beneficiaries
- ✓ Parish development members of the committee
- ✓ Community and municipal officials involved in implementing PDM

3.4 Sample Size

This is the total number of independent observations or individuals taken for study out of a large number (population). The total number of observations was determined by the need to collect adequate information within limited time. Individuals were stratified based on their involvement in the PDM program and hence 100 individuals constituted the sample size.

Table 3.4.1

Nature of respondents	Population	Sample size	Sampling technique
Household beneficiaries	80	40	Simple random sampling
PDM committee members	10	7	Purposive sampling
Municipal officials involved in PDM	10	5	Purposive sampling

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

This sample size was enough to collect the necessary data within the constrained period of time.

3.5 Sampling Techniques

For this research study, probability and non-probability methods of sampling were applied. Simple random sampling method was employed in the research design in order to guarantee that all households that have gained from the PDM benefit from the survey equally. This was convenient because there was a list showing the names of beneficiaries and contacts hence making the process convenient. According to Kothari (2014), he asserts that simple random sampling is greatly recommended for use in the social sciences due to its impartiality and simplicity.

Purposive sampling method was another one that was applied in this study.

As Etikan, Musa and Alkassim (2016) defines it, it is a form of non-probability sampling where the researcher chooses the subjects of interest due to his/her knowledge or experience of their relevance in contributing to the topic.

This method was used in choosing Parish committees that would provide information regarding the implementation of monitoring and follow-up process within the parishes and municipal council officials responsible for revealing causes of challenges such as delay in disbursing funds.

3.6 Sources of Data

This study used primary and secondary data from various sources.

3.6.1 Primary Data

These refer to data gathered by the researcher directly from the original source for purposes of the current study, through interacting with respondents (Saunders et al., 2019).
In this case, data collection involved having the respondents fill out the prepared questionnaires as well as conducting face-to-face interviews with some selected respondents who provided firsthand information about the phenomenon under study.

3.6.1 Secondary Data

According to Saunders et al. (2019), these are data that have been previously gathered, analyzed, and published for purposes other than those of the current study. Such data may be gathered from government publications, censuses, databases, among others.
Data in relation to poverty alleviation, household incomes, and the parish development model were obtained from the above sources.

3.7 Data Collection Methods

3.7.1 Questionnaire Survey

A structured questionnaire was developed by the researcher, printed, and administered to the concerned parties involved in this research such as the beneficiary households in the area with regards to the model. The data collected included income changes after the introduction of the project, among others.

The structured questionnaire adopted a Likert scale of five points to assess the responses provided. This was presented in the following format;

1– Strongly Disagree

2- Disagree

3– Neutral

4– Agree

5– Strongly Agree

3.8 Interview Survey

In this approach, the researcher gets to interact with the respondent by posing questions to them relating to the area under investigation. Interview method enabled me to pose direct questions and explain the questions that the respondents could not comprehend well. The PDM committee members and municipal council officials gave their response to some of the questions regarding the release of funds.

3.8 Research Tools

i. Questionnaires
ii. Interview Guides

3.9 Validity of Research Tools

According to Heale, (2015), validity refers to the degree to which a research tool serves its intended purpose in measuring the intended construct. In this study, Content Validity Index (CVI) was computed and had an index of 0.79. This index according to Amin (2005) is considered to be acceptable in social science research like this one. 3.10 Reliability of Research Tools

The term reliability refers to consistency and dependability of research tools. In this case, a pilot study was conducted on 10 respondents who were outside the study group. The findings of this study indicated that improvement in reliability of research tools was necessary.

3.10 Methodology of collecting Data

Firstly, a letter was written by the researcher as an introduction requesting for permission from the authorities of the Goma division offices to collect data. The respondents were informed about the purpose of the study and were assured that their identity and information would be kept confidential.

Secondly, the researcher distributed questionnaires house to house while conducting interviews of the key informants within the Goma division offices. The researcher further conducted a follow-up on those people who were given questionnaires for a specified time agreed upon with them since everyone took different time to fill out the questionnaire. This ensured that the study had a higher response rate. The entire process of collecting data lasted 8 weeks.

