

**THE IMPACT OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS ON HOUSEHOLD
POVERTY REDUCTION IN UGANDA: A CASE OF WORLD VISION, KAMENGO
SUB-COUNTY, MPIGI DISTRICT.**

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UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY.**



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DECLARATION

I, **AMULE DEBORAH**, declare that this research report is my original work and has never been submitted to any other institution for the same award.

Signature:  Date: 13/04/2026

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APPROVAL

This research report has been conducted under my supervision and submitted for examination with my approval.

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Date: 13/04/2026

DEDICATION

I dedicate this research report to my dear parents, brothers, sisters and friends. Thank you so much for the love and assistance you have rendered to me in all my endeavors concerning academics.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My utmost gratitude goes to my supervisor, Mr. JONATHAN TABALANGA, for his endless commitment he offered to me towards the completion of this research report. His educative comments and good spirit contributed much to make this report a success.

I thank all my course mates for whatever kind of support rendered to me during the period I spent at Uganda Christian University.

Lastly, I thank Almighty God for keeping me alive throughout this period.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	-	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
HIV	-	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
UNICEF	-	United Nations Children's Fund
MoFPED	-	Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development
NAADS	-	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NGO	-	Nongovernmental Organization
OVC	-	Orphans and other Vulnerable Children
MDLSD	-	Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development

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ABSTRACT

The study was about the impact played by Non-Governmental Organizations on household poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County, Mpigi District. It was guided by three objectives: Identifying the different approaches World Vision uses in reducing poverty. Determining the role World Vision plays in poverty reduction. Identifying the challenges World Vision faces in carrying out poverty reduction activities

The study employed a cross-sectional survey design using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Data collection involved questionnaires, interviews, and focus group discussions.

Findings revealed that World Vision is committed to fighting poverty in Kamengo Sub County. Key contributions included: Education provision, which helped reduce absolute poverty, Agricultural support. Health programs targeting disadvantaged mothers, children, and unborn babies

The study concluded that World Vision and other NGOs have made significant strides in addressing poverty through initiatives like education grants, medical care, and free farm inputs. Recommendations included: Involving NGOs as major stakeholders in the education system-from planning to monitoring. Encouraging county and national governments to integrate NGO projects that empower local communities through entrepreneurship and job creation

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This study was about the impact of Non-Government Organizations on household poverty reduction in Uganda, focusing on Kamengo Sub-County in Mpigi District. This section explains the background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives, research questions, scope, significance, and definitions of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

The world today faces a paradox: increasing wealth concentrated among a few multinational corporations and individuals, alongside rising poverty among millions worldwide (Perkins, 2004). Massive destitution grows even as global wealth expands. Poverty is generally understood as deprivation-material, social, and emotional. It implies lack of access to basic needs such as food, fuel, clothing, housing, and healthcare. In developed capitalist countries, poverty also denotes lack of employment opportunities and income generation.

Harker (1996) and Alcock (1997) emphasize that poverty strips away the tools needed to build a future, depriving people of health, education, secure housing, and retirement.

A 2012 global monitoring report by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank stated that **12.7% of the world's population**-over 800 million people-live in poverty. This translates into millions of children, women, and men lacking food, shelter, healthcare, and education. Although poverty has declined in some regions, it remains a pressing issue in many parts of the world. Eliminating poverty by 2030 was set as the **first Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)** by the United Nations.

In order to end poverty, the 192 UN member states signed the **United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** in 2000. The first goal was to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, with a target to reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day by 2015. If achieved, this would create an opportunity to end extreme poverty by 2025 (Sach, 2005). Poverty is therefore recognized as one of the greatest challenges of global society.

The **World Bank (2003)** reported that 74% of the world's population lives in low- and middle-income countries, and many have been lifted out of poverty. **Drakakis-Smith (2000)** projected that by 2025, Africa's share of the world's urban population will rise from 10% to 17%, making it one of the fastest urbanizing continents.

According to **Mercer (2009)**, as cited by Seabe (2011), NGOs are hailed as drivers of economic development and seen as universal solutions to poverty in Europe. Their importance is recognized through participation in global forums such as the **World Economic Forum** and **World Social Forum**, and by institutions like the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**, which acknowledge NGOs as development partners (Leite, 2001, cited by Seabe, 2011). This supports **Nzimakwe (2008)**, who argued that NGOs should seize opportunities to participate in development activities as partners.

In Africa, NGOs' work is closely tied to rural development, as their activities often target poverty eradication in rural areas. **Patel (2005)** observed that a new trend in the voluntary sector involves income-generation strategies, entrepreneurial initiatives, and diversification of funding bases to achieve sustainability and independence from government.

A study by **Bhaskar and Geethakutty (2001)** indicated that most NGO programs in Africa ultimately contribute to progress in health, hygiene, and education.

Technology transfer, employment generation, self-reliance, economic development, and behavioral changes are all linked to poverty eradication. There is consensus on the role of NGOs, as highlighted by different authors. **Patel (2005:109)** notes that beyond their developmental role, voluntary organizations complement government efforts in meeting human needs and strengthening democracy.

Uganda has a population of **34.9 million**, with half below 15 years (UBOS, 2014), indicating a heavy dependency burden. Children under 18 make up **57.8% of the population**, making Uganda one of the youngest populations globally. The country is divided into **112 District Local Governments** (World Vision Uganda operates in 41) and **1381 Sub-Counties** (WVU operates in about 450). This structure provides opportunities for World Vision to collaborate with central and local governments and other partners in addressing challenges.

Government worldwide direct efforts against poverty, and Uganda is no exception. At independence, Uganda declared a fight against ignorance, poverty, and disease. Successive

governments have introduced strategies, but the struggle continues. Since coming to power in **1986**, the NRM government has implemented numerous anti-poverty programs, including:

PAPSCA – Program for the Alleviation of Poverty and the Social Cost of Adjustment. **ECS** – Entandikwa Credit Scheme. **CSDP** – Cotton Sub-Sector Development Project. **PEAP** – Poverty Eradication Action Plan. **UPE** – Universal Primary Education. **PAF** – Poverty Action Fund. **PMA** – Plan for Modernization of Agriculture. **NAADS** – National Agricultural Advisory Services. **Rural Electrification**. **KIDDP** – Karamoja Integrated Disarmament and Development Plan. **PFA** – Prosperity for All. **RFSS** – Rural Financial Services Strategy. **NUSAF** – Northern Uganda Social Action Fund. **NDP** – National Development Plan

The current **NDP**, launched in July 2010 to replace PEAP, carried the theme “*Growth, employment, and socio-economic transformation for prosperity*” and covered five years (2010–2015).

Non-government organizations (NGOs) have become a very popular sector in Uganda and other countries around the globe particularly within the last decade of our democratic dispensation. To many, they are perceived as the most reliable agencies through which poverty is addressed. Unemployment, poverty and inequality are the commonplace of issues usually addressed by the activities of the non-government organizations. This sector consists of organizations, not in any way dependent on either, the public or private sector, (Swanepoel & De Beer, 2006). These authors are of the view that, usually, NGOs come into existence to address specific problems such as health, education and housing needs in communities. These are the most common and critical needs that are rife in rural areas; and, as such, give rise to the issue of rural development which is one of the government's top five priorities in Uganda.

The NGO sector is sometimes referred to as the civil society or voluntary sector by many other different authors. This terminology does not differ from the way Nzimakwe (2008) refers to the non-government organizations in his definition. He perceives NGOs as characterized by their voluntary association and availability to addressing the needs of the community in which they operate.

Non-government organizations (NGOs) have become a very popular sector in the world, in Africa and Uganda, particularly within the last decade of our democratic dispensation. To many, they are perceived as the most reliable agencies through which poverty is addressed.

