NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROMOTION IN RWANDA

A CASE STUDY OF VILLAGE SAVINGS AND LOANS GROUPS (VSLGs)

SUPPORTED BY CARE INTERNATIONAL IN NYANZA DISTRICT

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MPAM / 3056/ 12

A research Project Submitted in Partial Fulfillment for the Award of a Degree in Master of Public Administration and Management (Community Development and NGOs Management Option) of Mount Kenya University

MAY 2018
DECLARATION

This research study is a result of my original work and has not been presented to any other Institution. No part of this research should be reproduced without the authors’ consent or that of Mount Kenya University.

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Sign ____________________ Date _____________

Declaration by the supervisor(s)

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DEDICATION

With love and gratitude, I dedicate this research to my mother Modeste Uwimana, my beloved wife Aline Niyobwende, my daughter Abby Gaëlle Mugisha, my son Ivan Perez Muhire who all financially and morally supported me while undertaking this project.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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My gratitude goes to all my classmates, friends and to my family members for all their encouragements and tolerance. I greatly appreciate their valuable help.

My gratitude also goes to all study participants and other key informants who freely and voluntarily accepted to answer the questionnaire of this study and gave their views and valuable time to make this study possible. Their cooperation was very much appreciated and is acknowledged here.

Finally, I would like to address my special thanks to anyone else who directly or indirectly contributed to the success of this research.
ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to assess the nongovernmental organizations and socio-economic development promotion in Rwanda and was carried out in village savings and loans groups supported by care international in Nyanza District as the case study with the following objectives; to establish the implementation of VSLGs in the socio-economic development in Nyanza District, to assess the socio-economic development of VSLGs members supported by care international and to examine how the beneficiaries of VSLGs are appreciating the support they are receiving. The researcher reviewed literature related to nongovernmental organizations and socio-economic development promotion. The research design used was descriptive while the population was 384 respondents, that is 291 households and the sample size was 79 respondents selected from the total population and probability sampling technique was used. Data collection tools were questionnaires and interviews for primary data and documentary review for secondary data. The collected data was presented using tables and analyzed based on percentages and frequencies. The researcher found that voluntary savings and loan system consists of working closely with the local authorities who are tasked to invite poor people to attend community sensitization meetings on the voluntary savings and loans approach. CARE International’s Village Savings and Loan groups (VSLGs) system is based on a belief that savings rather than lending services are more appropriate for and in higher demand by the rural poor. As documented in several reports produced by CARE International in Rwanda, these loans and saving systems have proved themselves to help beneficiaries to have access to loans up to as much as four times the amount of their accumulated savings, which enables them to engage in bigger and potentially more profitable enterprises but the extent to which the socio-economic development is increased is still unknown especially in rural remote areas. The researcher concluded that policy makers and implementers benefited from the outcomes of this research project whereby it helps them find better ways to eradicate poverty and hence increase the social wellbeing of the population. On the other hand, results from this study can be especially used by the Ministry of Economic Planning and finance of Rwanda, EDPRS II scheme, INGOs in Rwanda and other stake holder working in this area. Furthermore, they can also usefully serve other possible researches along the time. This being said, the research contributed to the on-going policies and regulatory reviews on economic development, geared towards making The researcher concluded that VSLGs help the members to diversify their businesses which eventually increase the savings of the clients in the long run , and easily afford many cost based life needed items which contributed much to the improvement of their socio - economic development. The researcher recommended that non government organizations should increase their target population through opening various branches in the whole country as for now VSLGs is capitalizing itself within Kigali and only one branch in Nyanza and that of Muhanga which is yet to be opened , the government of Rwanda should revise the regulatory system governing financial institutions as this can help increasing their capacity following the role they play in enhancing household savings and the people as beneficiaries must be active to work with VSLGs in order to get benefits from services offered by these savings and loans groups or cooperatives.
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AEI American Enterprise Institute
ARDI *Association Rwandaise pour la Promotion du Développement Intégré*
CBOs Community-Based Organizations
CSO Civil Society Organization
DDP District Development Plan
ECOSOC Economic and Social Council
EDPRS Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy
GoR Government of Rwanda
HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICRC International Committee of the Red Cross
INGO International non-governmental organization
MDG’s Millennium Development Goals
MINALOC Ministry of Local Government
MINECOFIN Ministry of Economic planning and Finance
NGO Non-Governmental Organization
NGOs Non-Government Organizations
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>NISR</td>
<td>National Institute of Statistic of Rwanda</td>
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<tr>
<td>ONAPO</td>
<td>Office National de la Population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVC</td>
<td>Orphans and vulnerable children</td>
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<tr>
<td>PO</td>
<td>Peoples’ Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>SACCO</td>
<td>Saving and Credit Cooperatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAFI</td>
<td>Sustainable Access to Financial Services for Investment</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCF</td>
<td>Save the Children Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLAs</td>
<td>Saving and Loan Associations</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>VSLGs</td>
<td>Village Savings and Loans Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VUP</td>
<td>Vision Umurenge Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWW</td>
<td>World Wide Web</td>
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<tr>
<td>YBE</td>
<td>Years Basic Education</td>
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OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

**Community participation:** Community participation is an active process whereby beneficiaries influence the direction and execution of development projects rather than merely receiving a share of project benefits.

**Economic development:** Generally refers to the sustained, concerted actions of policymakers and communities that promote the standard of living and economic health of a specific area.

**Mutual benefit NGO,** involving an association concerned with improving the situation of its membership, versus a **Public benefit NGO,** which is an organization working for the improvement of conditions of society as a whole or of a segment of society.

**Non-Governmental Organization:** Is any non-profit, voluntary citizen’s group which is organized on a local, National, International level for task oriented and driven by people with a common interest.

