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Abstract

Monitoring and evaluation enhance the sustainability of various projects. The participation of community in such monitoring and evaluation plays a significant role. The purpose of this paper sought to evaluate the impact of community participation on project sustainability in Gakenke District in Rwanda. This paper employed descriptive research design. The target population was 244 people corresponding to the sample size of 151 respondents. Questionnaire and documentation review were used as data collection instruments. The quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The findings revealed there is strength of the relationship of the variable in the model and magnitude with which it impacts the dependent variable. The model summary analyzing the impact of project objective development on project sustainability showed an R square of 0.976, suggesting that about 97.6% of the project sustainability's variance can be explained by beneficiaries' participation, activities identification, and understanding project objectives. In the model evaluating the influence of the project design system on project sustainability, the R square was 0.111, indicating that roughly 11.1% of the variability in project sustainability could be attributed to these factors. The model assessing the effect of the reporting system on project sustainability had an R square of 0.074, suggesting that these variables account for approximately 7.4% of the variation in project sustainability. The study concludes that project monitoring and evaluation is a necessary tool for long term sustainability so that the institutions supported through projects and the benefits realized are maintained and continue after the end of the project. The study recommends that All institutions, both private and public, including for profit organizations, NGOs and international organizations should involve their beneficiaries' participation and even the employees in M&E because it is believed that participation would lead to empowerment through capacity building, skills and training. projects which in turn contribute to the broader notion of sustainable national development. Clear system design and detailed activities identification should be implemented to ensure a roadmap to positive results and prevent ambiguity. Further, increasing beneficiaries' involvement and improving the quality and frequency of result reporting could improve project performance. In addition, robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms should be established to enable learning, data-driven decision making, and improved project performance

Keywords: *Project monitoring and evaluation, community, project sustainability and community participation.*

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1.0 Introduction

Globally, European countries like Germany interest can take put in several places of the extend cycle and at diverse levels of society, and take numerous distinctive shapes. These can run along a continuum from commitment of inputs to foreordained ventures and programs, to data sharing, discussion, decision-making, association and empowerment. As it implies, it may be a handle in which individuals and communities coordinate and collaborate in advancement ventures and programs. As a conclusion, interest may be a prepare that enables individuals and communities through securing abilities, information and involvement, driving to more prominent self-reliance and self-management (Israel, 2016). In China the venture maintainability has progressively been of significance to givers since there's a mounting weight from residential voting demographics, to definitely diminish, or conceivably end outside help programs. At a few point at that point, benefactor organizations may terminate improvement participation with “third world” nations. Besides, benefactors too begun to see that the aid being conveyed within the past few decades gave few benefits to the beneficiary nations which the benefits frequently finished with withdrawal of outside help from the venture or programme (Brown, 2015).

The Canadian Developed agencies have recent recognized the require for checking and assessment of support in improvement ventures and programs. Three angles of cooperation ought to be assessed, that's the degree and quality of interest, the costs and benefits of cooperation to the diverse partners and the effect of interest on results, execution and maintainability. Defenders of extend checking and assessment contend that it is more cost-effective, precise and feasible than customary approaches. Interest in decision-making forms can too propel individuals to need to see those choices actualized successfully. Another inspiration for venture checking and assessment is to reinforce authoritative and organization learning. Customarily, assessment tended to be overseen with an untouchable viewpoint, regularly giving small acknowledgment to neighborhood desires and the potential for partner commitments. In effect, stakeholders were the objects of evaluations rather than key participants. Beneficiaries, local organizations and governments in recipient countries were left without substantive roles (Canadian International Development Agency, 2016).

Regionally, Some African countries especially in Nigeria and South Africa are using them in term of social *circle* to the “different people in participation in social and project size, for others it is individuals having sensible control over choices of the organization they have a place. For advancement financial analysts support alludes to the destitute impartially sharing extend benefits. Still others consider support to be an instrument to improve extends proficiency. A few would respect interest as a conclusion, though others see it as a implies to an conclusion” (Hajalik, 2017). Cooperation can happen at any arrange within the extend cycle as (Hajalik, 2017) highlighted: firstly, in arranging; besides in venture plan; and thirdly through mobilization of nearby assets as an imperative fixing of the activity. Put in an unexpected way, there are chances for interest within the whole venture cycle; needs examination, arranging, implementation and checking and assessment. In reality, interest need to include individuals all through the extend alternation; in utilization, having a share of headway benefits and surveying amplify comes about. The accomplices as well are in a position to characterize goals and extend arranging. In show disdain toward of debate among makers on the benefits of participation, the basis of accomplice intrigued

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is clear in a couple of case considers around, (Mulwa, 2017). For Kenya participatory advancement is thought extend maintainability, move forward venture adequacy and productivity, put-forward brilliance in enhancement as well as develop social capital (Hajalik, 2017).