Unemployment, poverty and inequality are the commonplace of issues usually addressed by the activities of the non-government organizations. This sector consists of organizations, not in any way dependent on either, the public or private sector, (Swanepoel & De Beer, 2006). NGOs come into existence to address specific problems such as health, education and housing needs in communities. These are the most common and critical needs that are rife in rural areas; and, as such, give rise to the issue of rural development which is one of the government's top five priorities in Uganda. The NGO sector is sometimes referred to as the civil society or voluntary sector by many other different authors

In Uganda, there are many NGOs which participate in different activities towards poverty alleviation among the young people (UBOS, 2014). They contribute 80% in development and most of them are based at district level as well as Sub County level (UBOS, 2014). These NGOs help focus on future investment to target the raising income as well as improve the quality of life of young people. They carry out measures to increase on the house hold income; they focus on road improvement, land, agriculture, rural market, employment, labour productivity, rural credit and financial services, micro and small-scale enterprises (Muhumuza, 2015). They carry out measures to improve the quality of life of the youth; they target the provision of basic services like Primary Health Care, Primary education, water and the environment as well as disaster management.

World Vision is a Christian, relief, development and advocacy organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. It is committed to working with girls and boys, families, and their communities worldwide to overcome poverty and injustice (WVU, 2016). World Vision Uganda (WVU) is duly registered with the National NGO Board under the National NGO registration Act of Parliament of Uganda and has a well-respected Local Governance Board. World Vision Uganda's Mission and Vision are derived from World Vision International Mission and Vision.

Most households in Uganda, particularly in the areas where World Vision Uganda works, depend on agriculture and agri-business for their livelihoods. Agriculture (including livestock) is a core sector for food security, income enhancement and employment for more than 80% of Uganda's population (FAO, 2013), majority of whom (68%) are small scale farmers. The study was carried out to assess the role of non-government organizations in poverty alleviation through the creation of sustainable livelihoods in Kamengo Sub country

in Mpigi district. The study analyzed how non-government organizations are currently positioned to catalyze development, income generation and the betterment of standard of living for the people.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Non-government organizations (NGOs) have become a very popular sector in the world, in Africa and Uganda, particularly within the last decade of our democratic dispensation. To many, they are perceived as the most reliable agencies through which poverty is addressed (World Bank, 2015). In Uganda, there are many NGOs which initiate community development projects with the aim of creating sustainable livelihoods so as to reduce poverty in communities. Soon after those NGOs leave, the community projects tend to fail. Once these have fallen, the communities return to live on government support grants which then increase the dependency burden in the country.

World Vision Uganda is taken to be vital in reducing poverty among the absolute poor people in Mpigi district, through providing voluntary services such as, educational, literacy, social or charitable to the community. With its primary concern to relief, and development, it has been widely applauded as a catalyst for poverty reduction in the district. Nonetheless, its contribution to poverty reduction in the district, seem to be questionable. For instance, according to UBOS 2017 statistics abstract, Mpigi district is one the poorest in central Uganda with over 11% of the population live in extreme poverty. There are still high levels of illiteracy and poor access to education and health services, despite such services being the priority to World Vision Uganda in Kamengo Sub County. Given the mismatch between increased NGO programs and persistence of poverty in the district, the researcher will intend to carry out a study to find whether the existence of NGOs like world vision Uganda in Mpigi district has contributed to poverty eradication. This study therefore will be carried to examine the role played by NGOs in household poverty reduction in Uganda, a case of World Vision Kamengo in Mpigi district.

1.3 Objectives

1.3.1 General objective

The general objective of study was to examine the role played by Non-Governmental Organization on household poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County in Mpigi district.

1.3.2 Specific objectives

- i. To examine the different approaches World Vision uses in reducing poverty in Kamengo Sub County.
- ii. To find if World Vision plays any role in poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County.
- iii. To find out the various challenges World Vision faces in carrying out poverty reduction activities in Kamengo Sub County.

1.4 Research Questions

- i. What are different approaches World Vision uses in poverty eradication in Kamengo Sub County?
- ii. Does World Vision play any role in poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County?
- iii. What are various challenges World Vision faces in carrying out poverty reduction activities in Kamengo Sub County?

1.5 Scope of the study

1.5.1 Time scope

The research covered a period of three years from 2015 to 2017. The researcher considers this period because it was long enough to provide relevant data.

1.5.2 Geographical scope

The study was carried out in Kamengo Sub County in Mpigi District along Kampala–Masaka Highway. Kamengo Sub County consists of the following parishes: Kiringente, Kituntu, Mpigi–Mpigi TC, and Muduma. It is bordered by parishes Buwama, Kabasanda Mpigi TC, Kayabwe, and Kibwa.

1.5.3 Content scope

The study was limited to the roles of NGOs on household poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County. Specifically, the study focused on:

Activities and approaches used by World Vision in poverty eradication in Mpigi District.

Working relations between World Vision and the district authorities on poverty reduction.

The performance of World Vision in poverty reduction in Mpigi District.

1.6 Significance of the study

The study findings might bring out the facts about the poverty situation in Uganda. It would highlight NGOs as one of the non-state agents of poverty reduction in Uganda. With the findings in place, all the beneficiaries are expected to use data to evaluate their performance toward poverty reduction.

The study findings would help the government in assessing itself on the poverty reduction strategies vis-à-vis NGO interventions. The government may use the findings to realize the mistakes made in formulating and implementing poverty reduction programs. This may stimulate the government to revisit its strategies in order to implement poverty programs which are realistic to achieve the intended objectives.

The study findings would potentially help practitioners to revise the strategies of raising sustainable resources for sustainable poverty reduction programs. For example, using locally available resources such as sand, stones, and local labour is an important strategic choice that both beneficiaries can put into consideration.

The findings of this study would help future researcher to expand knowledge on NGOs and poverty reduction. The study will add knowledge on the already existing body of knowledge on non-governmental interventions in development and poverty reduction across the globe.

The study would also fulfill part of the requirements for the award of a Bachelor's degree in development studies of Ndejje University.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviewed selected literature that focused on the aspect of poverty as a social problem. This chapter covered an overview of NGOs and poverty, analyses the activities and approaches used by World Vision in poverty eradication, working relations between World Vision and the district, and the performance of World Vision in poverty reduction in Mpigi District.

2.1 NGOs' approaches to Poverty Reduction

In developing countries, there are various strategies developed by non-government organizations to alleviate poverty. At a macro-level, this includes a pro-poor growth strategy combined with social development as promoted by many economists; whereas at micro-level, promotion of small-scale enterprises and microfinance has been advocated by many NGOs (Surhako, 2007:4).

However, Shiviji (2007) advances an argument around the issue of NGOs' legitimacy from donor companies. He is of the view that despite the fact that non-government organizations may be accepted by people whom they purport to serve, NGOs through their nature do not only derive their sustenance, but also their legitimacy from the donor community. He argues that even the elites from the state or political parties seek their legitimacy from the so-called "development partners" as opposed to the people they serve, and reduce poverty amongst different categories of people.

Clark (1995), as cited by Surhako (2007), suggests that the ability of NGOs to assist poor communities climb out of their poverty encompasses two approaches: the supply-side and the demand-side. Fowler (1997), as cited by Surhako (2007:4), suggests two types of NGOs: micro-tasks and macro-tasks. These can be construed as supply (micro tasks) and demand (macro tasks). From the supply-side or micro-tasks, NGOs provide various basic public services to the poor. By far, most authors are in agreement that in countries where government lacks the provision of various public services, NGOs play a significant role in providing these and reducing poverty.

Unlike the supply-side where NGOs provide direct public service, the macro-tasks NGOs play an indirect role as being an articulator of the people's voice and transform the lives of...

...people across the world hence poverty reduction. These NGOs mobilize and clarify demand for services in both government and the market so that the people are able to achieve development goals and reduce poverty levels in developing countries like Uganda. Shurhako (2007) is adamant that NGOs' role in the context of service delivery is to improve the access of people to the services provided by the state. It is also the role of non-government organizations to engage in policy advocacy to influence public policies concerning the poor and reduce poverty amongst households (Surhako, 2007). Whilst these two NGO approaches are not mutually exclusive, the recent trends in the NGO sector entail NGOs combining the two approaches to enhance their efficacy in the provision of service to the people they serve and help reduce poverty (Surhako, 2007:4).