3.11 Data Analysis Techniques

According to Blaikie (2010), this entails a systematic use of statistical and logical methods to describe and examine data.

3.11.1 Quantitative Data Analysis

Findings in the form of numbers were categorized and subjected to an analysis using the software known as the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). The study included observations such as frequencies, percentages, among others, to analyze the summaries to the collected raw data.

The study used correlation and regression analyses in finding out the relationship between PDM interventions and household income.

3.12 Ethical Considerations

This study adhered to certain principles, and the following are some considerations put into place to ensure the success of the research.

Gaining consent from the respondents prior to engaging them in the study.

Ensuring anonymity of the different respondents as had been promised.

Respecting the respondents' decisions when they choose to withdraw from the study at any time.

Using the information collected by the researcher in an academic sense only

3.13 Limitations of the Study

Some of the major limitations that this study faced are as follows;

The limitation on the financial aspect, as I needed to print more than 120 questionnaires, transport to distribute the questionnaires from one beneficiary household to another and also buy airtime for making appointments with the key informants, since it became very expensive considering I was a student with no steady sources of income.

Biasness of respondents because of various reasons. For instance, there were respondents who gave their respective points of view with a political biasness, thus, affecting the gathering of accurate information.

Small numbers of updated PDM documents hampered this study, especially when analyzing the secondary data. This slightly delayed the research process.

This study had limited time. This is since there was a specific academic period given by the institution to researchers thus limiting the time available for data collection, analysis and follow ups.

3.15 Chapter Summary

The above portion of the research report highlights the methodologies that were adopted to deal with the primary aim of the research. It highlights such aspects as the area of study, design of research, population, sampling techniques, and data analysis techniques among others. This chapter has provided an insight into how the data collected in chapter four was obtained.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Introduction

The following section of this study report presents the various analyses and the breakdown of the findings obtained from the field about the subject matter under study which takes place in Goma division.

Both inferential and descriptive analysis of data was done using SPSS while quantitative data was analyzed thematically and presented according to the objectives of this study.

4.1 Response Rate

It was observed that from the 100 respondents who were supposed to fill out the questionnaires, 80 respondents were successful in doing so. As such, the study was able to obtain a response rate of 80%.

This high response rate was due to the fact that the model directly affects their everyday life, secondly, the questions asked by the researcher were about their livelihood, income, etc., and hence they were more than willing to offer information regarding their living conditions to enhance this study.

Thirdly, due to the close interactions between the researcher and the respondents, a good relationship was developed between the two parties.

This was important since this study was community-based and hence enabled the participants to freely ask question and get explanations on issues they did not understand.

The pre-designed questionnaire was quite easy to comprehend thus making it easier for the respondents to provide answers within the stipulated duration of time.

Moreover, the great appreciation from the community leaders who were implementing the PDM program ensured that the respondents felt comfortable participating in the study. Notwithstanding the above efforts, 20 of the respondents could not participate in the study. Some of the reasons why this occurred included that some people felt uncomfortable providing any information related to their income since this might pose security threat, others were busy with work commitments while others were out of town during the time of the study. Despite the lack of participation from the 20, Draugalis et al. (2018) note that a response rate of either 70% or more is considered to be a great response to survey research

4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

This part shows us the preliminary data concerning the beneficiary respondents. It helps us know the socio-economic study setting.

4.2.1 Gender Distribution

Table 4.2.1.0 (n=80)

Gender	Frequency	%percentage
Male	32	40
Female	48	60
Total	**80**	**100**

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

From the field data collection process, it was established that out of the 80 people who responded to our research process, 32 were men whereas 48 were women. These results tell us that the women made up a greater percentage of the population. This is due to the nature of the model, which targets individuals who engage in various tasks such as operating small-scale businesses, being in SACCOS among others; where it is primarily the women who participate, and are also readily available for the collection of data. They were also eager to talk about themselves. Therefore, this is not a strange trend in any community-oriented program such as PDM.