In Kenya, the participatory advancement is thought extend supportability, move forward extend For Kenya participatory development is thought extend maintainability, progress extend viability and effectiveness, put-forward brilliance in advancement on constructing political participation and giving them a capacity destitute individuals as stage within the region. In expansion it is to engage the administration because it guarantees responsibility (Kruskil, 2015). Cooperation is instrumental in having superior planned projects were appeared the commitment of the partners, guaranteeing benefits reach the expecting recipients which viability in terms of taken a toll, security and time are guaranteed. It too points at decreasing frequencies of debasement and guaranteeing proprietorship for impartial dispersion of extend benefits (Mghund, 2016).

Territorial Organization for Asset Advancement (2017) contended that participatory improvement starts a handle of strengthening which empowers the extend partners to require obligation in planning and actualizing their own activities and within the handle this leads to extend supportability. On the off chance that improvement is to be viable, the major venture partners should be included by shaping extend execution committees to oversee the works out of the distinctive stages of the expand cycle checking but not limited to begin, organizing, budgeting and acquirement. For any improvement to be important, support by all intrigued bunches is unavoidable at long last lead (Hajalik, 2017).

In Rwanda like Gakenke district has challenges of activity created in 2010 by the organization of the non-governmental organization (NGO) Water for Individuals and the Rwandan government. The Challenge acts as a changeless arrangement to supply full water get to the northern, rustic Rwandan area of Gakenke by 2018. Approximately 345,714 individuals dwell within the Gakenke Locale. The territory of the range is generally slopes and valleys, so springs and groundwater make up the most sources of water in Gakenke. Concurring to a report by Water For Individuals, earlier to Gakenke challenge the region needed appropriate guidelines in terms of the water quality in Rwanda. As it were 29% of the populace had get to safe drinking water and fair six percent of water frameworks were likely to supply feasible water benefit.

A unused wellbeing care office was too built as a result of the objectives. Gakenke challenge too looks for to extend the recently set up water infrastructure's maintainability to 100% at the conclusion of 2016, building the specialized and money related capacity required for two private administrators and the locale water board individuals and staff. To execute these objectives, the dynamic association has created a precise approach in arrange to meet district-wide requests for clean water and sanitation. The joint partners set out to attain maintainability challenges to meet current nearby capacity and quality, leveraging locally accessible assets and endeavoring to serve as a show for replication. According to a report by Water for Individuals, community water service has expanded 20 rate focuses to 49 percent within the locale as a result of these activities. The water and sanitation at schools and clinics moreover expanded definitely to 67% within the Gakenke District.

1.1 Statement of Problem

Rwanda is among the countries where the government puts a lot of money and efforts to develop all aspect of community participation in monitoring evaluation yet their failure persists in some private projects and governments. The government of Rwanda has created a lot of development projects for different areas and it put a lot of energy for those projects to succeed. The pressure from different donors at times forces the project managers to act beyond the normal management principles (Belagis, 2018). Today, it is time to work towards a sustainable development; where everything possible should be done to ensure that water projects can contribute to excellent living standards of citizens as well as its sustainability. Poor community participation in monitoring evaluation was affecting negatively sustainability of feeding project for some schools and its community participation in monitoring evaluation has taken a central point which affects its sustainability. According to (ADRA Report, 2016) One laptop per child project has failed to achieve its objectives due too poor community participation in monitoring evaluation. Today, it is time to work towards a sustainable development; where everything possible should be done to ensure that all government projects assets contribute to excellent performance as well as its sustainability. Poor planning is affecting negatively sustainability of projects and its strategic planning has taken a central point which affect sustainability of government project. There are some government projects which were failed mainly due to poor planning such as Off-Grid Plants and Energy, Water and Sanitation Authority (EWSA), (MINIFRA, 2016).

Community participation in monitoring evaluation has taken a central role to facilitate this. Gakenke district, its capacity has embraced this so as to boost its sustainability. Most of government projects and private has project plans, but some of them have continuously not sustained as expected. The researcher will investigate if the projects follow, Project objective, Project design, Activities identification and reporting system for their sustainability (King ,2013). No available data on the influence of M & E with regard to the World Bank funded projects including this one. This research was evaluated the community participation in monitoring evaluation in public and private institutions, concluded that the community participation in monitoring evaluation was needed for achievement of the project sustainability. This study therefore to evaluate the impact of community participation in monitoring evaluation and project sustainability in Gakenke district in Rwanda.