**Socio-economic:** It is an umbrella term with different usages. 'Social economics' may refer broadly to the "use of economics in the study of society."
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.0. Introduction

This chapter presents background to the study, the problem statement, objectives of the study, research questions and the significance of the study. The chapter further presents limitations of the study as well as the scope of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Stuart Rutherford wrote: ‘Many practitioners and observers of microfinance believe that bringing reliable financial services to the world’s poor will depend on the growth of permanent, sustainable institutions. Most of these, it is thought, will be formal, for-profit service providers, targeted at low-income clients but otherwise behaving like conventional banks. There may also be some mutually owned institutions, credit unions of the poor, fostered by promoters of user-owned self-help savings and loan groups of poor people. Either way, the watchword is (Allen, 2002)

The idea to look closer at tontines or investment plans in Africa especially in Dakar (Senegal) originated in the late 1980s when the international Labour Organization (ILO) and the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) were carrying out a training program on commercial bank lending to small enterprises. As the program progressed, it was becoming increasingly clear that the commercial bank sector was unprepared to make the necessary adjustments and innovations to extend financial services to small-scale operators. In this situation it was obvious that one had to look beyond the banking sector to find ways and means of delivering financial services on a small scale and at low costs. The informal financial sector and various financial self-help organizations outside the purview of the Central Bank were generally said to be able to do just that and to thrive on
it. Considering the volume of financial resources passing through the informal financial sector, ILO and BCEAO commissioned a brief survey of financial self-help organizations in the Dakar region (Amin, 2005).

According to a report produced by CARE International in Rwanda (2010), CARE launched the Village Savings and Loans Groups (VSLGs) methodology in 1991 in the villages of southern Niger, in West Africa. In the early 1990s, women in this part of the world had little prospect of improving their lives. Nearly everyone in these villages struggled to survive on subsistence farming. Initial funding for the project came from far away thanks to a nation-wide fundraiser event by a network of women’s organizations in Norway who wanted to raise money for women in developing countries. CARE Norway had already worked successfully with CARE in Niger on a tree-planting project, so the two organizations decided to partner again, this time on a financial service project targeting women. When Niger women started to organize into groups, they called themselves Mata Masu Dubara, which, in Hausa language, means ‘Women on the move’ (Care International in Rwanda, 2010).

Since then, the VSLGs experiment has taken on a life of its own. It has become a model for self-sustaining, village level microfinance that has been gaining momentum through a growing number of similar programs throughout sub-Saharan Africa and in Asia as well. Since 1991, CARE has launched VSLGs programs in 21 countries, for an estimated total of more than 54,000 VSL groups on the continent, serving more than 1 million members, the majority of whom are women (Amin, 2005).

Experience has demonstrated that it is women in VSL groups who are the first to reap the benefits of this approach. As VSLGs members, women receive training, benefit from group solidarity, earn their own income and invest in what matters most to them: their
families. The result is enhanced self-esteem, greater participation in public life, better nutrition, health and education for children, and new dynamics in their relationships with men. The model has now spread and been adapted around the world. Other development agencies are carrying out similar projects across the subcontinent (Care International in Rwanda, 2010).

In the Rwandan context, even though Rwanda is recovering from one of the worst humanitarian catastrophes in the history of humankind, the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, it is still counted amongst the poorest countries in the world. As a consequence of this, Rwanda’s productive and institutional capacity has been severely damaged and almost no one has escaped the trauma (Care International in Rwanda, 2010).

Beyond the genocide and a history of conflict, there are a number of factors contributing to widespread poverty in Rwanda. The country is small (26,338 square kilometers), land-locked in Central Africa, with a population of over 10.5 million people. It has a very high population density of 328 inhabitants per square kilometer (CIA, 2010).

As indicated by the Human Development Report (2010), Rwanda’s Human Development Index (HDI) for 2009 is 0.460 (rank of 167 out of 182 countries but still refers to 2007 data), and the country has a GDP/capita at purchasing power parity of US$ 870 (HDI 2009). The HD Index estimates that close to 33% of the population lives below US$ 1.25 a day. The proportion of the people who are not expected to survive to the age of 40 is equal to 34.2%. The adult illiteracy rate (above 15 years of age) is estimated to be 35.1% while 35% of the population is not using an improved water source (HDI, 2009).

Another important fact is that, as shown by the Republic of Rwanda, Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (2008-2012), Rwanda economy consists
largely of subsistence agriculture, with the majority of the population (85%) living in rural areas. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS is estimated at 2.8% among adults aged between 15-49 years. Rwanda has a very high proportion of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC): a total of 613,000 orphans (21%), 43% of whom have been orphaned by AIDS, and an estimated 101,000 children living in child-headed households. One-third of households are headed by women (MINECOFIN, 2012).

CARE’s Voluntary savings and loans in methodology consist of working closely with the local authorities who are tasked to invite poor people to attend community sensitization meetings on the Voluntary Savings and Loans approach. People then organize themselves in groups resolution, group management, record keeping, saving and loans management. It is very critical to involve local authorities and to identify the poorest people in the community (CARE International, 2010).

CARE’s Village Savings and Loan Groups (VSLGs) methodology is based on a belief that savings rather than lending services are more appropriate for and in higher demand by the rural poor. VSLGs programs emphasize savings mobilization through unregulated and rather informal groups that depend on member savings for their loan fund capital rather than external loans. (Community Learning And Action For Savings Stimulation And Enhancement & Business) model is different in that Savings and Loan Associations (SLAs) are linked through federations to external loan funds (provided by INGOs) at the People’s Bank of Rwanda, a network of credit unions located everywhere in the country (Maes, 2007).