However, in the least represented category of the study, which accounted for 40%; there were certain hindrances to the men taking part in the process, such as strict work programs, which limited their participation in the study process. It should be noted that these results do not imply that the men were not active participants in the model.

4.2.1 Age Distribution

Table 4.2.2.0 Age distribution (n=80)

Age bracket (years)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18–30	24	30
31–45	36	57.5
46–60	14	17.5
Above 60	06	7.5

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

From the above results on the study population, it is evident that the most common age group represented within the study population comprised of those aged 31-45 years accounting for a total percentage of 57.5%. This age group was more active in the project since people at this age tend to try and work hard to take care of their families through finding a good means of income.

The second largest age group consisted of those aged 18-30 years, forming 30% of the study population, while the age group of 40-60 years accounted for 17.5% of the study population. This shows that this project model was not confined to any specific age group.

The idea was to get as many people as possible to participate and work together to alleviate poverty. The last age group that participated in the survey included those above 60 years accounting for 7.5% of the study population.

The low participation by people of this age group is attributed to various factors including; inability to be involved in physically demanding activities, health problems, and the use of questionnaires in data collection as most of them could not read or write.

The model, from the field findings, shows that it's reaching out to those who are very able to improve the livelihoods of their households by using its support.

4.2.2 Education Level

Table 4.2.3.1 (n=80)

Education level	**Frequency**	**Percentage (%)**
No formal education	14	17.5
Primary	28	35
Secondary	24	30
Tertiary	14	17.5

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

From the fieldwork carried out in the above table we are able to see the level of education achieved by the selected PDM beneficiaries. Most of the people have reached primary education level and this accounts for 35 percent of the total number of individuals. This makes it easy for most of them to read and write; hence making it easier to manage their day-to-day business. In addition, they can maintain simple accounting books, thus being members of SACCOS.

The other group which accounted for 30 percent reached secondary education level and were able to understand the main purpose of the model, thus managing their resources easily compared to those with primary education.

With regards to the above; those who did not get any formal education were on par with those who got some formal tertiary education, both getting the same 17.5%. The people who never went through formal education found it difficult to read or write anything without assistance from a third party for either translations or filling up forms. On the other hand; the other 17.5% who got tertiary education, although small in number, indicates that the model focuses on high education individuals as well who probably have businesses in formal setups. Such people are very important in the community context too. From the above analysis, it becomes quite clear that this particular PDM project addresses all educational categories, and therefore, does not segregate anyone.

4.3.0Main Source of Livelihood

Table 4.3.1 (n=80)

Main source of livelihood	**Frequency**	**Percentage (%)**
Small ent. Trade	30	37.5
Crop farming	20	25
Rearing livestock	10	12.5
Casual labor	20	25

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

4.4.0Awareness and Participation in the Parish Development Model

The research focused on finding the key sources of income for the families who were part of this study. It was observed from the statistics presented above that 37.5 percent of the people who took part in the study were engaged in small enterprises trading. Small enterprises trading includes retail trade, some families had shops selling vegetables, and so forth. This indicates that the family uses small-scale business as a source of income.

Agricultural activities and casual labor had an equal percentage of 20 percent. The percentage shows that even though Goma is an urban-based economy, the agricultural sector plays an essential role in providing income to the families. Families were observed to cultivate crops such as maize, cassava, groundnuts, among others; these crops were then sold for some money that enabled them to earn their living. Additionally, casual labor also had a similar percentage of 20 percent; this suggests that families rely on casual labor from which they earn wages.

Finally, livestock farming had the lowest percentages at 12.5%. These percentages were due to factors they were facing such as; land scarcity and lack of resources for investment on land since it is highly demanding. The above percentages show diversity, which in turn shows the adaptability of the above beneficiaries in generating income to survive in Goma's economic environment.