1.2 Objective of the paper

Objective of this paper was to evaluate the impact of community participation in monitoring evaluation and project sustainability in Gakenke District in Rwanda.

2.0 Literature Review

2.1 Monitoring and Evaluation

Mackay (2017) states that most government projects place considerable emphasis on the two uses of monitoring and evaluation: supporting evidence-based policy making such as budgeting, policy development, project management, and accountability. It is recognized that governments in the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) generally understand that for a government to improve its own performance for the project, it needs to devote substantial efforts

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to measuring its sustainability. Several other researchers also gave their views on the essentials of monitoring and evaluation. Monsalve (2004) contributed towards the rationale of monitoring and evaluation tools in project management effectiveness. When development projects are effectively managed, the impact is evident to the beneficiaries. He asserts that monitoring and evaluation are crucial aspects of good program management at all levels, be it national, regional, or local. Monitoring and evaluation provide data on program progress and effectiveness; it advances program management and decision making; it allows accountability to stakeholders including funders; provides data for planning future resource needs, and it also provides data useful for policy making and support.

Diabre (2018), in the Handbook of Monitoring and Evaluation for Results, contends that the growing demand for development effectiveness is largely based on the realization that producing good deliverables is not enough. Efficient or well-managed projects and outputs will lose their relevance if they yield no discernible progress in development conditions and, ultimately, in people's lives. The United Nations Development Program is, therefore, increasing its focus on results and how it can better contribute to them. The essence of this is that, for any development project to be useful for a long time and have a positive change on the lifestyle of the beneficiaries, it should increase its focus on results and the contribution should be visible from planning, monitoring, and evaluation. The basis of monitoring and evaluation towards project success was also defended by Chinnanon (2015). He posits that monitoring and evaluation can be an effective tool to enhance the quality of project planning and management. He noted that monitoring helps project managers and staff to understand whether the projects are progressing on schedule and to ensure that project inputs, activities, outputs, and the life of the project in general are being tracked. Hence, monitoring and evaluation may be a tool to assist planners and managers in identifying project sustainability.

2.2 Community Participation

Community cooperation as a concept has been started since the 1980s. Tragically, Community cooperation brings advancement of partners have set out on applying it at some point as of late having a clear understanding of what it really is and what it includes. Such approaches to enhancement are creating from participation of the accomplices at a speedy rate and they are getting to be the channel for passing on headway help (Sweel, 2014). Community participation has been connected to individuals wanting to form choices influencing their claim lives. More critically they want to require portion in venture recognizable proof, arranging, execution and observing and assessment of their activity's short interference from untouchables. Community interest in ventures is basic because it improves advancement at the grass root level which is basic for economic improvement (Goom, 2016).

Concurring to Armitage (2018) citizen interest may be a handle by which citizens' act in reaction to open activities, voice their suppositions approximately choices that influence them, and take obligation for changes in their community. Oakley and Marsden (2017) characterized as community support as the method by which people, families, or communities expect duty for their claim welfare and create a capacity to contribute to their claim and community's improvement in common. The consider recognizes presence of different definitions but will receive the taking after definition by (Hackin, 2019). "Beneficiaries participation refers to an active process whereby

beneficiaries influence the direction of community and execution of development projects rather than merely receive a share of project benefits for community.

In this study, the community's role in development projects, which holds benefits for the community, is emphasized. This study is not concerned about participation in political processes, although it acknowledges that participatory forms of government positively impact community involvement in projects (World Bank, 2016). Community cooperation is intuitive and entails ongoing dialogue among key stakeholder groups, project partners, and local organizations. This interaction cannot occur only once, as allowing individuals to voice their opinions requires time. It should be present throughout the project cycle, and there should be at least one opportunity for stakeholder input at each stage (Krumbag, 2017). The concept of Rwanda's improvement methodologies illustrates that Rwanda has embraced developmental paradigm shifts to reflect changes in global thinking, transitioning from technocratic, trickle-down strategies of the 2000s and 2010s to more participatory ones in recent times. Despite these advancements, there is insufficient stakeholder support throughout the entire process of conception, design, execution, and management.

Evidence from the Gakenke district's community participation in the water protection project, where everyone benefits from access to clean water, suggests that practitioners may be overly optimistic and naive about the benefits of this approach (Mansuri, 2016). A review of the empirical literature on participation shows that organizations' experiences with this approach do not always align with what is idealized in textbooks. For various reasons, the benefits do not always materialize. Given the costs and time-consuming nature of these processes, it is prudent to understand how participation affects project sustainability. Indeed, Mansuri (2016) concluded that not much is known about the impacts of beneficiary participation on project sustainability.