One of the most significant outcomes achieved through the linkage to external credit is that SLAs have access to loans up to four times the amount of their accumulated savings, which enables them to engage in bigger and potentially more profitable enterprises.
Without the assistance by the IG these SLAs would not qualify for such loans. There are also some potential costs to an external loan: by depositing 25% of the loan amount on the SLA bank account as a guarantee, the available internal loan fund might become much less, unless the SLA sets aside a portion of the loan to continue serving this purpose. At the same time, due to leverage with an external loan, the internal loan fund might grow faster depending on the profitability of the enterprises funded by the loan. External loans might not provide the same benefits for every SLA member, as a few dominating members might be using the bank credit to finance their enterprises, whereas the other members might not like the increased risk or see their access to internal loans reduced (CARE International, 2007). This research project aims at gathering information on the role of VSLGs on the socio-economic development on rural beneficiary communities in Nyanza District.

1.2 Problem Statement

Socio-economic development in different countries is a priority. Governments are putting in place different ways to ensure that socio-economic development of communities is enhanced. Non Governmental Organizations exist in different countries and with different objectives. The majority of them are considered vital in the promotion and enhancement of socio-economic development in some countries and communities. The work of Non Governmental Organizations is embraced as a vital tool for socio-economic development while in some other areas, Non Governmental Organizations are considered not relevant is the socio-economic development, hence not embraced in the process of ensuring socio-economic development. This failure to appreciate the contribution of Non Governmental Organizations in fostering socio-economic development is caused by limited knowledge
and understanding on their role in enhancing socio-economic development promotions (Spadacini, 2010).

CARE International in Rwanda has since 2009 implemented a Sustainable Access to Financial Services for Investment (SAFI) project to, among other things; demonstrate the sustainability and of the Voluntary Savings and Loans Groups (VSLGs) methodology. One of these VSLGs is locally known as ‘INTAMBWE system (CARE International, 2010). As documented in several reports produced by CARE International in Rwanda, these loans and saving systems have proved themselves to help beneficiaries to have access to loans up to as much as four times the amount of their accumulated savings, which enables them to engage in bigger and potentially more profitable enterprises but the extent to which the socio-economic development has increased is still unknown especially in rural remote areas. This study therefore accessed the extent to which the village savings and loan groups had an effect of promoting socioeconomic Development in Nyanza District in particular and in Rwanda in general.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

1.3.1. General Objective

The main objective of this study is to establish the role of VSLGs implemented by Care International in promoting the socio-economic development of the population with Nyanza District as a case study.

1.3.2. Specific Objectives

Specific objectives for this research project are as follow:

i. To establish the implementation of VSLGs in the socio-economic
development in Nyanza district.

ii. To assess the socio-economic development of VSLGs members supported by care international.

iii. To examine how the beneficiaries of VSLGs are appreciating the support they are receiving.

1.4 Research Questions

In order to achieve the research objectives, the following research questions were used:

i. What is the implementation of VSLGs in the socio-economic development in Nyanza district?

ii. What is the socio-economic development of VSLGs members supported by care international?

iii. What are the ways through which the beneficiaries of VSLGs are appreciating the support they are receiving?

1.5. Significance of the Study

This study will benefit the researcher, future researchers, Mount Kenya University, Non Governmental Organizations, future researchers and the general public in different ways including the following:

The researcher will be able to improve or increase his understanding in the field of non-nongovernmental organizations promotion of economic development. The researcher will also be able to fulfill partial requirements for the award of a Master's degree in Business Administration of Mount Kenya University.

Future researchers on Non Governmental Organizations and promotion of economic
development will use this research for reference.

The research will also form a basis for future understanding of the role played by Non Governmental Organizations in promoting economic development.

The Government of the Republic of Rwanda may use this research to know the contribution of Non Governmental Organizations in promoting economic development.

The general public may use this research to know the important role played by Non Governmental Organizations in promoting economic development in Rwanda.

1.6 Limitations of the Study

The researcher came across doubting respondents who thought that the research was not academic, to this, enough and sufficient explanations were given.

Other respondents thought that they would be given money in order to give their views. Thorough explanation was made to them.

There were also some respondents who had limited time and could not fill the questionnaire there and then. The researcher made appointments with them and where possible used interviews instead.

1.7 The scope of the Study

The research was limited in terms of content, geography and time. This was done to make sure that the research remains focused on the study topic.

1.7.1 Content Scope

The research focused on the contribution of Non Governmental Organizations in the
promotion of socio-economic development in Rwanda.

1.7.2 Geographic Scope

The research was carried out in Nyanza District, Kigoma and Mukingo Sectors in the Southern Province.

1.7.3 Time Scope

The study covered the period from 2013 to 2017. This period especially interested the researcher because it is overlapping between the two EDPRS programs so that the findings can be compared to the information of the EDPRS.

1.8 Organization of the Study

The research is in five chapters, the first chapter presents the introduction and background to the study, the second presents the review of related literature while the third gives the research methodology. Chapter four presents analyses and interprets the collected data while chapter five presents the conclusion and recommendations of the study.
CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.0 Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher reviewed literature related to nongovernmental organizations and socio-economic development promotion. The review of literature was guided by the study objectives. The researcher also presented the theoretical and empirical review as well as the conceptual framework and the critical review showing the gap to be filled by the research.

2.1 Theoretical Review

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are generally considered to be “non-state, non-profit orientated groups who pursue purposes of public interest”, excluding the private sector (Schmidt & Take 2007). One of the most widely used definitions is given by Operational Directive 14.70 of the World Bank: ‘private organizations that pursue activities to relieve suffering, promote the interests of the poor, protect the environment, provide basic social services, or undertake community development’ (World Bank, 2001).