4.4.1 Awareness of PDM Objectives

Table 4.4.1

Awareness of pdm objectives	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Good knowledge	54	67.5%
Moderate knowledge	19	23.75
Limited knowledge	07	8.75

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

In addition, this research was conducted to examine how the beneficiary households engage in the model. Based on the results obtained from the survey, it is evident that the large number of individuals involved in this study, which accounted for 67.5%, had adequate information about the model and its objectives in their lives.

This indicates that the administration was effective in spreading information about the objectives of the model among the residents. There were few people who had medium and minimal information, accounting for 23.75% and 8.75%, respectively. They did not have much information about the model due to illiteracy and lack of exposure to media outlets that disseminate information regarding the objectives of the model. Some do not have smartphones, while others cannot listen to radio stations broadcasting information by the PDM administrators.

4.5.0 Forms of Participation in PDM

Table 4.5.1 (n=80)

Forms of participation	Percentage (%)
Access to circulating PDM funds	78
Enterprise development	70
Training and sensitization gatherings	72
Savings and group formation	88

Source (Primary data, 2025)

From the above findings, the findings collected through the fieldwork indicate that there are some promising outcomes that illustrate how multi-dimensional this model is. This model indicates how interlinked the model is, since it involves the processes of administration and politics as well. The process of administration is involved in areas such as planning, monitoring, and resource allocation. Politics, on the other hand, involves the aspect of stakeholder engagement, participation by communities and alignment to the local authorities of governance as well.

4.6.1 Improvement in Household Welfare Indicators

Table 4.6.1.1

Improvements in;	**Successful Percentage (%)**	**Failed Percentage (%)**
Ability to meet basic needs	70	30
Ability to afford school fees	64	36
Access to health care	58	42
Improved housing	43	57

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

The research was designed to investigate the impact of participation in the Parish Development Model (PDM) on household welfare in the Municipality of Mukono. According to Table 4.5.1, 70% of the respondents indicated that they had been more successful in satisfying basic needs. This implies that through PDM, many households have been able to satisfy the requirements such as providing food and proper dressing. In addition, 64% of the respondents stated that PDM enabled them to cater for their children's education by paying school fees. Moreover, 58% of the respondents indicated improvement in access to health facilities, which is another aspect that PDM has impacted positively on. Finally, housing condition of 43% of the respondents was found to improve.

4.6.2 Asset Ownership Before and After PDM

Table 4.6.2.1 Asset Ownership of Respondent Households (n = 80)

Asset Owned	**Frequency (Households)**	**Percentage (%)**
Livestock (goats, cows, pigs)	40	50.0
Business Equipment/Tools	35	43.8
Bicycle/Motorcycle	45	56.3
Savings Account (formal SACCO/bank)	30	37.5

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

The field data in the above table depict the asset distribution among the participating households in Goma Division. Ownership of assets is a crucial determinant of household wellbeing, income sustainability, and poverty alleviation.

From the results, roughly 56.3% of the respondents possessed bicycles or motorcycles, which act as crucial assets that make movement easier in order to conduct business activities. In other words, movement contributes to economic opportunities for the household members.

On the other hand, 50% of the sampled households owned livestock like goats, cows, or pigs. Livestock is an economic activity that diversifies people's sources of income and economic security.

On the other hand, only 43.8% of the respondents stated that they own business equipment and tools, implying that all households have not invested all their PDM resources in building enterprises. This could mean that there were various limitations such as capital limitation, skill limitations, or need of resources for other purposes.

The least number of households owned savings accounts, with only 37.5% of the respondents owning them. This would mean that although financial inclusion is one of the core aspects of the PDM, many households have been unable to join the financial inclusion fold, which may negatively affect savings and re-investment.

In general, the findings show that although PDM efforts have enabled asset building in a number of households, further work needs to be done in terms of productive asset building and financial inclusion.

4.7 Challenges Affecting the Effectiveness of PDM

This section addresses objective three**:**

'To identify challenges affecting the effectiveness of PDM in enhancing household income and reducing poverty".