Moroso (2004) considers NGOs as a useful tool through which donors identify more precisely the best remedial measures and provide a channel for public opinion at a local level in order to customize official international programmes to specific local needs. Their primary objective is to render assistance to individuals or developing communities in order to promote sustainable development at grassroots (Nzimakwe, 2008:90).

Mitlin et al. (2005) suggest the role of NGOs in three dimensions: the first examines development as both a process and as intervention to reduce poverty amongst different households in developing countries. But poverty continues to be a major social problem in many developing countries despite the existence of many NGOs that help to reduce poverty.

The NGO sector can act as an external lever, functioning largely as an intermediary step between policy mandates and actualized effects in people's daily lives (Amandla Development, 2010:9). Amandla Development (2010) is of the view that not only does the government lack the capacity to spend allocated funds and to have a lasting impact, but NGOs are also closer to the communities they work with and can respond more quickly to the needs on the ground. NGOs also have the capacity to communicate more clearly with the government to make known the successes and failures of certain policy directives. Amandla Development (2010) is of the view that the long-term success will depend on the government taking up ultimate responsibility since it can be held accountable in a way that NGOs cannot reduce poverty.

All NGOs have different approaches to poverty reduction. These include macro and micro level/supply-side and demand-side approaches (Suharko, 2007); participatory, people ...centered rights-based approaches (Banks & Hulme, 2012); ‘assets-based approach’ (Sparr & Moser, 2007, p. 7). These approaches entail pro-poor growth, microfinance, asset accumulation, basic service provision, and advocacy strategies that define the direct and indirect operations of NGOs in their efforts to reduce poverty. However, there still exists severe poverty in many developing countries like Uganda.

World Vision is a Christian, relief, development and advocacy organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. It is committed to working with girls and boys, families, and their communities worldwide to overcome poverty and injustice. World Vision Uganda (WVU) is duly registered with the National NGO Board under the National NGO Registration Act of Parliament of Uganda and has a well-respected Local Governance Board. World Vision Uganda’s Mission and Vision are derived from World Vision International Mission and Vision (Muhumuza, 2013).

As part of their developmental efforts and activities, NGOs are known worldwide to be one of the lead forces in combating poverty in the world (Willetts, 2002; Suharko, 2007; Lewis & Kanji, 2009; Adjei Osei-Wusu et al., 2012; Banks et al., 2015). The significant increase of the role NGOs have gained in poverty reduction is a reflection of their capacities to reach the minority in society and respond to their needs. NGOs, as compared to states/governments, are flexible and receptive both in their approaches and implementation, which makes them more relatable especially when it comes to projects that deal with grassroots-in order to help uplift the lives of people and eradicate poverty.

Sengsouriveng (2006), as cited by Seabe (2011), is of the view that the autonomy of non-government organizations provides flexibility and allows room to be innovative and to derive efficient ways to deliver public goods and services. Sengsouriveng cites a success story of the increase of access to credit facilities for the poor and the proletariat in establishing their livelihoods projects. He advocates that micro-credit and savings initiatives by NGOs created self-employment and provided income-generating opportunities.

Torodo & Smith (2008), as cited by Seabe (2011:8), state that the capacities of NGOs place them in a better position to be solely responsible to execute the problems that drive development and alleviate poverty. Like Lombard & van Wyk (2001) and Amandla

Development (2010), Seabe (2011:8) also acknowledges the organizational form of NGOs for their closeness to the local communities as being advantageous in mobilizing the kind of social action and sense of obligation needed to deal with problems of poverty and inequality. The optimal functioning ...of non-government organizations allow the governments to promote welfare without an increase in the government's administrative responsibilities in order to reduce poverty levels in households (Seabe, 2011:8).

Seabe (2011:2) believes across the developing world, NGOs have engaged with low-income communities to tackle urban poverty. NGOs or the third sector are considered to play a role in correcting the failures of the state and the market (Edwards, 2009) and to “make demands on the State and hold State officials accountable” (Diamond, 1994:5). NGOs are considered to be important players in the field of social development. In some cases, NGOs are expected to be the “magic bullet” that fixes some of the world’s biggest developmental problems, such as urban poverty (Edwards & Hulme, 1996). NGOs often engage with local populations—especially the poor and the weak living in underserved areas—and command their trust to find solutions to problems that governments have been unable or unwilling to solve (Clark, 1990).

With regards to advocacy, NGOs have contended that poverty and deprivations have increased regardless of aid provisions, suggesting that the causes of poverty have yet to be fully addressed (Ibrahim & Hulme, 2010). Consequently, some NGOs have engaged in advocacy to influence and challenge public policies concerning poor people and, in the process, to change the structural relations of society that disempower low-income households. NGOs are well equipped to “act as facilitators to expose relevant decision makers to those best placed to articulate the concerns of the poor: to act, in a sense, as channels for local democracy” (Clark, 1990:59).

In most instances, poor and marginalized communities are disconnected from the realm of power. Clark (1995) provides an example in Colombia, where the state responded to popular pressure originating from NGOs that had mobilized communities in advocating for a change in policy to involve community committees in the design and management of community health care programs. NGOs have become aggressive in demanding changes at the urban, national, and even global level (Coates & David, 2003).

2.2 Roles Played by World Vision in Poverty Reduction

have been helping them. Different priorities help these NGOs to achieve their objective at specific times (Nanyonga, 1998).

NGOs in Uganda have been pivotal in the past years, providing a unique contribution in channeling the huge funding coming from Western countries and international institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and UN agencies. NGOs represent a fundamental link in the aid chain, the final phase of a process that begins with donor funding and leads to implementation of development-oriented activities in the areas where they operate. This has helped young people to improve their standards of living and attain basic services like health, safe water, and primary education (World Bank, 2006).

According to UN (2012), poverty has been linked to Africa's tendency of dependency on foreign aid and other local donations or support given in terms of money, materials, and goods that do not trigger innovation and creativity. In the early years after World War II, the Russian government found out that for it to stand, it had to go against foreign aid that was coming in through donations, money from well-wishers, lotteries, and others from NGOs that were poured on the people without specific projects. In contrast, NGOs and civil societies in the 21st century have moved from the provision of funds to the needy people to economic empowerment of the disadvantaged (Della & Diani, 2011).

Studies across Africa have shown that almost 67.45% of NGOs and CBOs have moved from services, donations, and relief provision to empowerment by giving in to very specific projects aimed at creating jobs, fostering creativity, or improving living conditions for locals. This has been evident in Ghana, South Africa, Senegal, and Angola, where organizations like World Vision, UNEP, HelpAge, PI, Oxfam, and others have created various employment opportunities and even businesses for many locals. This is estimated at 45% elevation from poor conditions in Ghana (2008–2014), 47% in Senegal (2008–2010), 49% in South Africa (2007–2014), and more, which has contributed to poverty eradication in various communities (Harsh, Mbat, & Shrum, 2010).

According to Gondi (2010), different NGOs are playing an essential role in humanitarian development through joint analysis and seeking solutions via seminars, workshops, joint social activities, and socio-economic projects. Besides, they have introduced certain essential concepts like developing small groups, credit-based cooperatives, mother welfare society and

cooperatives etc. for homeless/landless, and thus have strengthened the root of organizational structure for rural poverty.

According to Srinivas (2012), in order to develop the health and nutrition situation in Kenya, around 157 NGOs have brought in sanitary toilets, papers and towels for 7.9 million people and safe water for 1.5 million people through establishment of 1.5 million tube-wells in dry ASALs, 186 rural sanitation centers, and 2500 latrines.

World Vision, for example, spent in the health sector about 10 billion shillings, which consisted of 20.20% of their budget, in providing nutrition services to pregnant women and under-five children in 32 districts in the country in 2012–2013 alone. This amount doesn't include the money indirectly/directly given to programmes supporting HIV/AIDS eradication programmes in the country (World Vision Uganda, 2013). CARE International's health programs, for example, are focused on maternal health and HIV/AIDS, but also address other areas such as nutrition, safe drinking water, health education, and training local health workers. CARE reached more than 5 million women, men, and children last year with information and services to improve maternal health in Uganda (WHO, 2014).