2.1.1 Origin of Non Governmental Organizations

From the late 1980s, NGOs assumed a far greater role in development than previously. NGOs were first discovered and then celebrated by the international donor community as bringing fresh solutions to longstanding development problems characterized by inefficient government to government aid and ineffective development projects (Allen, 2002).

A Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) is a legally constituted, voluntary association
of individuals or groups that is neither a governmental agency nor a for-profit enterprise, although it may and often does receive both government and corporate funds. Regardless of funding source, an NGO maintains its status only to the extent that it excludes government representatives from membership or participation. Business representatives, however, may participate, either as staff or directors. The number of Non-Governmental Organizations has exploded during the last few decades, representing both the channeling of energies and passions into directly addressing and trying to solve single issues about which people care passionately, as well as the recognition of the limitations of government programs in addressing social problems (Amin, 2005).

According to the World Bank (2001), GOs are “value-based organizations which depend, in whole or in part, on charitable donations and voluntary service, and in which principles of altruism and voluntarism remain key defining characteristics”. More broadly, the term is applicable to any non-profit organization (NPO) that is not established by or controlled by a governmental entity, or even more broadly a nonprofit that is not affiliated with government (Spadacini, 2010).

There are different ways of categorizing NGOs in broad terms. One categorization is the recognition of a: Mutual benefit NGO, involving an association concerned with improving the situation of its membership, versus a public benefit NGO, which is an organization working for the improvement of conditions of society as a whole or of a segment of society (Gwavuya, 2011).

The World Bank differentiates two main categories of NGOs with which it interacts: Operational NGOs, the primary purpose of which is the design and implementation of development-related projects. Advocacy NGOs, the primary purpose of which is to defend or promote a specific cause, and influence the policies and practices of
international organizations (World Bank, 2001).

Operational NGOs are further classified as national organizations, which operate in individual developing countries, international organizations, which are typically headquartered in developed countries and carry out operations in developing countries, and community-based organizations (CBOs), which serve a specific population in a narrow geographical area. CBOs, also referred to as grassroots organizations or peoples’ organizations (PO), differ from other NGOs in both nature and purpose: while national and international organizations are seen as ‘intermediary’ NGOs that are formed to serve others, CBOs are usually “membership” organizations whose purpose is to advance the interests of their members. Examples include women’s groups, credit circles, youth clubs, cooperatives and farmers’ associations (Kaldor, 2003).

2.1.2 Reasons for the emergency of Non Governmental Organizations

The main focus for NGOs is to provide relief and developmental aid to developing countries. In relation to states, the purpose of NGOs is to provide services that the state is unable or unwilling to provide for their people. These organization’s projects in health, like HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, clean water, and malaria prevention, and in education, like schools for girls and providing books to developing countries, help to provide the social services that the country’s government is unable or unwilling to provide at the time. International Non-governmental Organizations are also some of responders to natural disasters, like hurricanes and floods, or crises that need emergency relief (Clark, 2007).

NGOs in general account for over 15% of total overseas development aid, which is linked to the growth and development process. It has been estimated that aid (partly
contributed to by INGOs) over the past thirty years has increased the annual growth rate of the bottom billion by one percent. While one percent in thirty years does not sound like a lot of progress, credit should be given to the fact that progress has been consistently increasing throughout the years instead of remaining stagnant or falling backwards (Clark, 2007). Many international projects and advocacy initiatives promoted by INGOs encourage sustainable development via a human rights approach and capabilities enhancing approach. INGOS that promote human rights advocacy issues in part try to set up an international judicial standard that respects the rights of every human being and promotes the empowerment of disadvantaged communities. Other organizations, like the International Justice Mission, are working in effective and legitimate judicial systems, which enhance a country’s legitimacy and development (Clark, 2007).

Still others, such as those promoting micro-financing and education, directly impact of capabilities of citizens and communities by developing skills and human capital while encouraging citizen empowerment and community involvement. INGOs, along with domestic and international governmental initiatives, are a critical part of global development (Clark, 2007).

2.1.3 Activities of Non Governmental Organizations

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have played a major role in pushing for sustainable development at the international level. Campaigning groups have been key drivers of inter-governmental negotiations, ranging from the regulation of hazardous wastes to a global ban on land mines and the elimination of slavery, NGOs have begun to fix their sights on powerful corporations - many of which can rival entire nations in terms of their resources and influence (Beardwell & Claydon, 2007).
Aided by advances in information and communications technology, NGOs have helped to focus attention on the social and environmental externalities of business activity. Multinational brands have been acutely susceptible to pressure from activists and from NGOs eager to challenge a company's labour, environmental or human rights record. Even those businesses that do not specialize in highly visible branded goods are feeling the pressure, as campaigners develop techniques to target downstream customers and shareholders (Muindi, 2010).

According to Korten (2001), companies are taking responsibility for their externalities and reporting on the impact of their activities on a range of stakeholders. Many are striving to design new management structures which integrate sustainable development concerns into the decision-making process. Much of the credit for creating these trends can be taken by NGOs. But how should the business world react to NGOs in the future? Should companies batten down the hatches and gird themselves against attacks from hostile critics? Or should they hold out hope that NGOs can sometimes be helpful partners?

For those businesses willing to engage with the NGO community, how can they do so? The term NGO may be a ubiquitous term, but it is used to describe a bewildering array of groups and organizations - from activist groups 'reclaiming the streets' to development organizations delivering aid and providing essential public services. Other NGOs are research-driven policy organizations, looking to engage with decision-makers. Still others see themselves as watchdogs, casting a critical eye over current events (Beardwell & Claydon, 2007).