2.3 Project Sustainability

Extend supportability is pointed of making and effectively venture that's able of proceeding to produce benefits for an expanded period of time. This concept of feasible extend improvement sets that once the venture is propelled and starts to produce a few the earnings, it is conceivable to proceed utilizing the same common approaches to permit the venture to proceed moving forward, providing those benefits for as long as fundamental. As part of the method, the venture will frequently create assets that can be utilized in that progressing operation, making the venture worth the time and exertion to continue (Deprez, 2018).

The particulars of venture supportability will shift to some degree, depending on the nature of the extend itself. As a run the show, endeavors to construct supportability into a extend early on may be a great approach, since endeavoring to coordinated that sort of continuous advantage afterward on can be to some degree troublesome. This implies that venture supervisors must be looking at not as it were the nuts and jolts of organizing a extend, but too the possible result and how the exertion can proceed to create comes about for a number of a long time. Another key component in extend supportability is thought of the assets that are required for the exertion. This implies selecting assets that are likely to be accessible for the predictable future, minimizing the plausibility of undermining the extend once it is up and running, due to a need of fundamental

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materials. In numerous cases, this will cruel distinguishing auxiliary sources of those materials or indeed substitutes that can be squeezed into activity in case circumstances justify a alter in prepare. For case, a nourishment producer may have a reinforcement asset for certain fixings within the occasion that one or more assets utilized within the formula are not accessible or are pronounced undesirable by a administrative office and must be killed from the product (Komolawati, 2018).

Extend maintainability requires compliance with current measures as well as giving a reasonable implies of permitting the venture to create benefits on an progressing premise. Those benchmarks are frequently decided by considering legislative directions significant to the extend as well as the generation and quality guidelines of the company that's creating the endeavor. Consideration is as a rule paid to shopper needs and needs as a way of deciding in case the comes about of a venture will likely be alluring sufficient to produce request that will proceed for an obvious period of time. Unless all these components are show, at that point venture supportability may be troublesome on the off chance that not inconceivable to achieve, (Jimklif et al, 2015). When forwarding the ideas of improvement experts argues that, result based-management offer some kinds of techniques for keeping government projects for long.

In this research conducted in different countries such as Australia, Chile, Colombia, United Kingdom and Joined together States accepted to be with seriously utilization of observing and assessment data and whose frameworks have been well recorded and dissected, uncovered that, the contrasts between nations are more prominent than the likenesses, in spite of the fact that what is common among them could be a systemic approach to extend observing and assessment as a rule including an entire of government extend and the unmistakable open benefits. Extend observing and assessment as devices is at the middle of sound administration courses of action. This can be so since, they are essential for the accomplishment of evidence-based approach making, budget choice, administration and responsibility. It is in any case, watched that, there's no best show of what a government observing and assessment framework ought to see like, because much depends on which of the a few potential employments of observing and assessment data constitute the most reasons for building such a system (Nruncking, 2017).

2.4 The effect of project objective development on project sustainability

When the opening key-note introduction of the 2008 World Congress of the Universal Venture Administration Affiliation (IPMA), called upon the extend administration calling to “take duty for sustainability” (McKinlay, 2018), the thought of the standards of maintainability in extend administration was still in its earliest stages. A few creators, for case Brent and Labuschagne (2016), Labuschagne and Brent (2018) and Pade, Mallinson and Sewry (2018), were performing ponders on the subject, and the Affiliation for Extend Administration perceived that “the planet soil is in a dangerous position with a run of crucial maintainability threats” and “Project and Program Managers are altogether put to create commitments to Maintainable Administration practices” (Affiliation for Venture Administration, 2016). Be that as it may, Gareis, Huemann and Martinuzzi, watched in 2019, that “Sustainable improvement in brief organizations such as ventures and programs is seldom considered” (Gareis et al, 2015). And Eid concluded that the benchmarks for extend administration “fail to truly address the maintainability agenda” (Eid, 2017). More as of late, Silvius and Tharp (2013) concluded that “the relationship between

supportability and venture administration is picking up momentum” which the lion's share of studies was distributed within the final four a long time, (Silvius & Tharp, 2015). This developing consideration for the thought of maintainability in extend administration is empowering, be that as it may, it moreover bears a few challenges as the concept of sustainability is caught on by intuitive, but troublesome to precise in concrete, operational terms, (Briassoulis, 2015).

The substance and understanding of corporate maintainability too changes concurring to the setting (van Marrewijk, 2016). With bits of knowledge and information creating, Silvius (2016) concludes that an diagram is required. This article points to contribute to this diagram by giving an organized audit of the accessible writing on supportability and extend administration. The remainder of this article is composed as takes after. Within the following segment, the technique of selecting, recovering and examination is displayed. The segment entitled discoveries and talk presents the substance investigation of the two primaries inquire about questions and gives a union as a step towards hypothesis building. We at that point reflect on these discoveries and create a definition of economical venture administration.