2.3 Various challenges World Vision faces in carrying out poverty reduction activities

Most NGOs depend on donor funding for survival. This compromises the autonomy and the objectives of the NGO in terms of providing the service it aspires to the community. Lombard (1992:156) emphasizes the essence of funding since there is no community work programme that can start without aid. As a result, the scope at which NGOs can operate is limited to their ability to get funds from donor agencies (Shivji, 2007:31). One can appreciate the huge task these NGOs face when applying for funding from agencies, since they go through a customary process, and each donor agency has its own criteria through which applications must be assessed.

Moroso (2004) adds that NGOs represent a fundamental link in the aid chain, which is the final phase of a process that, from donor funding, leads to the implementation of development-oriented projects in Third World countries.

Following are the reasons brought by Seabe (2011:8) as some of the challenges that face NGOs in the poverty eradication process.

Exploitation of information failure Seabe (2011:9) believes that exploitation of information failure by NGOs may not be totally eliminated by the non-distribution constraint, but the profit motive may exist in disguise as lack of governance may foster corruption among

organizations. He advocates that funder conditions act as tools to either minimize information asymmetry or reduce the incentive for NGOs to exploit. He expands his argument with an analogy: when the principal has information to verify the agent's behaviour, the agent is more likely to behave in the interests of the principal. Furthermore, funder conditions provide avenues to secure the efficiency of NGOs through their emphasis on performance and accountability. NGOs as agents are not immune to information failure; there is a high likelihood of the presence of the principal-agent problem between them and their multiple principals, which arises from the failure of pricing their services (Seabe, 2011:9). Although they can undertake measurements of their inputs, they have no way of comparing the realized results with the expected results (Boettke & Prychitko, 2004:2, as cited by Seabe, 2011:9). As a result, it is difficult for stakeholders, funders, and beneficiaries to assess the results of NGO initiatives and to determine the appropriateness of their actions.

Failure of self-selection. There are also NGOs that are established to take advantage of the NGO status, which allows founders to benefit from certain privileges such as tax exemption. In these organizations, staff members are not limited by the non-distributive constraint, as they can benefit through higher salaries or perks. This is the model referred to by Weisbrod (1988:16), as cited by Seabe (2011:9), as “NGOs for-profits in disguise.” According to Kalb (2006:305), the failure of self-selection in developing countries due to inefficient markets and government failure causes professionals to join NGOs because they offer more lucrative remunerative packages and stable employment (Seabe, 2011:9).

It is also cheaper and less laborious to start a non-government organization than a private business in developing countries (Kalb, 2006:306, as cited by Seabe, 2011:9). The inability of the non-distribution constraint to curb opportunistic behaviour among organizations has compounded concerns regarding the role of NGOs as a remedy to contract failure.

Competitive bidding. The competitive nature of short-term contracts acts as a powerful institutional constraint on international organizations and NGO contractors (Cooley & Ron, 2002). Donors initiate projects with a semi-public tender, for which contractors have to bid. In war-related fields, three- to six-month contracts are the norm, with contractors constantly facing threats of layoffs, cutbacks, and capacity reductions. Cooley & Ron (2002:16) believe that NGO contractors incur significant start-up costs to serve a new contract—hiring staff, renting offices, and leasing new equipment and can recoup their expenses only by securing additional contracts. Because alternative contractors threaten to appropriate projects,

NGOs are under constant pressure to renew, extend, or win new contracts, regardless of the project's overall utility.

Multiple principals. A final institutional constraint arises when multiple donors or contractors compete for the same project. If international organizations and NGOs were members of a purely normatively driven and robust global civil society, one might expect them to co-operate, pool resources, and share information. Cooley & Ron (2002:16) believe that there are good theoretical reasons, however, to believe that the opposite may occur due to the multiple-principals problem. The more contractors there are, the more each organization's position within the market seems insecure. As a result, some organizations may seek to undermine competitors, conceal information, and act unilaterally (Cooley & Ron, 2002:16).

Another common problem was to do with the governance of the organizations and the relations between board members and staff. These stemmed largely from the boards' inability ...or unwillingness to carry out their responsibilities of governing the organizations. Board members often lacked the time or the expertise to be able to carry out these responsibilities effectively. As a result, senior staff were often left to make policy decisions with little or no support from board members (Mukasa, 2006).

Governance and decision making: The governance picture of many NGOs is quite complex. Most nonprofits are governed by self-perpetuating, largely self-appointing boards of directors. "Though trustees are not elected by society at large, their essential purpose is to hold an organization in trust for the benefit of society, as specified in its papers of incorporation and grants of tax exemption" (Lewis, 2005).

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

According to Oso & Onen (2008), methodology is a detailed procedure to be followed in order to realize the research objectives. In this chapter, the researcher presents the methodology that was used in the study, that is: the research design, the population and sample size of the study, the data collection method/instruments, analysis of the research, then the reliability and validity of the research, how the data was managed, ethical consideration, and anticipated limitations of the study.

3.1 Research Design

Research design is the overall plan or strategy for conducting the research (Oso & Onen, 2008). The study adopted a cross-sectional survey design. A cross-sectional survey provided information collected from various categories of subjects within the same range of time, hence saving time and research costs (Amin, 2009). Quantitative and qualitative methods of research were used in this study for purposes of obtaining adequate and detailed data (Namujju, 2007). Qualitative design deals with people's behaviours and values. Accurate information was obtained because the researcher interacted with various participants. Under quantitative design, the researcher measured the pattern of time and the extent to which different variables are influenced.

3.2 Area of Study

The study was carried out in Kamengo Sub County in Mpigi District along Kampala–Masaka Highway. Kamengo Sub County consists of the following parishes: Kiringente, Kituntu, Mpigi-Mpigi TC, and Muduma. It is bordered by parishes Buwama, Kabasanda Mpigi TC, Kayabwe, and Kibwa.

3.3 Study Population

The study population comprised community members in Kamengo Sub County found in Mpigi District. A common goal of survey research was to collect data representative of the population. This is because it is not possible for everybody among the accessible population to participate (Enon, 1996). The targeted study population was made up of 120 people.

3.4 Sample of the Study

A common goal of survey research is to collect data representative of the population. This is because it is not possible for everybody among the accessible population to participate (Enon, 2014). According to Oso & Onen (2008), a sample is a part of the target population that has been procedurally selected to represent it. This study therefore considered a sample representative of community members, leaders, NGO officials, and district leaders in Kamengo Sub County, Mpigi District, using the sampling selection procedures recommended by Krejcie & Morgan (1970).

A sample size of 120 respondents was selected: 50 were community members, 10 community leaders, 20 parents, and 10 NGO officials. The study considered those numbers in each category in order to gather information that was used by the researcher in the study.

3.5 Sampling Techniques

Purposive sampling method was used for selecting NGO officials and community leaders around Kamengo Sub County, Mpigi District, because they have more detailed, accurate, and relevant information about the area of the study that would be meaningful for the research.

The simple random method is selecting samples from a larger population size, giving all individuals an equal chance to be chosen. This method was used for sampling parents because it gives an equal opportunity for all units in the sampled population to be included in the sample. This is because it uses scientific laws to give opportunity for all the units to appear. For simple random sampling, respondents from the population were selected on probability and in no particular order. This was accomplished by administering questionnaires and interviewing anyone in the study area after having clearly explained the sole purpose of the study. This method was used to select parents in the study area.

Snowball sampling. Snowball sampling is a non-probability sampling technique where existing study subjects recruit future subjects from among their acquaintances. Snowball sampling is quite suitable to use when members of a population are hidden and difficult to locate (e.g., samples of the homeless or users of illegal drugs) and these members are closely connected. The researcher used this technique in community members from Kamengo Sub County, where the researcher selected one community member which enabled her to get information and thereafter obtain information from other girls.