World Trade Organization’s definition of NGOs is broad enough to include industry lobby groups such as the Association of Swiss Bankers and the International Chamber of
Commerce. Such a broad definition has its critics. It is more common to define NGOs as those organizations which pursue some sort of public interest or public good, rather than individual or commercial interests (Muindi, 2010).

Even then, the NGO community remains a diverse constellation. Some groups may pursue a single policy objective - for example access to AIDS drugs in developing countries or press freedom (Higson-Smith, 2005). Others will pursue more sweeping policy goals such as poverty eradication or human rights protection. However, one characteristic these diverse organizations share is that their non-profit status means they are not hindered by short-term financial objectives (Maes, 2007). Accordingly, they are able to devote themselves to issues which occur across longer time horizons, such as climate change, malaria prevention or a global ban on landmines. Public surveys reveal that NGOs often enjoy a high degree of public trust, which can make them a useful - but not always sufficient - proxy for the concerns of society and stakeholders (Spadacini, 2010).

Not all NGOs are amenable to collaboration with the private sector. Some will prefer to remain at a distance, by monitoring, publicizing, and criticizing in cases where companies fail to take seriously their impacts upon the wider community. However, many are showing a willingness to devote some of their energy and resources to working alongside business, in order to address corporate social responsibility (Miner, 2005).

2.1.4 Non Governmental Organizations and Social Economic Development

The new attention given to NGOs at this time brought large quantities of aid resources, efforts at building the capacity of NGOs to scale up their work, and led ultimately to important changes in mainstream development thinking and practice, including new
ideas about participation, empowerment, gender, and a range of people centered approaches to poverty reduction work. For example, Cernea (2008) argued that NGOs embodied ‘a philosophy that recognizes the centrality of people in development policies’, and that this along with some other factors gave them ‘comparative advantages’ over government (Kaldor, 2003).

But too much was expected of NGOs, which came to be seen in some quarters as a ‘quick fix’ for development problems. This had led to a backlash against NGOs by the end of the 1990s, when the evidence began to suggest that NGOs had only partially lived up to these unrealistically high expectations. A global shift also took place among development donors towards new ways of working with developing country governments, using mechanisms such as ‘budget support’ and ‘sector-wide approaches’ (Lewis, 2009). Yet NGOs have a far longer history than this recent resurgence and retreat suggests. Many of the world’s best known NGOs predate (Allen, 2002).

In fact, NGOs had been active at the international level since the eighteenth century in Western countries, when national level issue-based organizations focused on the abolition of the slave trade and movements for peace. By the start of the twentieth century, there were NGOs associations promoting their identities and agendas at national and international levels. For example, at the World Congress of International Associations in 1910, there were 132 international associations represented, dealing with issues as varied as transportation, intellectual property rights, narcotics control, public health issues, agriculture and the protection of nature, and NGOs became prominent during the League of nations after the First World War, active on issues such as labor rights. But from 1935 onwards, the League became less active as growing political tensions in Europe led towards war and NGO participation in international affairs began to fade (Muindi, 2010).
According to Amin (2005), since the end of cold war, bilateral and multilateral donor agencies have pursued a ‘New Policy Agenda’ which gives renewed prominence to NGOs and GROs in poverty alleviation, social welfare and the development of civil society. NGOs are seen as the preferred channel for social welfare. They were seen as the integral part of a thriving civil society and essential counterweights to state power (Spadacini, 2010).

NGO growth can be seen also as one manifestation of new thinking about the role of government. Thus governments have turned to NGOs to the more of the providing presentation, decentralization, and localization are parallel manifestations of the same general trend sometimes as a result of these trends, but sometimes simply of their own evolution, people and communities have through forming local NGOs, taken their own initiatives. Just as governments frequently feel disempowered by globalization, people too feel disempowered and want to respond. The NGO explosion is also directly related to minimizing the direct role of government in the economy. It is argued that, because of their supposed cost-effectiveness in reaching the poorest, official agencies support NGOs in providing welfare services to those who cannot be reached through markets (Gwavuya, 2011).

All these global and local changes thus represent different forms of impetus that have contributed to the NGO growth, and placed the spotlight of them. As Edwards and Hulme (2002) point out that NGO expansion is seen as complementing the counter-revolution in development theory that underpins the policies of liberalization, state withdrawal and structural adjustment favored by official donors. NGOs are viewed as the ‘private non-profit’ sector, the performance of which advances the ‘public-bad’, and ‘private good’ ideology of the new orthodoxy (Hulme, 2002).
However, while many developing countries’ governments are actively seeking ways to encourage more NGO action, some others are suspicious about NGOs and their self-appointed role as agents of change. According to Williams (2000), the growth of NGOs often poses a dilemma for state, especially in societies where voluntary associations did not play a formative role and where the state predetermined. Some other governments insist on their sovereign political right to act as gatekeepers between organizations within their borders and agencies from the outside world (Muindi, 2010)

2.1.5 Types of Non Governmental Organizations

Charitable Orientation often involves a top-down paternalistic effort with little participation by the ‘beneficiaries’. It includes NGOs with activities directed toward meeting the needs of the poor - distribution of food, clothing or medicine; provision of housing, transport, schools etc. Such NGOs may also undertake relief activities during a natural or man-made disaster (Miner, 2005).

Service Orientation includes NGOs with activities such as the provision of health, family planning or education services in which the program is designed by the NGO and people are expected to participate in its implementation and in receiving the service. Participatory Orientation is characterized by self-help projects where local people are involved particularly in the implementation of a project by contributing cash, tools, land, materials, labour etc. In the classical community development project, participation begins with the need definition and continues into the planning and implementation stages. Cooperatives often have a participatory orientation (Spadacini, 2010).