2.5 The effect of project design system to the project sustainability

A really maintainable foundation extend must incorporate not only social contemplations for the ultimate clients but too contemplations such as the project's effect on the encompassing community and the security, wellbeing, and instruction of the workforce. Venture plan hones include venture distinguishing proof, extend detailing, extend usage arranging as well as extend observing & assessment arranging (PMI, 2018). Venture Distinguishing proof involves earmarking the venture to be embraced based on wants to be satisfied (PMI, 2018). The potential for distinguishing proof of adjust venture plan would take a driving edge approach to coordinated venture maintainability into critical in instruction ventures. Extend detailing includes could be a brief, correct explanation of a venture to set the boundaries or limits of work to be performed by the extend. It could be a formal report that gives a particular personality of the extend and exact meaning of venture work to avoid strife, perplexity, or cover. Planning a extend requires an forthright venture. All things considered, the fewer individuals are willing to contribute in planning their venture, the higher the hazard of compromising its quality when the time for execution comes.

In spite of the fact that the subject of supportability is still on a rising incline, given the scope of this paper existing literary works will be accumulated, inspected and utilized as a foundation understanding for afterward discourses (Trust, 2015). After these, the significance of economic improvement inside the ventures administrations setting would be clarified. It'll also consider many technics and strategies that are ordinarily utilized when actualizing sustainable development within the venture administration setting. This exposition looks for to set up a relationship between venture plan and supportability hone, centering more on regions such as; the environment, the society and the economy. Hence, at distinctive segments inside this paper, tests would be located from these three different focuses of see. In expansion to these the paper would see into the existing schools of contemplations that are opposite to hone of economic improvement.

2.6 The effect of activities identification to the project sustainability

It took until the second half of the 20th century before the concerns about activities identification on sustainability and sustainable development became broadly recognized as a political, societal and managerial challenge (Dyllick and Hockerts, 2015). The 1972 book “The Limits to Growth” (Meadows et al., 2017) predicts that the exponential growth of world population and world economy will result in overshooting our planet’s capacity of natural resources. Today, it is estimated that per year, our current society uses between 1.5 to 1.6 times earth’s annual bio capacities (Toderoiu, 2014). Development towards a sustainable society therefore requires change (Silvius et al., 2012) and projects are important ‘instruments of change’ in realizing a more sustainable society (Marcelino-Sádaba et al., 2015).

This relationship between sustainability and activities identification is being addressed in a growing number of studies and publications (Silvius and Schipper, 2014; Aarseth et al., 2016), and sustainability can be considered one of the emerging schools of thought in project management (Pasian and Silvius, 2016). In fact, ‘Green’ or ‘sustainable’ project management’ is identified as one of the most important global project management trends today (Alvarez-Dionisi et al., 2016). This growing attention for ‘Sustainable project management’, bears some challenges, for example how the concepts of sustainability can be practically operationalized in the context of projects. For this specific purpose, several instruments have been developed in recent years, for example the Sustainability Management Plan (GPM Global, 2014; Silvius, 2015), the Sustainable Footprint Methodology (Oehlmann, 2014), and the SPM3 maturity model (Silvius and Schipper, 2015). However, experiences with the application of these instruments in real-life projects are still undocumented.

The earlier mentioned “Limits to Growth” report, fueled a public debate, leading to installation of the UN ‘World Commission on Development and Environment named the Brundtland Commission after its chair. In their report, the Brundtland commission defines sustainable development as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (World Commission on Environment and Development, 2017). By stating that “In its broadest sense, sustainable development strategy aims at promoting harmony among human beings and between humanity and nature”, the report implies that sustainability requires also a social and an environmental perspective, next to the economic perspective, on development and performance. In his book ”Cannibals with Forks: the Triple Bottom Line of 21st Century Business”, John Elkington identifies, this as the ‘Triple Bottom Line’ (TBL) or ‘Triple-P (People, Planet, Profit)’ concept: Sustainability is about the balance or harmony between economic sustainability, social sustainability and environmental sustainability (Elkington, 2017).