Table 1: Study Population and Sample

Category of respondents	Population size	Sample size	Sampling technique
Community members	80	50	Snowball Sampling
Community leaders	10	10	Purposive Random Sampling
NGO members	10	10	Purposive Random Sampling
Youths	20	37	Simple Random Sampling
Total	120	107	

3.6 Data Collection Methods

Here the researcher used both primary and secondary sources of data while collecting information for the study.

3.6.1 Primary Data

The primary data was gathered directly from the respondents through questionnaires, interviews, observations, and discussions. This information was used to generate the dissertation.

3.6.2 Interview Schedule

This is when data collection is made by the researcher asking selected participants a number of questions in order to find out their views on the given subject. This method gives direct responses so feedback is received immediately. The researcher was also able to view the respondents' non-verbal communication, and clarification of questions could be done. It also helped the researcher get information from those respondents who would be busy and illegible to participate in the questionnaire survey i.e. the community of Kamengo Sub County, Mpigi District. The interviews were conducted using a face-to-face approach and responses were recorded down by the researcher.

3.6.3 Observation Method

Observation is when a researcher goes ahead to investigate his or her area of study by critically analyzing the physical, social, psychological, and political environment and then uses the findings to draw conclusions. Its biggest advantage is that findings are made first-hand by the researcher.

3.7 Data Collection Tools

3.7.1 Questionnaire

This is the discussion in written form whereby the responses of the participants are put on paper provided by the researcher. The questionnaires were in two forms, namely:

The open-ended questionnaire, in which the responses by the participants are free according to their understanding.

The close-ended questionnaire, in which responses are provided by the researcher and the participants choose one of them accordingly (for example, agree or disagree).

The researcher designed questionnaires that were used in the field while collecting data. The researcher also read and interpreted the questionnaires to the respondents and thereafter recorded their responses. These included mainly community members from Kamengo Sub County. Questionnaires were used because data was collected relatively quickly and the researcher had no need to be present when the questionnaires were being completed.

3.8 Data Processing and Analysis

3.8.1 Data Processing

Data processing involved the way data is presented and interpreted in the most accurate and understandable way. In this case, the data was collected and processed using both manual (physical writing) and computer programs. This was done using descriptive statistics such as pie charts, percentages, tables, and graphs. The presentation of the findings of the study made it easy to understand and draw conclusions based on the research findings.

Permission to conduct the study was obtained from Ndejje University. The researcher got an introductory letter which enabled her to be easily accepted in the selected organizations. The researcher then conducted reconnaissance visits in the different centers to make her motive known and seek cooperation from the intended study subjects. A field plan and a budget were then drawn to guide the field activities.

3.8.2 Data Analysis

According to Komobo and Tromp (2011), data analysis procedure includes the process of packaging the collected information, putting it in order, and structuring its main components in a way that the findings can be easily and effectively communicated. The findings were interpreted in line with the research objectives and literature review to answer the questions raised. Frequencies, pie charts, and percentages were used, and assumptions were made

against available literature in order to compare and contrast different opinions of different authors concerning the variables. Quantitative data was presented in the form of frequencies.

3.8.3 Quantitative Analysis

Data collected using questionnaires was subjected to quantitative analysis. It was edited, coded, and entered into the computer. It was then analyzed using Excel. Statistical inference was facilitated by percentage and frequency analysis. The study also utilized percentage distributions in frequency tables to create simpler understanding of data for some questionnaire items.

3.8.4 Qualitative Analysis

Data from interview content was carefully analyzed. For each item, responses were grouped into key themes upon which interpretations were drawn. Verbatim quotations were also used where necessary.

3.8.5 Ethical Considerations

According to Oso & Onen (2008), the biggest ethical problems in this study are obtaining informed consent, privacy, and the confidentiality of the respondents. The researcher got permission and recommendation from the University Faculty of Social Sciences. The researcher presented the introductory letter from the University to the community leaders.

seeking permission to conduct the research in their area; thereafter she sought consent from the respondents.

The researcher explained to the respondents that the study was for academic purposes only. It was made clear that participation was voluntary and the respondents were free to decline or withdraw anytime during the research period. The respondents were not forced into participating in the study. They were guaranteed that their privacy was to be protected by strict standards of anonymity. A high standard of professionalism was observed as the researcher avoided fabricating or altering results to suit her study.

3.9 Reliability and Validity of the Study

Content validity was used to measure the validity of the data. Data was checked for reliability; that is, the method of data collection was pre-tested, tested, and re-tested. For example, while using questionnaires, a tenth of the sample population was used, and if the alpha was above 0.8 then it was considered reliable. The split-half method was also used.

3.10 Limitations of the Study

Oso & Onen (2008) describe limitations as hindrances or potential weaknesses of the study imposed by the research methodology. In this study, however, the researcher anticipated some limitations including:

Time: The time to carry out the research was limited, yet the researcher was also preparing for exams, which put her under pressure. *Solution:* To avoid being caught up with time, the researcher apportioned the available time for doing the research.

Financial Constraints: Financial resources were limited since the researcher incurred costs of surfing, printing, buying journals, and newspapers. *Solution:* To cut down on costs, the researcher requested friends working in offices to print the work, surfed where services were available, and relied on donations.

Limited Data Sources: Some books were not easily accessed in the University Library, hence limiting the scope of the research. *Solution:* To overcome this, the researcher photocopied available books and used public libraries.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents findings of the study in line with the study objectives, which were:

To examine the different approaches World Vision uses in reducing poverty in Kamengo Sub County.

To find out if World Vision plays any role in poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County.

To identify the various challenges World Vision faces in carrying out poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County.

4.1 Background Characteristics

The study looked at the background characteristics of respondents, and the findings are presented as follows.

4.1.1 Gender of the Respondents

Respondents were asked about their gender, and the study findings are presented in the table below.

Table 4.1: Distribution of Respondents by Gender

Gender of Respondents	Frequency	Percent
Male	20	40
Female	30	60
Total	50	100.0

Source: Primary data, 2018

Research findings in Table 4.1 show that the majority of respondents who participated in this study, 30 (60%), were female, while 20 (40%) were male. This implies that the majority of respondents were female compared to their male counterparts. Nevertheless, both female and male respondents participated in this study, hence valid results were obtained.

4.1.2 Age of Respondents Respondents were asked about their age, and the findings are presented as follows:

Table 4.2: Distribution of Respondents by Age

Age of Teenage Hawkers	Frequency	Percent (%)
Below 20 years	6	12
21–30 years	15	30
31–40 years	25	50
Above 41 years	4	8
Total	50	100.0

Source: Primary Data, 2018

The findings show that the majority of respondents (50%) were aged 31–40 years, followed by 30% aged 21–30 years, 12% below 20 years, and 8% above 41 years. It was noted that those above 20 years were parents, and the study obtained valid responses from different age groups.

4.1.3 Level of Education of Respondents Respondents were asked about their level of education.

Table 6: Distribution of Respondents by Level of Education

Level of Education	Frequency	Percent
Primary	5	10
Secondary Level	10	20
Certificate	15	30
Diploma	12	24
Bachelor's Degree	7	14
Postgraduate Diploma	1	2
Total	50	100.0

Source: Primary Data, 2018

The findings indicate that 30% of respondents were certificate holders, 20% had stopped at secondary level, 24% were diploma holders, 14% were degree holders, 10% had stopped at primary level, and 2% had obtained a postgraduate diploma. It was concluded that all respondents had attained some level of education, attributed to the availability of universal primary and secondary education in Uganda.

4.2 Different Approaches World Vision Uses in Reducing Poverty The first objective of this study was to find out the different approaches World Vision uses in reducing poverty in Kamengo Sub County, and the results are presented as follows:

4.2.1 Findings whether World Vision is committed to fight poverty Community members were asked whether World Vision is committed to fighting poverty in Kamengo Sub County, and the results are presented in the table below.