4.7.1 Identified Challenges

Table 4.7.1.1

Challenge	**Percentage (%)**
Delayed funds disbursement	55
Inadequate funding per home	50
Weak monitoring and follow up	30

Political interference	36
Limited knowledge and business skill	22

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

This research has focused on analyzing the challenges that stand as barriers to the successful implementation of the Parish Development Model (PDM) in Mukono Municipality. The data from Table 4.6.1 shows that the delay in fund distribution was one of the challenges mentioned most often, accounting for 55% of those interviewed. This meant that the households indicated that the delay in the receipt of the funds had negatively impacted their business plans and the generation of income through the funds. The inadequate provision of funds to each household was the second main challenge raised by participants, representing 50%. There were many who found the amount too small to be able to make an impact.

Inadequate monitoring and follow-up, cited by 30% of the respondents, resulted in some recipients not receiving the necessary direction and assistance in their efforts to utilize PDM effectively. Lack of business acumen, noted by 22% of the respondents, has also hindered the ability of families to benefit from the program. In summary, it can be observed that there are some weaknesses in the program that should be taken into consideration.

4.7.2 Insights from Key Informant Interviews (qualitative aspect)

Interviews with key informants yielded crucial information about how the Parish Development Model (PDM) functions in Mukono Municipality and what influences its efficiency. The following points stood out from the discussion:

Funds release delay limits efficiency: Informants mentioned that the slow process of disbursing funds to beneficiaries frequently makes it impossible for them to invest in businesses or other ways of earning money at the right time. This problem negatively impacts their ability to implement planned projects and reduces the efficiency of the program as a whole.

Technical assistance is necessary to boost the performance of the project: Key informants stressed that financial assistance alone would not be enough to achieve desired results. Beneficiaries have trouble handling the finances they receive or building up their businesses without adequate technical support.

Training and monitoring are important for success: Informants noted that the constant development of beneficiaries' skills and control over their businesses play a key role in the efficiency of the PDM. Training on managing the business, keeping records, and operating it successfully contributes to better utilization of available resources by households.

To sum up, the above discussion reveals that the efficient functioning of the PDM requires both timely financial assistance and continuous skill-building programs.

4.8 Descriptive Statistics for Key Study Variables

Table 4.8.1 Descriptive Statistics of Key Study Variables (n=80)

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev.
Awareness of PDM Objectives	2.59	0.64
Participation in PDM Activities	77.0	7.6
Ability to Meet Basic Needs	0.70	0.46
Ability to Pay School Fees	0.64	0.48
Access to Health Care	0.58	0.50
Improved Housing	0.43	0.50
Asset Ownership (Bicycle/Motorcycle)	0.56	0.50
Asset Ownership (Livestock)	0.50	0.50
Asset Ownership (Business Equipment)	0.44	0.50
Asset Ownership (Savings Account)	0.38	0.49

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

Respondents had a fair knowledge of the PDM objectives, scoring a mean of 2.59 (1=Limited, 2=Moderate, 3=Good).

The participation rate in PDM activities was 77%, reflecting high participation in the community.

Indicators for household welfare reveal improvement in the fulfillment of basic needs (mean = 0.70) and school costs (0.64), although housing received relatively fewer improvements (0.43).

Ownership of household assets reveals that the commonest household assets are bicycles/motorcycles and livestock. From the SD, there is moderate variation in household scores, suggesting that some households are not highly active in PDM.

4.9 Correlation Analysis

Table 4.9.1 Pearson Correlation between Key PDM Variables (n=80)

Variable X	Variable Y	Pearson r	p-value
Awareness of PDM Objectives	Participation in PDM Activities	0.682	<0.01
Participation in PDM Activities	Ability to Meet Basic Needs	0.615	<0.01
Participation in PDM Activities	Asset Ownership (Total)	0.587	<0.01
Awareness of PDM Objectives	Asset Ownership (Total)	0.532	<0.01

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

There is a strong relationship between awareness about the objectives of PDM and participation ($r = 0.682$, $p < 0.01$), which implies that those with more awareness about the organization's objectives are more likely to be involved in the PDM activities.