Empowering Orientation is where the aim is to help poor people develop a clearer understanding of the social, political and economic factors affecting their lives, and to
strengthen their awareness of their own potential power to control their lives. In any case, there is maximum involvement of the people with NGOs acting as facilitators (Muindi, 2010).

Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) arise out of people's own initiatives. These can include sports clubs, women's organizations, and neighborhood organizations, religious or educational organizations. There are a large variety of these, some supported by NGOs, national or international NGOs, or bilateral or international agencies, and others independent of outside help. Some are devoted to rising the consciousness of the urban poor or helping them to understand their rights in gaining access to needed services while others are involved in providing such services (Hersey & Johnson, 2008).

Citywide Organizations include organizations such as the Rotary or lion's Club, chambers of commerce and industry, coalitions of business, ethnic or educational groups and associations of community organizations. Some exist for other purposes, and become involved in helping the poor as one of many activities, while others are created for the specific purpose of helping the poor (Kaldor, 2003).

National NGOs include organizations such as the Red Cross, YMCAs/YWCAs, professional organizations etc. Some of these have state and city branches and assist local NGOs. International NGOs range from secular gencies such as Redda BArna and Save the Children organizations, OXFAM, CARE, Ford and Rockefeller Foundations to religiously motivated groups. Their activities vary from mainly funding local NGOs, institutions and projects, to implementing the projects themselves (Miner, 2005).
2.2 Empirical Literature

2.2.1 NGO’s in Social Economic Development

NGOs are groups of concerned citizens who are independent of the government and business, and are thus nominally non-political and non-profit organizations. NGOs typically have charity status and raise funds through a combination of voluntary donations from the public, but also grants from governments and other international development institutions (Beardwell & Claydon, 2007).

Many NGOs are tiny, focusing on development in one region and specializing in one area, others, however, are global institutions, have huge budgets and work in several countries on numerous types of development project. This section focuses on these larger ‘aid organizations’ with an international focus such as Oxfam and Action Aid. Although such organizations have an international focus, they still have a tendency to divide their attention so they focus on hundreds of different micro-level projects at one time (Hersey & Johnson, 2008).

The development function, probably the most obvious; This typically involves focusing on small scale aid projects such as local irrigation schemes, or developing rural health and education schemes in conjunction with local communities. The Empowerment Function – More so than with private companies and Governments NGOs aim to ‘empower’ local communities. This involves striving to give local communities a role in how aid projects are developed, but also lobbying International institutions like the European Union to establish trade rules which do not unfairly advantage western companies and farmers (Gwavuya, 2011).
The Education Function, Oxfam is a good example of an NGO that puts a lot of money into developing education for schools and advertising to keep developing world issues in the public consciousness. The ‘emergency aid function’ when natural or social disasters occur Earthquakes, Hurricanes, Famines for example NGOs are often the front line in the delivery of emergency aid (Spadacini, 2010).

Non-Governmental Organizations play a vital role in the shaping and implementation of participatory democracy. Their credibility lies in the responsible and constructive role they play in society. Formal and informal organizations, as well as grass-roots movements, can be recognized as partners in the implementation of People’s Agenda 21. The nature of the independent role played by non-governmental organizations within a society calls for real participation; therefore, independence is a potential attribute of non-governmental organizations and is the precondition of real participation. The community of non-governmental organizations, therefore, offers a global network that can be tapped, enabled and supported in conjunction with efforts to achieve these common goals (Muindi, 2010).

2.2.2 NGO’s in funding projects
From colonial rule to 1980’s there was a relatively small NGOs sector, dominated mainly by the humanitarian and evangelistic organizations such as church related organizations. Church - related organizations provided crucial services such as schools, medical care and counseling. Other NGOs such as Women’s Organizations, social clubs, professional organizations were organized along interests of their constituents. Until recently NGOs were not looked upon as significant alternative providers of services to the state sector or as representing alternative policy framework to the state or private sector.
The resurgence of the neo-liberal paradigm in the political economy of the third World has made the NGOs become a critical factor in the management of political and socio-economic agenda in these countries. The neo-liberal perspectives conceives the African state as a ‘failed state’ while the market is ‘imperfect’ in allocation of resources in society. From this perspective, NGOs and civil society are seen a viable alternative to the "failed" state and the "imperfect market" in providing services needed by the people especially the poorest of the poor (Dicklitch, 2008). On the political side, the NGOs and civil society are seen as ‘vehicles for empowerment and democratization’ (Dicklitch, 2008). For instance, they are seen as playing a role in creating a civic culture of pluralizing the economic and political arena, and bridging the gap between the state and the unorganized masses. For this reason, donors find it easy to deal with them and channels for much needed aid to the poor to the poor people (Allen, 2002). Despite the positive role the NGOs play, they are fragmented, project-oriented, donor-driven, urban-based and sometimes, poorly managed (Dicklitch, 2008).

While the NGO sector has expanded enormously, its contribution to social, economic and political changes remains a subject of inquiry. Recent studies indicate that the NGOs’ are fundamentally constrained by regime impediments. For instance the government allows these NGOs which operate as gap fillers but are discouraged form performing roles that are considered ‘politically sensitive’. This so called ‘sensitivity’ limits their role in working for meaningful change in the political arena. To ensure control of the NGO sector, the Ugandan government put in place an NGO registration Board. The main functions are to register and to monitor NGOs operating in Uganda (Amin, 2005).