Table 4.4: Findings whether World Vision is committed to fight poverty

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	40	80.0
No	10	20.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Primary Data, 2018

Findings in Table 4.4 show that 40 (80.0%) of the community members who participated in this study agreed that World Vision is committed to fighting poverty, while 10 (20%) disagreed. This implies that in Kamengo Sub County, World Vision is committed to fighting poverty.

4.2.2 Findings whether the education provision approach used by World Vision has contributed to poverty reduction Respondents were asked whether the education provision approach used by World Vision has contributed to poverty reduction in Kamengo, and the results are presented in the table below.

Table 4.5: Findings whether the education provision approach used by World Vision has contributed to poverty reduction

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	50	100
No	0	0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Primary Data, 2018

Research findings in Table 4.5 show that all respondents (50, 100%) agreed that the education provision approach used by World Vision has contributed to poverty reduction. This implies that the education provision approach used by World Vision has indeed contributed to poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County.

Any child who has reached Primary Five onwards and is unable to proceed with further studies is encouraged to take on vocational training. In any case, they are encouraged to explore different ways of meeting their livelihoods, and therefore vocational training is one of them, she said.

4.2.3 Contribution of Education Provision Approach towards Poverty Reduction

Respondents were asked whether the education provision approach used by World Vision has contributed to poverty reduction, and the results are presented in the table below.

Table 4.6: Contribution of Education Provision Approach towards Poverty Reduction

Contribution of Education Provision Approach towards Poverty Reduction	Frequency	Percent (%)
The number of people living in absolute poverty has reduced	5	10.0
Educating girls and women has contributed to poverty reduction	15	30.0
Provision of education has contributed to human capital	5	10.0
Education provision has contributed to reduction in unemployment	25	50.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Primary Data, 2018

Findings of the study in Table 4.6 show that 25 (50.0%) of respondents revealed that education provision has contributed to reduction in unemployment, 15 (30%) revealed that educating girls and women has contributed to poverty reduction, and 5 (10%) revealed that education provision has contributed to human capital. This implies that the education provision approach used by World Vision has contributed significantly to poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County.

“We commit ourselves to the goal of eradicating extreme poverty in the world through decisive national actions and international cooperation, as an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind,” World Vision officials revealed.

A beneficiary added:

“We are blessed to have our children learning various educational skills that help them become self-reliant forever. My girl child completed a university degree in social sciences two years ago as a result of support from World Vision. She has already been employed by the same organization at our CDC. If it was my initiative, nothing would have been done to her education because I had nothing to offer for her studies. World Vision has therefore saved me through educating my child from primary to university level, and I think my family will one day get out of poverty because she has begun supporting her siblings too.”

4.2.4 Findings: Whether World Vision Involves All People in Poverty Reduction

Respondents were asked whether World Vision involves all people in poverty reduction. The findings are presented in the table below.

Table 4.7: Findings on World Vision’s Involvement in Poverty Reduction

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Yes	40	80
No	10	20
Total	50	100

Source: Primary Data, 2018

The findings show that 40 respondents (80%) agreed that World Vision involves all people in poverty reduction activities, while 10 respondents (20%) disagreed. This implies that the majority of respondents believe World Vision involves all people in poverty reduction.

4.2.5 Findings: How World Vision Involves All People in Poverty Reduction

Respondents were asked how World Vision involves all people while carrying out poverty reduction activities. The results are presented in the table below.

Table 4.8: How World Vision Involves All People in Poverty Reduction

Method of Involvement	Frequency	Percentage
Empower women and girls	10	25.0
Support youths	5	12.5
Include elderly	5	12.5
Support people of different cultural backgrounds	15	37.5
Total	40	100

Source: Primary Data, 2018

The findings show that 15 respondents (37.5%) revealed that World Vision offers support to people with different cultural backgrounds, 10 respondents (25%) said World Vision empowers women and girls, 5 respondents (12.5%) noted that youths are given support, and another 5 respondents (12.5%) indicated that the elderly are included in World Vision activities. This implies that World Vision involves all people while carrying out poverty reduction activities in Kamengo Sub County.

We have the indicators we follow to get the neediest beneficiaries; we give the first priority to orphans, destitute children, children with chronically sick caregivers, those who are HIV/AIDS, mentally ill and the malnourished ones. We also consider those ones from poor families, with no shelter where parents share the same room with their children, sleep with their animals in the same house, no source of income, landless people, and children with no clothes. All these are indicators that we consider to register someone as a beneficiary of World Vision, one of the world vision officers revealed through the focused group interviews.

4.2.6 Findings whether community members are satisfied with the services offered by the world vision

Respondents were asked as they are satisfied with the services offered by the world vision and the results are presented in the figure below.

Figure 4.1: Findings whether community members are satisfied with the services offered by the world vision

Response (%)

- Yes: 80%
- No: 20%

Source: Primary Data (2018) A finding of the study in figure above indicates that majority of the respondents 80% agreed that they are satisfied with the services offered by the world while 20% disagreed. This implies that in Kamengo Sub County people are satisfied with the services offered by world Vision.

4.2.7 Services World Vision International Offers to the community Respondents were asked to mention some of the services world vision offers to the community in Kamengo Sub County and the results are presented in the table below.

Table 4.9: Services World Vision International Offers to the community

Services World Vision International Offers to the community	Frequency	Percentage
Education	20	50
Provision of free medical care	5	10
Women and girl empowerment	6	12
Housing and medical care	7	14
Community mobilization	2	4
Total	40	100

Source: Primary Data (2018)

Results of the study as presented in table above show that majority of respondents 20(50%) mentioned education as the service offered by the world vision to the community, 5(10%) mentioned Provision of free medical care, 6(12%) mentioned Women and girl empowerment, 7(14%) mentioned Housing and medical care and 2(4%) mentioned Community mobilization. This implies that world vision offers various services to the community in Kamengo Sub County.

"We always organize community seminars on health issues to equip them with knowledge on how to avoid communicable diseases and poverty related diseases. For instance, in May last year, we had a one-day health seminar which was held at our child development centre and more than two hundred parents attended. They were trained on how to keep the water tanks clean and how to keep their home environment clean." One of the employees of world vision revealed.

"Since my tribe and community have no representation in political leadership, we don't see any water or even schools being constructed by the government. NGOs were not viewed to distribute programmes along lines of ethnicity or tribal affiliation." One of the beneficiaries of the world vision revealed.

Across all entire community, interviews, focus groups and my own wider observations reveal that World Vision is perceived to fulfill the role of the government in providing services to the community. Service provision was identified to be the primary role of World Vision in Kamengo Sub County, primarily in the field of environmental services and social services of health and education. In their approach to service delivery, World Vision and other NGOs have focused in mobilizing and sensitizing the community. Policy formulation, service delivery and advocacy were three areas that NGOs focused in addressing poverty in World Vision, to different degrees. In service delivery, participants reported that NGOs mobilized the community in environmental cleanup campaigns addressing environmental risks.

4.3 Roles played by World Vision in Poverty Reduction The second objective of this study was to examine the role played by World Vision in poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County and the results are presented as follows;

4.3.1 Findings on whether the agriculture role played the world vision had contributed to poverty reduction Respondents were asked whether agriculture role played by world vision had contributed to poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County and the results are presented in table below.

Table 4.10: Findings on whether the agriculture role played by world vision has contributed to poverty reduction

Agriculture role played by world vision Frequency Percentage (%)

Yes	45	90.0
No	05	10.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Primary data, 2018

Findings in table 16 above show that 45(90.0%) of the respondents agreed that the agriculture role played the world vision had contributed to poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County whereas 05(10%) disagreed, this implies the agriculture role played by world vision had contributed to poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County.

Table 4.11: Findings on how the provision of Farm inputs contributed to poverty reduction

Contributions of Farm inputs towards poverty reduction	Frequency	Percentage (%)
We are able to get enough seeds to plant	10	22.2
Provision of farm inputs stimulate agriculture production	15	33.3
Farm inputs contribute to food security and production	12	26.7
Provision of farm inputs enable people to actively engage in modernized agriculture	8	17.8
Total	45	100.0

Source: Primary data, 2018

Study findings in table above show that 22.2% of the respondents revealed that they are able to get enough seeds to plant, 33.3% revealed that Provision of farm inputs stimulate agriculture production, 16.7% revealed that Farm inputs contribute to food security and production and 7.8% revealed that Provision of farm inputs enable people to actively engage in modernized agriculture. This implies that Provision of farm inputs contribute poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County.