2.7 The effect of reporting system on project sustainability

This highlights early tries of presenting the spatial and worldly component of announcing framework in extend administration hones. In spite of the truth that the creators title as it were two out of the eight standards display in extend administration writing, their work briefly touches upon other maintainability related contemplations to be made. Labuschagne & Brent (2014) contend that extend assessment criteria centers on monetary markers with exceptionally restricted questions

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on natural components and no say of social components. Hence their commitment to the field is made through the advancement of a show to survey ventures based on the triple foot line definition of supportability. Besides, detailing framework as portion of social maintainability, the creators (2014) highlight partner interest as critical criteria to evaluate, whereas contending that organizations ought to be responsible for the affect they apply over the triple P. In an endeavor to relate feasible improvement to extend administration whereas indicating out challenges and possibilities to its usage, (Gareis et al, 2019) separate content-related definitions of economical advancement from process-related one. The creators contend that the previous show less significance to the think about of supportability integration in venture administration as they are centered on substance of ventures and their comes about instead of the administration of them. By differentiate the last-mentioned give for the directing standards of economical improvement, which coincide with the basics proposed by (Labuschagne & Brent, 2014) with an extra accentuation on values and morals as well as hazard lessening rather than responsibility.

3.0 Methodology

This paper employed a descriptive research design. The target population for this study was 244 people, resulting in a sample size of 151 respondents. Questionnaires and document reviews were utilized as data collection instruments. The quantitative data was analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics.

4.0 Findings

The study investigates the multi-faceted aspects of project sustainability, focusing on the influence of project objective development. It gathers perceptions on various elements including system design understanding, activities identification, result reporting participation, beneficiaries' involvement, training and capacity building, clean water availability, water infrastructure maintenance, and environmental protection. It also emphasizes monitoring and evaluation, which are vital components of project management. Additionally, the study generates model summaries to quantitatively evaluate how project design system, reporting system, and objective development affect project sustainability. By examining these perspectives, the study offers valuable insights into what factors contribute to sustainable project management and how well-defined objectives can enhance long-term project success.

4.1 To evaluate the effect of project objectives development on project sustainability

The extent of primary beneficiaries participates in monitoring and evaluation in Gakenke District was determined from the responses gotten from the various indicators of participation, presented in table 1.

Table 1: Perceptions of the respondents on Understanding project objectives

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
Setting Goals and Objectives for Projects Leads to Successful Outcomes	151	0	4.21	.926
It helps to identify the destination and also provide a road map for getting positive results	151	0	4.24	.936

Through the findings in table 1, it is clear that Setting Goals and Objectives for Projects Leads to Successful Outcomes by 4.21 mean with standard deviation .926 is interpreted strong and homogenous respectively. This implies that beneficiaries agree with the statement. It helps to identify the destination and also provide a road map for getting positive results by 4.24 mean with standard deviation of .936 is interpreted as strong and homogenous respectively. This implies that beneficiaries agree with the statement ‘to understand project objectives will lead to know the road map for getting positive results. Generally, all statements analyzed show that all respondents are able to understand the project objectives which help them to participate for sustainability of the project. Table 2 includes the presentation of the perceptions of the respondents on understanding the designing of the system

Table 2: Perceptions of the respondents on understanding the designing of the system

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
Understanding the designing of system helps to prevent ambiguity, maintain consistency, branding, and accounts for human expectations	151	0	4.24	.936
It helps to know mission and vision of project	151	0	4.24	.936

Through the findings in table 2, it is clear that understanding the designing of system helps to prevent ambiguity, maintain consistency, branding, and accounts for human expectations by 4.24 mean with .936 standards deviation is interpreted as strong and homogenous. This implies that the beneficiaries understand the designing of system helps to prevent ambiguity, maintain consistency, branding, and accounts for human expectations. It helps to know mission and vision of project by 4.24 mean with standard deviation of .936 is interpreted as strong and homogenous where it helps beneficiaries to know the mission and vision of project. Finally, these statements show that all respondents their understanding the design of the system will help them to prevent ambiguity, maintain consistency, branding and accounts for human expectations at the same time knowing

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mission and vision of the project led to sustainability of the project. Table 3 is the presentation of perceptions of the respondents on activities identification

Table 3: Perceptions of the respondents on activities identification

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
It gives beneficiaries, information on the performance of the personnel involvement	151	0	4.26	.885
It helps to organize and emphasize the importance or relevance of the task at hand	151	0	4.26	.885

The findings in Table 3 show that activities identification gives beneficiaries, information on the performance of the personnel involvement by 4.26 mean with .885 standard deviation is interpreted as strong and homogenous. This implies that beneficiaries are able to identify activities within project. It helps to organize and emphasize the importance or relevance of the task at hand by 4.26 mean with .885 standard deviation is interpreted as strong and homogenous. This implies that beneficiaries emphasize on the importance or relevance of the task at hand. Generally, beneficiaries are able to identify activities within project which led to its sustainability. The results in Table 4 includes the perceptions of the respondents on participation in reporting results