Being involved in PDM activities increases the chances of satisfying basic requirements ($r = 0.615$, $p < 0.01$) and increasing assets ($r = 0.587$, $p < 0.01$).

The relationship between the variables is positive and significant.

4.10 Regression Analysis: Effect of PDM Participation on Household Welfare

Table 4.10.1 Multiple Regression Coefficients

Predictor	Coefficient (β)	Std. Error	t	p-value
Constant	0.312	0.148	2.11	0.038
Awareness of PDM Objectives	0.278	0.092	3.02	0.003
Participation in PDM Activities	0.365	0.101	3.61	<0.001
Asset Ownership (Total)	0.242	0.089	2.72	0.008

Source: (Primary data, 2025)

Table 4.10.2 Model Summary

R^2	Adjusted R^2	F	p-value
0.652	0.639	44.21	<0.001

The regression analysis reveals that the combination of awareness, participation, and asset ownership accounts for 65.2% of the variations in the levels of welfare among households.

In particular, participation in PDM-related activities ($\beta = 0.365$, $p < 0.001$) is identified as the leading factor associated with welfare improvement, after which come awareness and asset ownership.

Overall, this implies that welfare improvement can only be achieved through active participation in PDM-related activities along with awareness and ownership of productive assets.

4.11 Discussion of Findings

The results reveal that the Parish Development Model plays an important role in raising household income and reducing poverty within Mukono municipality. Higher incomes, improved welfare metrics, and wealth creation demonstrate the significant role played by PDM in improving livelihoods.

Nevertheless, obstacles such as delayed fund release and lack of training programs limit the performance of the initiative. The results align with the findings of previous studies on government initiatives aimed at fighting poverty in Uganda.

4.12 Chapter Summary

In this chapter, data was collected and analyzed on the effect of the Parish Development Model on household income enhancement and poverty reduction in Mukono municipality. The results revealed that PDM had a positive influence on household income and welfare, albeit with some limitations.

CHAPTER FIVE
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1ntroduction

In this chapter, the findings will be summarized to present an overall picture of what was found in the course of carrying out the study. The chapter will also present conclusions based on the research objectives and recommendations which can be used to improve the Parish Development Model (PDM). This chapter will be based on the analysis done in Chapter Four.

5.2 Summary of findings

The research sought to evaluate the impacts of the Parish Development Model in enhancing household income and poverty alleviation. Findings from the field reveal that the model has had remarkable contributions towards improving the livelihoods of households, even though the impact differs among the beneficiaries.

Concerning access to revolving funds, the study revealed that most of the respondents had access to the financial assistance offered by the PDM. With access to such finance, most households were able to participate in economic activities that included petty trading, agriculture, and casual work. Consequently, most households reported improvement in their ability to satisfy their basic requirements like food, clothes, education, and health care services. Therefore, it appears that the availability of cheap credit facilities offered by the PDM has greatly contributed to economic activities and income generation within households.

It should be noted that not all households managed to improve their incomes equally. While some households have recorded considerable improvements in income, others reported small improvements or only temporary gains. The difference in income improvement between households can be explained by the way each household uses funds, the experience they possess, and the presence of supportive materials. In other words, simply having access to finance is not enough to ensure improved income generation.

Regarding enterprise development, the study revealed that the PDM has led to the active engagement of people in economic activities, especially in the informal sector. The majority of the respondents were actively involved in small businesses and agriculture facilitated by the funds of the PDM. There is also a record of household asset acquisition, including livestock, transportation equipment such as bicycles and motorbikes, and even basic business equipment. Asset ownership is one of the key measures of enhanced economic security and livelihood improvement.