The National Council of NGOs, popularly known as the NGOs Council, is a self-
regulating, non-partisan body comprising all registered NGOs in Kenya. It was established in August 1993 under section 23 of the Non-governmental Organizations Co-ordination Act, 1990 (Laws of Kenya) as a forum of all Non-Governmental Organizations registered under the Act with a mandate of self regulation, capacity building and policy intervention for the NGOs Sector. The Council operates through the decisions of the General Assembly (GASS) held annually. These NGOs are active in a cross section of sectors including: agriculture, water, education, environment, health, human rights, gender and development, children’s rights, poverty alleviation, peace, population, training, counseling, small scale enterprises, disability and many others. The NGO Council provides overall leadership to the NGO sector. It champions the key values of probity, transparency, accountability, justice and good governance. It enhances the self-regulation of its members, and assists them to realize their potential in improving services that improve the socio-economic status of Kenyan society in pursuit of sustainable development (Beardwell & Claydon, 2007).

This has been the context in which there has been an explosive growth in the presence of Western as well as local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Africa. NGOs today form a prominent part of the ‘development machine’, a vast institutional and disciplinary nexus of official agencies, practitioners, consultants, scholars, and other miscellaneous experts producing and consuming knowledge about the ‘developing world’. According to recent estimates, there are as many as three thousand development NGOs in OECD countries as a whole. In Britain alone, there are well over one hundred voluntary groups claiming some specialism in the field. Aid (in which NGOs have come to play a significant role) is frequently portrayed as a form of altruism, a charitable act that enables wealth to flow from rich to poor, poverty to be reduced and the poor to be empowered. Such claims tend to be, as David Sogge puts it
‘shibboleths, catch phrases that distinguish believers from doubters. Indeed they are utterances of belief. At best they are half-truths’ (Allen, 2002).

2.2.3 NGO’s and VSLGs

Most Rwandan development NGOs were created after 1985. The sharp increase in development assistance during the 1980s fueled their expansion and set their agenda. The government used development NGOs to service the needs of smaller peasant associations engaged in a wide range of economic activities encouraged by the state, international NGOs, and donors. Most of the key positions in these NGOs were held by technicians, former government officials, clergy, and expatriates approved by the government. The disruption caused by the 1990-1994 war and genocide led to a sharp decline (Spadacini, 2010).

The destruction of the economy and basic social infrastructure, the horrors of genocide, and the need to resettle three million people led to a massive influx of foreign aid in the post-genocide era. Donors relied heavily upon International Non Governmental Organizations (INGOs) to execute emergency relief, rehabilitation, and resettlement programs. The INGOs, in turn, relied heavily upon Rwandan cadres and development NGOs to execute their programs on the ground with the following results. INGOs weakened Rwandan NGOs by recruiting some of their best people to work directly for them (ARDI, 2000).

National development NGOs expanded rapidly and increased the number of its personnel. National development NGOs depended almost exclusively upon NGOs and donors for financing their activities. With the return to normalcy in 1998 following the end of hostilities and the resettlement of most of the returnees, donors reduced the amount of aid to Rwanda for rehabilitation and resettlement projects, and INGOs cut
back on subcontracting national NGOs to execute their programs. As a result of cutbacks and dependency on external financing, most Rwandan development NGOs have been forced to reduce their personnel. Most of the recent annual reports of development NGOs examined by the assessment team referred to cutbacks in personnel and the need to find new sources of financing (ARDI, 2000).

The *Association Rwandaise pour la Promotion du Développement Intégré* (ARDI) has an interesting profile which provides insights concerning the strengths and weaknesses of national development NGOs and efforts to adapt to a difficult situation. ARDI works with 309 agricultural and livestock associations and 70 associations specializing in honey production whose total membership is more than 7,000 people. Nearly half of its personnel are based outside of Kigali.

ARDI provides its grassroots partners with technical assistance and training in leadership, management and accounting, animal traction, and construction and management of beehives; and distributes improved stock of pigs, rabbits, and goats, animals and agricultural inputs to farmer associations. Although heavily dependent upon foreign donors and INGOs for financing, ARDI is also making an effort to finance its activities with profits made by the sale of products produced by the groups that they serve (ARDI, 2000).

Its annual budget is over 173 million Rwandan francs. It now finances nearly twenty percent of its activities through the sale of products and services and has set a goal of financing forty percent of its activities through its own resources. In working with the grassroots associations, ARDI stresses participation and self-management. It is also encouraging the smaller associations to federate in order to raise funds so that they can finance their own training programs and eventually dispense with ARDI’s services.
ARDI also encourages its own personnel to look for training to improve their skills. ARDI receives training and funding from nine different external partners. It sees CCOAIB as an effective organization that provides training for its members and serves as a forum for discussing common interests and strategies. Like many other NGOs, it is interested in using Internet to communicate and share information with other NGOs and associations. Support for the Economic Sector, in consultation with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, the government has taken measures—demonetization and reduction in money supply, devaluation and reliance on market determination of exchange rates—confirming its seriousness about economic reform. The United States has been one of the principal donors in covering the government’s arrears to unblock World Bank funds and in reequipping ministries. The government and international financial institutions face two major challenges. They are maintaining macroeconomic policy in favor of growth and development and keeping public recurrent expenditure under control (UNDP, 2010).

UNDP and others development agencies have been largely responsible for funding agriculture rehabilitation programs. The most notable of these have been providing seeds and tools to farm households, multiplying local varieties of major crops, and assisting the Ministry of Agriculture. In particular, over two seasons, each household received a “package” of bean, maize, sorghum, and vegetable seeds and one or two hoes. Fifty percent of farmers were reached in the first season, 80 percent in the second. But some relief personnel fear such aid has begun to induce dependency of some recipients (UNDP, 2010).

Many farmers who have received material assistance for agriculture are squatters on land vacated by people who were killed or who fled during the war. An unanticipated effect of seeds and tools distribution may be to entrench and appear to validate their hold
on the land (UNDP, 2010).