Table 4: Perceptions of the respondents on participation in reporting results

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
Develop the information to be communicated	151	0	4.24	.936
Communicate the results and evaluate the results of communication	151	0	4.24	.936

Based on the findings in Table 4, it is clear that development of the information to be communicated by 4.24 mean with .936 standard deviation is interpreted as strong and homogenous. This implies that beneficiaries develop information to be communicated to enhance project sustainability. In the project there is communication of the results and evaluate the results from communication by 4.24 mean with .936 standard deviation is interpreted as strong and homogenous. This implies that beneficiaries need to communicate and sustainability is one of the results of communication. Generally, all respondents need to communicate during project activities to emphasize its sustainability. Table 5 includes the presentation of perceptions of the respondents on beneficiaries' participation

Table 5: Perceptions of the respondents on beneficiaries’ participation

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
Develop a strategy for expanding the successful features of the project in the district	151	0	4.24	.936
Assist the beneficiaries to organize themselves into self-run groups and organizations	151	0	4.24	.936

The results in table 5 show that the statement ‘develop a strategy for expanding the successful features of the project in the district’ by 4.24 mean with .936 standard deviation is interpreted as strong and homogenous. This implies that development of strategies for beneficiaries bring successful features of the project. Assist the beneficiaries to organize themselves into self-run groups and organizations by 4.24 mean with .936 standard deviation are interpreted as strong and homogenous. This implies that beneficiaries know the importance of organization into group self-run. Finally, all respondents agree with the statements that development of strategies for expanding the successful features of the project in the district and assist the beneficiaries to organize themselves into self-run groups and organizations help the project to be sustainable.

Table 6: Perceptions of the respondents on training and capacity building

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
Training and Capacity building approaches purposefully minimize an over-reliance on outside experts as sources of knowledge, resources, and solutions to community issues	151	0	4.4	.781
Training and Capacity building fosters a sense of ownership and empowerment	151	0	5.76	0.188

The findings in table 6 show that training and capacity building approaches purposefully minimize an over-reliance on outside experts as sources of knowledge, resources, and solutions to community issues by 4.46 mean with standard deviation of .781 is interpreted as strong and heterogeneous. This implies that beneficiaries tend to be trained to increase the capacity as well as their skills regarding the project sustainability. Training and Capacity building fosters a sense of ownership and empowerment by 5.76 mean with standard deviation of 0.188, interpreted as tend to be strong and heterogeneous. Therefore this means that the beneficiaries want to be trained and capacity building fosters a sense of ownership and empowerment. Generally, respondents agree to be trained and enhance the project sustainability. Table 7 includes the presentation of the perceptions of the respondents on availability of clean water

Table 7: Perceptions of the respondents on availability of clean water

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
Fight against diseases due to the unclean water	151	0	3.91	1.207
Increase household income	151	0	3.91	1.211

The findings in table 7 show ‘fight against diseases due to the unclean water’ by 3.91 with 1.207 standard deviation, interpreted as tend to be strong and heterogeneous respectively. Therefore, this means that beneficiaries fight against diseases due to unclean water. Increase household income by 3.91 mean with 1.211 standard deviation, interpreted as tend to be strong and homogeneous. Therefore, the beneficiaries increase household income as confirmed by statements. Table 8 is the presentation of the perceptions of the respondents on maintaining water as infrastructure

Table 8: Perceptions of the respondents on maintaining water as infrastructure

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
It helps to use them in proper way	151	0	3.80	1.120
It helps people to use water with purpose of keeping them for long-time	151	0	3.80	1.120

The findings in table 8 show that to maintain water as infrastructure helps to use them in proper way by 3.80 mean and 1.120 standard deviation, interpreted as trend to be strong and homogenous. This implies that beneficiaries know how to use and maintain water as infrastructures. Maintenance water as infrastructure helps people to use water with purpose of keeping them for long-time by 3.80 mean with 1.120 standard deviation, interpreted as to be strong and homogenous. Therefore, the findings show that beneficiaries from Gakenke District want to maintain water for long-time. Generally, all respondents from the study know to use water properly and how to maintain for long-time as infrastructures. Table 9 includes the discussion of the perceptions of the respondents on environmental protection

Table 9: Perceptions of the respondents on environmental protection

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
It helps people for good living with safe environment	146	5	3.79	1.138
Environment is our surrounding which includes everything from a living being to a non-living thing	151	0	3.80	1.120

The findings in the table 9 show that the protection of environment helps people for good living with safe environment by 3.79 mean and standard deviation of 1.138, interpreted as trend to be strong and heterogeneous. This implies that people know the purpose of living in safe environment. Environment as surrounding which includes everything from a living being to a non-living thing by 3.80 mean with standard deviation 1.120, interpreted as tend to be strong and homogenous. Therefore, the means that respondents want to protect environment for good living as well as surrounding areas. Generally, all beneficiaries know why environment must be protected. Table 10 includes the discussions of the perceptions monitoring and evaluation