Additionally, it is evident from the study that the model has fostered financial inclusion and cooperation via SACCOs and savings groups. Most of the respondents are engaged in financial activities, which are critical in enhancing mutual trust, promoting savings culture, and accessing credit. Nevertheless, the research indicated that fewer households are accessing formal financial services, including banks accounts, indicating that financial inclusion is not yet complete.

The research study also assessed the factors affecting the effective implementation of the Parish Development Model, noting that several problems continue to affect the success of the program. Among the biggest obstacles observed in this regard was the failure to deliver the funds in time, resulting in disruption of planned business activities and loss of opportunities offered by the scheme. Insufficient funding was also cited as one of the challenges faced, since a number of the respondents felt that the amounts offered were inadequate for investing in businesses.

Some of the other issues associated with the scheme include lack of adequate follow up and monitoring mechanisms that could assist the beneficiaries to make the best out of the funds they receive. There were instances where political influence affected the choice of people who benefitted from the scheme. Finally, a lack of financial and management expertise on the part of some of the beneficiaries prevented them from making sound investment decisions.

In general, it can be stated that although the Parish Development Model has positively impacted income levels in many households, there are still a number of challenges limiting its maximum impact.

5.3 Conclusions

A number of conclusions can be made about the impact of the Parish Development Model in improving household incomes and fighting poverty based on the findings of the research.

Firstly, it can be concluded that the PDM project has positively impacted the economic situation of the beneficiaries because of provision of financial resources that allow them to start productive business activities. As a result, the living standards have been improved significantly as well. Therefore, the PDM has managed to promote some economic engagement and livelihood improvements.

At the same time, it can be concluded that the effect of this development model on the economic situation is not significant enough to provide a sustainable financial state of all participants. In other words, although there were certain positive effects achieved with the help of the project, the effectiveness of its implementation remains questionable because of lack of proper control mechanisms and monitoring.

With regards to poverty reduction, the findings of the study reveal that the Parish Development Model has brought about some positive changes in the lives of the beneficiaries in the areas of food, health, and education. However, poverty still persists among many families, suggesting that this poverty alleviation tool is yet to achieve sustainable results. This reveals that there is need to address the multi-dimensional nature of poverty.

Finally, the findings of the research conclude that effective implementation of the Parish Development Model program is seriously hindered by problems such as late disbursement of funds, insufficient resources, inadequate organizational assistance, and inadequate beneficiary capacities.

5.4 Recommendations

Taking into account the results and conclusions of the study, some recommendations have been suggested that will facilitate the success of the Parish Development Model.

First of all, it is vital to ensure that funds are disbursed in time so that beneficiaries can make use of them in their businesses. The timely receipt of funds will allow households to make correct decisions about investments based on the existing market conditions and to avoid disrupting their plans. Moreover, it could be useful to increase the sum of money provided to households because it can be insufficient for successful business development.

Furthermore, it is important to introduce control measures at parish and municipal levels. Regular follow-ups of beneficiaries will ensure appropriate usage of funds and quick resolution of households' problems.

Moreover, it is crucial for the training and sensitization process to take precedence in the future in order to enable beneficiaries gain skills in financial management, enterprise development and market analysis. This will increase the chances of maximizing the benefits derived from the funds provided. Technical assistance will make the household businesses more sustainable and less likely to fail.

The problem of political influence within the implementation of the project should be curbed by ensuring that there is transparency in terms of selecting the beneficiaries of the scheme. Guidelines and accountability should be emphasized when distributing the funds.

In addition, it is crucial for SACCO management to develop efficient management practices in the communities in which they operate. Cultivating an ethos of savings and borrowing should further improve the outcomes of these initiatives.

Lastly, the beneficiaries ought to be urged to put their money into productive uses and to apply more effective business management skills such as planning, bookkeeping, and re-investing of the profits made. Participation in training sessions and other group exercises will help improve the results as well.

5.5 Areas for further research

The present study was confined to the Goma Division, an example of an urban and peri-urban setting. In future, one might consider carrying out research on the effects of the Parish Development Model in rural settings so as to compare results across contexts. Also, there is need for conducting longitudinal research so as to assess the sustainability of the income levels raised as a result of implementing the intervention.