4.3.2 Findings whether Women Empowerment contribute to poverty Reduction The respondents were asked as to whether Women Empowerment contributes to poverty Reduction in Kamengo Sub County and the results are presented in the table below.

Table 4.12: Findings whether Women Empowerment contribute to poverty Reduction

Findings whether Women Empowerment contribute to poverty Reduction	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	46	92.0
No	4	8.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Primary data, 2018

Results in table above show that majority of the respondents 46(92.0%) agreed that Women Empowerment contribute to poverty Reduction in Kamengo Sub County while 4(8%) disagreed. This implies that in Kamengo Sub County, Women Empowerment plays a significant role in poverty reduction.

4.3.3 How women Empowerment contributes to Poverty Reduction Respondents were asked on how women Empowerment contributes to Poverty Reduction in Kamengo Sub County and the results are presented in the table below.

Table 4.13: How women Empowerment contributes to Poverty Reduction

How women Empowerment contributes to Poverty Reduction	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Women have gained practical knowledge and skills	10	21.7
Women are able to take care of their families	15	35.6
Women effectively participate in politics	12	26.1
Women have started some small businesses	8	17.4
Total	46	100.0

Source: Primary Data (2018)

Study findings in table 4.13 above show that 15(35.6%) of the respondents revealed that Women are able to take care of their families because of women empowerment by the World Vision, 10(21.7%) revealed that with women empowerment Women have gained practical knowledge and skills, 12(26.1%) revealed through women empowerment women effectively participate in politics, and 8(17.4%) revealed that women have started some small businesses which has improved their livelihood through women empowerment by the World Vision.

In an interview with the various focused group discussions, most groups supported the idea that World Vision Uganda has been on the forefront together with other NGOs in supporting various activities aimed at empowering women and girls in the community like enabling women to rear goats and start up other small entrepreneurial activities.

4.3.5 Findings whether Provision of Education Grants by World Vision has Contributed Poverty Reduction

Respondents were asked as to whether Provision of Education Grants by World Vision has contributed to Poverty Reduction.

Table 4.14: Findings whether Provision of Education Grants by World Vision Contributed Poverty Reduction

Whether Provision Education Grants By World Vision Contributed Poverty Reduction	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	48	96
No	2	4
Total	50	100

Source: Primary Data (2018)

Study findings in **Table 4.14** show that the majority of respondents 48 -(96%)- agreed that the provision of education grants by World Vision contributed to poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County, while only 2 (4%) disagreed. This implies that education grants have played a significant role in reducing poverty in the area.

In interviews with 10 focus groups, participants were asked: *“In your own views, do you think that World Vision and other NGOs operating in Kamengo Sub County have made any efforts as far as education is concerned with the aim of reducing the persistent poverty situation in the area?”*

85% of the groups responded positively, noting that World Vision provided funds for purchasing books and other learning materials for pupils in various schools.

Construction projects were also mentioned, with 8 out of 10 groups confirming support for such initiatives. Additionally, 7 groups emphasized that World Vision has played a role in providing free education support to orphans and vulnerable children, alongside other NGOs.

4.4 Challenges Faced by World Vision in Poverty Reduction

The third objective of the study was to examine the challenges World Vision Uganda faces while carrying out poverty reduction activities in Kamengo Sub County. Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement (A = Agree, N = Not sure, D = Disagree).

Table 4.15: Challenges Faced by NGOs in Poverty Reduction

Challenge	Agree (A)	Not Sure (N)	Disagree (D)	Percentage (A/N/D)
People lack the information, skills, and resources required to initiate, expand, and maintain community development programmes	25	15	10	50% / 30% / 20%
Communities under pressure tend to lack formal organizational structure	40	6	4	80% / 12% / 8%

Table: Survey Responses on NGO Challenges

Statement	Agree (%)	Not Sure (%)	Disagree (%)
Communities under pressure lack formal organizational structure; they are disorganized because they lead isolated existences	80.0	12.0	8.0
Lack of governance within NGOs and absence of effective government regulation regarding NGOs in Kamengo	64.0	20.0	16.0
NGOs funded by donors face limited scope to perform duties and issues of accountability	54.0	30.0	16.0
NGOs are viewed with suspicion by local government and cannot help in reducing poverty	40.0	50.0	10.0
Most community leaders are not cooperative towards NGO activities	36.0	12.0	52.0

Source: Primary Data, 2018

4.4.1 Analysis of Findings

Lack of skills and resources: 50% of respondents agreed that people lack the information, skills, and resources required to initiate, expand, and maintain community development programs.

Disorganized communities: 80% agreed that communities under pressure lack formal organizational structures and lead isolated existences.

Governance issues: 64% agreed that NGOs suffer from lack of governance and absence of effective government regulation.

Donor funding limitations: 54% agreed that reliance on donor funding limits NGO scope and raises accountability concerns.

Suspicion from local government: 40% agreed, while 50% were unsure, suggesting mixed perceptions about NGOs' relationship with local authorities.

Community leader cooperation: 52% disagreed with the statement that community leaders are uncooperative, indicating that many leaders do support NGO activities.

NGO Accountability and Perceptions in Kamengo Sub County

Donor funding limitations: Respondents noted that NGOs funded by donors often face restricted scope in performing their duties, and this raises issues of accountability.

Suspicion from local government: On the statement "*NGOs are suspicious to the local government and cannot help in reducing poverty in the country*", 10% of respondents agreed, 50% were not sure, and 10% disagreed. The majority being uncertain suggests that community members are unclear about the relationship between NGOs and local government in Kamengo Sub County.

Community leader cooperation: On the statement "*Most of community leaders are not cooperative towards the activities of NGOs*", 36% agreed, 12% were not sure, and 52% disagreed. Since the majority disagreed, this implies that most community leaders are in fact cooperative towards NGO activities in Kamengo Sub County.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary, conclusion, and recommendations based on the study findings. The results are discussed in relation to the study objectives, case study, and reviewed literature. The summary provides an overview of the research, from which conclusions and recommendations are drawn. Areas for further research are also suggested.

The study objectives were:

To examine the different approaches World Vision uses in reducing poverty in Kamengo Sub County.

To determine whether World Vision plays a role in poverty reduction in Kamengo Sub County.

To identify the challenges World Vision faces in carrying out poverty reduction activities in Kamengo Sub County.

5.1 Summary of the Findings

5.1.1 Different Approaches World Vision Uses in Reducing Poverty

The study revealed that World Vision is committed to fighting poverty in Kamengo Sub County.

The **education provision approach** was identified as a major contributor to poverty reduction.

Educating girls and women has significantly reduced absolute poverty levels.

Provision of education has strengthened human capital in the community.

World Vision International's poverty reduction activities were found to be important interventions, though they are heavily dependent on foreign support, which has negative consequences.

These activities are categorized into **physical, social-emotional, cognitive, and spiritual development**, each contributing to poverty reduction in different ways.

5.1.2 Roles Played by World Vision in Poverty Reduction

The study findings revealed several roles World Vision has played in reducing poverty in Kamengo Sub County:

Agriculture support: Provision of farm inputs such as hoes and other tools enabled households to actively engage in modernized agriculture and increase production.

Health care: World Vision, alongside other NGOs, contributed to improving the health of disadvantaged mothers, children, and unborn babies through Ministry of Health programs.

Education and infrastructure: Communities benefited from the construction of school latrines and community water points. World Vision also helped establish organizations to manage and maintain these facilities.

Water and sanitation: World Vision built and maintained clean water systems and latrines, while also providing education on hygiene and water-borne illnesses. These programs reduced the risk of disease and increased household earning potential by saving time otherwise spent fetching water.