Table 10: Perceptions monitoring and evaluation

	N		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Valid	Missing		
Improved project performance	151	0	3.77	1.128
It promotes learning and data driven decision making	151	0	3.77	1.128

The results in the table 10 show that monitoring and evaluation improves project performance by 3.77 mean and 1.128 standard deviation, interpreted as tend to be strong and homogenous. This implies that all beneficiaries understand well that monitoring and evaluation improves project performance. Monitoring and evaluation promote learning and data driven decision making by 3.77 mean with 1.128 standard deviation, interpreted as strong and homogenous. Therefore, monitoring and evaluation promote learning and data driven decision making. Generally, the means that beneficiaries from Gakenke District emphasize monitoring and evaluation for successful and sustainability of project where improves performance and decision making.

Table 11: Model Summary on project objectives development on project sustainability

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.988 ^a	.976	.976	.65435

a. Predictors: (Constant), Beneficiaries' participation, Activities identification and understanding project objectives.

The results in table 11 indicate that the Adjusted R² is 0.976 which means the independent variables (Beneficiaries' participation, Activities identification and understanding project objectives) jointly affect training and capacity building on project sustainability in this study.

Table 12: Model Summary on project design system to the project sustainability

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.333 ^a	.111	.093	1.02146

a. Predictors: (Constant), Beneficiaries' participation, Activities identification and understanding project objectives

R-square shows the total variation for the dependent variable that could be explained by the independent variables. A value greater than 0.5 shows that the model is effective enough to determine the relationship. In this case, the value R² is .111, which is good.

Table 13: Model Summary on reporting system on project sustainability

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.272 ^a	.074	.055	1.10661

a. Predictors: (Constant), Beneficiaries' participation, Activities identification, Understanding project object

R-square shows the total variation for the dependent variable that could be explained by the independent variables. A value greater than 0.5 shows that the model is effective enough to determine the relationship. In this case, the value is .055, which is good.

4.2 Summary of findings

The objective of this paper was to evaluate the impact of community participation in monitoring evaluation and project sustainability in Gakenke District in Rwanda. The study found that development of strategies for beneficiaries bring successful features of the project. The all respondents agree with the statements that development of strategies for expanding the successful features of the project in the district and assist the beneficiaries to organize themselves into self-run groups and organizations help the project to be sustainable. It was noted that monitoring and evaluation promote learning and data driven decision making. Generally, the means that beneficiaries from Gakenke District emphasize monitoring and evaluation for successful and sustainability of project where improves performance and decision making. . In the project there is communication of the results and evaluate the results from communication by 4.24 mean with .936 standard deviation is interpreted as strong and homogenous. This implies that beneficiaries need to communicate and sustainability is one of the results of communication. Generally, all respondents need to communicate during project activities to emphasize its sustainability.

5.0 Conclusion

The study concludes that project sustainability in Gakenke District is significantly influenced by several factors. Project objective development, system design understanding, and activities identification were found to be crucial, with respondents understanding and affirming the importance of clearly defined goals and objectives, comprehensive system design, and effective activity identification for successful outcomes. Additionally, result reporting participation and beneficiaries' involvement were deemed essential, with high respondent agreement on the importance of clear communication of results and active participation. Training and capacity building was also highly rated, emphasizing the role of ongoing skill and capacity development in project sustainability. The availability and maintenance of clean water, along with environmental protection, were seen as important physical factors contributing to the project's success. Finally, monitoring and evaluation were perceived as critical to improving project performance and promoting data-driven decision-making, thereby enhancing project sustainability.

6.0 Recommendations

The study recommends that all institutions, both private and public, including for profit organizations, NGOs and international organizations should involve their beneficiaries' participation and even the employees in M&E because it is believed that participation would lead to empowerment through capacity building, skills and training. Project implementers should involve policy makers at an early stage in the project if policy support is likely to be required to achieve project objectives. Clear system design and detailed activities identification should be implemented to ensure a roadmap to positive results and prevent ambiguity. Further, increasing beneficiaries' involvement and improving the quality and frequency of result reporting could improve project performance. Implementing regular training and capacity building initiatives can minimize reliance on outside experts, fostering a sense of ownership and empowerment among beneficiaries. Environmental protection measures and ensuring the availability and maintenance of clean water infrastructure are also important actions to be prioritized. In addition, robust

monitoring and evaluation mechanisms should be established to enable learning, data-driven decision making, and improved project performance.

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