5.5 Chapter summary

A detailed conclusion about the results of the study, along with conclusions and recommendations, has been presented in this chapter. The findings reveal that although the Parish Development Model has played an important role in uplifting household income levels and overall welfare, there are some factors which have hindered the program's success. These constraints need to be overcome for achieving the desired objective of the program.

APPENDIX: RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

TOPIC: THE IMPACT OF THE PARISH DEVELOPMENT MODEL (PDM) ON HOUSEHOLD INCOME ENHANCEMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN MUKONO MUNICIPALITY.

Greetings! I am Nasira Jane Lenny a final year student pursuing a bachelor's degree in Business Administration at Uganda Christian University. I am currently carrying out research, which is a requirement in the partial fulfilment of this degree.

The topic is "The impact of the parish development model (pdm) on household income enhancement and poverty reduction. a case study; Goma division; mukono municipality". I humbly seek you to share with me your un-biased experience. This survey is to help understand how the PDM is truly affecting our community. I promise to keep your identity unknown and strictly use the information gathered for only academic purposes.

Your honest feedback will help shape future policies.

SECTION A: GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Please tick or circle the box that best describes you.

1. What is your gender?

Male ☐ Female ☐

2. Which age group do you fall into?

18 – 30 years ☐

31 – 45 years ☐

46 – 60 years ☐

Above 60 years ☐

3. What is the highest level of school Primary

you completed?

Secondary

No formal education

Tertiary (University/College)

4. How do you primarily earn your living?

Small Scale Trade(Shop, Stall, etc.)

Crop Farming Casual Labour

Rearing Livestock

Other (specify): ____________________________

SECTION B: YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH PDM

5. How would you describe your understanding of why the PDM was started?

I have a very clear understanding

I have a fair/moderate understanding

I am still quite unsure about its goals

6. In what ways have you been involved with the PDM in your Parish? (Tick all that apply)

I received money from the revolving fund

I attended training or sensitization meetings

I joined a SACCO or an enterprise group ☐

I received advice on how to grow my business/farm ☐

SECTION C: IMPACT ON YOUR HOUSEHOLD INCOME

7. Since you started with the PDM, how has your total household income changed?

It has increased significantly ☐

It has stayed exactly the same ☐

It has actually decreased ☐

8. Please indicate your typical monthly income before and after the PDM:

Time Period	**Before PDM**	**After PDM**
Below UGX 300,000		
UGX 300,000 – 600,000		
Above UGX 600,000		

9. To what extent do you agree with these statements about your money?

Using a Likert scale from 1-5 where (1=Strongly Agree, 2=Agree, 3=Neutral, 4=Disagree, 5=Strongly Disagree)

Statement /response					
The PDM fund was enough to make a real difference in my business					
I am now able to save some money every month					
I have used the money to start a brand new source of income.					

SECTION D: IMPACT ON YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE (POVERTY REDUCTION)

tick the response yes/No	**Yes**	**No**
10. Has the PDM helped your family's daily life in the following ways?		
Eating better/more meals		
Paying school fees on time		
Affording better healthcare		
Improving our house (repairs/solar/water)		

11. Have you been able to buy any of these productive assets using PDM profits?		
Livestock (Cows, Pigs, Poultry)		
Tools/Equipment for work		
Land or building materials		
A motorcycle or bicycle for transport		

SECTION E: THE CHALLENGES YOU FACE

12. Every program has hurdles. Which of these have been the hardest for you? Tick one	**Yes**	**No**
The money took too long to arrive (Bureaucracy)		
The amount given was too small for my business needs		
I don't have enough skills to manage the business well		
Leaders seem to favour certain people over others		
The rules for paying back are too strict or unclear		

13. If you could speak directly to the PDM organizers, what one thing would you ask them to change to make your life better?

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T***HANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND FOR SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH ME!***