5.1.3 Challenges Faced by World Vision in Poverty Reduction

The study identified several challenges that hinder World Vision's poverty reduction efforts in Kamengo Sub County:

Lack of information, skills, and resources among community members to initiate, expand, and sustain development programs.

Communities under pressure often lack formal organizational structures, leading to disorganization and isolated existences.

Weak governance within NGOs and absence of effective government regulation regarding NGO activities.

5.2 Conclusions

The study findings conclude that **World Vision Uganda**, together with other NGOs, has taken significant initiatives to address poverty in Kamengo Sub County and Uganda more broadly. These efforts include: Provision of education grants to households, Medical care support and free farm inputs for agricultural production. The research established that NGOs play **vital roles in poverty reduction**, despite challenges such as poor infrastructure, cultural

differences, financial constraints, community rejection or unwillingness to participate, and political interference. The study emphasizes the importance of **community engagement** in NGO operations, since communities ultimately bear the consequences and benefits of these interventions.

5.3 Recommendations

Education sector involvement: NGOs should be recognized as major stakeholders in the education system - from planning and policy formulation to execution, monitoring, and evaluation - given their contributions to supporting needy children and classroom construction.

Government collaboration: Both County and national governments should develop strategies that integrate NGO projects aimed at empowering local communities through entrepreneurship and job creation, thereby reducing poverty levels.

Community sensitization: Field surveys revealed that many people were unaware of existing NGOs or the services they provide. Therefore, there is a need for **community sensitization** about NGOs and their roles, which would help bridge the gap between organizations and beneficiaries.

Strengthening NGO–Community Collaboration

Community acceptance and participation: Stronger contact between NGOs and communities fosters acceptance, willingness to participate, and the sharing of indigenous knowledge that can help NGOs address local issues more effectively.

Reaching remote areas: NGOs should spread evenly into remote and interior places to increase contact with community members. Many NGOs currently do not conduct adequate training for the communities they serve.

Agricultural training: Since agriculture is a major source of income in developing countries, NGOs should train community members in modern agricultural practices to boost production, generate income, and address food insecurity.

Addressing Population and Environmental Challenges

Population growth: Rising populations have led to overutilization of resources, reduced land availability, and soil fertility decline. NGOs should provide training on reproductive health and family planning to help control rapid population growth.

Climate change and conservation: Communities need education on climate change impacts (floods, droughts, desertification), environmental conservation, and agro-forestry practices to sustain resources.

Economic Diversification

NGOs should promote economic diversification to supplement household incomes. Suggested activities include: Greenhouses, Poultry farming, Piggery, Fishponds, Small loan schemes with low interest rates. These initiatives can help communities expand beyond subsistence activities and create sustainable livelihoods.

Capacity and Staffing Challenges

Many NGOs face staff shortages due to financial constraints, making it difficult to reach all community members.

Training community members as **service extension agents** can help bridge this gap. Trained individuals can disseminate information and extend services to those who cannot directly access NGO offices.

5.4 Recommendations for Further Studies

Based on the findings of this research, the following areas are suggested for future investigation:

Household poverty reduction:

Additional studies should be conducted on the contributions of NGOs towards reducing household poverty in Mpigi District.

Youth employment: Further research is needed to examine the effectiveness of NGOs in providing employment opportunities for youths in Uganda.

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APPENDIX I: RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Dear Respondent, I am AMULE DEBORAH a student of Uganda Christian University pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. I kindly request you to spend part of your valuable time answering the following questions. All information provided will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and will not be shared with anyone not connected to this study.

Thank you for your cooperation.

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

(Please tick the correct answer in the space provided)

1. Gender

- a. ☐ Male
- b. ☐ Female

2. Age Bracket

- a. ☐ Below 20 years
- b. ☐ 21–30 years
- c. ☐ 31–40 years
- d. ☐ Above 41 years

3. Level of Education

- a. ☐ Primary
- b. ☐ Secondary
- c. ☐ Tertiary
- d. ☐ University

SECTION B: DIFFERENT APPROACHES WORLD VISION USES IN REDUCING POVERTY

6. Do you think World Vision is committed to fighting poverty in your area?

a. ☐ Yes

b. ☐ No

7. Do you think the education provision approach used by World Vision has contributed to poverty reduction in your community?

a. ☐ Yes

b. ☐ No

If yes, how has it contributed to poverty reduction in your

community?

.....

.....

If no, why?

.....

.....

8. Does World Vision involve all people in carrying out poverty reduction programmes in your community?

• ☐ Yes

• ☐ No

If yes, how does World Vision mainstream gender in its development programmes?

.....

.....

If no, please specify why:

.....

.....

9. Does the agriculture role played by World Vision contribute to poverty reduction in your community?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

10. How has the provision of farm inputs (such as seeds and pesticides) contributed to poverty reduction in your community?

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.....

11. Does women's empowerment contribute to poverty reduction in your community?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, how has it contributed to poverty reduction in your community?

.....

.....

12. How has the provision of education grants by World Vision contributed to poverty reduction in your community?

.....

.....

.....

13. Has the provision of clean water by World Vision contributed to poverty reduction in your community?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, how has it contributed to poverty reduction in your community?

.....

.....

SECTION D: VARIOUS CHALLENGES WORLD VISION FACES IN CARRYING OUT POVERTY REDUCTION

Instructions: Use the scale below to respond to the statements in the table. Tick the box of your choice.

• **A = Agree**

N = Not sure

D = Disagree

Challenges faced by NGOs

Statement	A	N	D
People lack the information, skills, and resources required to initiate, expand, and maintain community development programmes	☐	☐	☐
Communities under pressure tend to lack formal organizational structure; they are disorganized because they lead isolated existences	☐	☐	☐
There is a lack of governance within NGOs and an absence of effective government regulation regarding NGOs in Kamengo	☐	☐	☐
NGOs funded by donors face limited scope to perform their duties and issues of accountability	☐	☐	☐
NGOs are viewed with suspicion by local government and cannot help in reducing poverty in the country	☐	☐	☐
Most community leaders are not cooperative towards the activities of NGOs	☐	☐	☐

APPENDIX II: FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTION GUIDE

1. Do you feel World Vision is addressing your most pressing needs and problems effectively?
2. In your opinion, do you think the provision of education grants by World Vision has contributed to poverty reduction in your community?
3. Has the provision of safe, clean water by World Vision contributed to poverty reduction in your community?
4. Why do you think poverty still exists in your community despite the availability of various poverty reduction programmes by World Vision?

APPENDIX III: KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS

World Vision International and Local Government Officials (20 Key Informants)

Instructions: Please answer appropriately and in detail.

1. When did World Vision start its operations in Kamengo Sub County?
2. Do you think the education approach to poverty eradication by World Vision has contributed to the wellbeing of people in Kamengo Sub County?
3. Has the empowerment of orphans and vulnerable children by World Vision contributed to household poverty reduction in your community?
4. Which category of beneficiaries does the organization normally serve in Kamengo?
5. Why do you think poverty is still a problem for many households despite efforts by World Vision?
6. Do you think World Vision is using appropriate measures to reduce poverty in Kamengo Sub County?



UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

A Centre of Excellence in the Heart of Africa

April 24, 2026

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/Madam

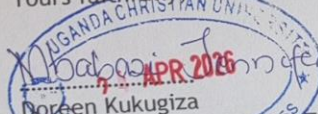
Re: INTRODUCTORY LETTER FOR RESEARCH

This is to introduce to you AMULE DEBORAH Registration number S23B15/097, a student of Uganda Christian University, pursuing Bachelor's degree in Social Work and Administration. She is expected to carry out research in the final year under the guidance of a university supervisor in partial fulfillment for the requirements of the above-mentioned award.

Topic: "THE IMPACT OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ON HOUSEHOLD POVERTY REDUCTION IN UGANDA."

The purpose of this communication is to request your office to allow her collect data from your organization. Any assistance rendered to her will be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully


Doreen Kukugiza
Coordinator, Research & Fieldwork Programmes
Tel: 0773395349
Email: dkukugiza@ucu.ac.ug

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