2.3 Critical Review and Research Gaps Identification

The NGOs and VSLGS in Rwanda have certain unique features. As observed, the NGOs in Rwanda typically does not promote new groups, but identifies and selects existing associations that are already formed (but are often inactive) and this was only they was supporting very poor people which was critical in socio-economic development (Kaldor, 2003). Many researchers like: Cleary (2007): The Role of NGOs under Authoritarian Political Systems; Dicklitch (2008): The Elusive Promise of NGOs in Africa Lessons from Uganda; Gariyo (2005): Empowerment Through Dialogue ‘Can NGOs Influence Public Policy in Uganda’; Ndegwa (2006): The Two Faces of Civil Society NGOs and Politics in Africa, etc…have written on the role played by NGOs in improving socio-economic development of beneficiaries in various contexts – not Rwanda, hence the need of this study using Care Internation in Nyanza District as a case study.

2.4 Theoretical Framework

The two historical roots of NGOs, care and welfare activities, find expression in the two principal ways in which NGOs endeavour to achieve their aims through care and welfare activities; alongside their activities oriented promoting change and development. These two functions are not mutually exclusive and thus do not create two recognizable types of NGOs. Many NGOs are involved in both, for now, as in the past, the two are connected: indeed, many NGOs describe themselves as multi-functional (Muindi, 2010). According to Korten (2001), today, a broad range of organizations, clubs and associations are found in democratic societies which have a wide variety of social,
political, civil, sporting, religious, business, cultural and recreational purposes. As new concerns have arisen, and the capacities of governments to meet the needs of their citizens have been reduced by globalization and economic constraints, the role of NGOs has expanded. At the beginning of 1980s with the effect of neoliberal ideology the thoughts on democracy have developed and widened. The common understanding was that ‘democracy is not just a matter of formal political arrangement, but a way of life embracing plurality, diversity and difference (Gwavuya, 2011).

Civil society is the virtue of democracy. NGOs have come to be involved in the fields spanning the whole spectrum of human need including health, education rural and urban development, environment, population, social welfare, employment creation, skills training, economic development, environmental concerns, gender awareness and action, peace and human rights, and the informal sector. They have played a major role in highlighting the impact of national debt, structural adjustment and the unemployment of the disadvantaged sectors of society. In all these fields, much has been done by NGOs to pioneer new policies and practices and create a better public understanding and awareness of many emerging, social, economic, and environmental issues and problems (Allen, 2002).

The rapid rise in the number of civil society organizations and their increase in quantity has not been matched by an increase in quality, resulting in many common problems regarding accountability. The increased number, scope and outreach of civil society organizations demand stronger, more reliable and sustainable funding mechanisms. The answer to future escalating demands on apparently limited resources may be in the creation of new and/or indigenous forms of resource mobilization, or in the development of new means to increase known resources.
2.5 Conceptual Framework

This partition entitled conceptual framework presents the types of variables to be used in collecting, processing and analyzing information from the field. In order to stick to scientific rigor, this study used selected independent and dependent variables and their relationship were analyzed and statistical significance computed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent variable</th>
<th>Dependent variable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NGOs support:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Socio-Economic Development:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Funding projects</td>
<td>a) Increased participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Helping Groups</td>
<td>b) Community solidarity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Training Communities on saving</td>
<td>c) Enhanced knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d) Access to finance , Health education cost, etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intervening Variables</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Government polices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Culture of communities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Community background</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework

Source: Researcher, 2018

According to the above conceptual framework, there is a tripartite relationship between independent, dependent and intervening variables whereby the first ones are represented by the role played by CARE International as a funding organization funding projects and/or programs and helping groups of beneficiaries. On the other hand there are
dependent variables which consist of the socio-economic parameters.

2.6 Summary of Literature

The researcher presented literature related to the contribution of Non Governmental Organizations on the socio-economic development. There are different ways of categorizing NGOs in broad terms. One categorization is the recognition of a: Mutual benefit NGO, involving an association concerned with improving the situation of its membership, versus a public benefit NGO, which is an organization working for the improvement of conditions of society as a whole or of a segment of society. The World Bank differentiates two main categories of NGOs with which it interacts: Operational NGOs, the primary purpose of which is the design and implementation of development-related projects. There are also advocacy NGOs, whose primary purpose is to defend or promote a specific cause, and influence the policies and practices of international organizations.
CHAPTER THREE : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the methods that the researcher used in collecting, analyzing and interpreting data in this research. The chapter presents the research design, the population of the study, the sample size and sampling techniques. It also presents data collection methods, validity and reliability, data analysis, interpretation and ethical considerations.

3.1 Research Design

Research design is the plan that guides data collection to achieve the objectives of research, i.e., to generate new information based on existing ones (Kothari, 2005). The best design depends on the research question as well as the orientation of the researcher; it is the arrangement of conditions for collection and analysis of data in a manner that aims to combine relevance to the research purpose with economy in procedure or a conceptual structure within which research is conducted. In this research, the researcher used a descriptive design where issues related to the contribution of nongovernmental organizations on economic development were described by Higson-Smith (2005).

3.2 Target Population

A population of the study refers to entities within the same characteristics that fulfill requirements for the study (Sarantakos, 2008). The population study is 384 respondents, that is 291 households (see sample size calculation with at least one beneficiary of CARE International Village Savings and Loans groups program, locally known as ‘INTAMBWE’ 17 program managers and stakeholders and 76 local community leaders as key informants. Women and/or men in VSLGs are given equal chance to respond for
the study. The primary target population consisted of 79 respondents, that is 60 VSLGs, 4 program managers and 15 local community leaders as key informants. Women and/or men in VSLGs were given equal chance to respond for the study.

3.3 Sample Design

A design is the structure of any scientific work. It gives direction and systematizes the research (Yin, 2003). A sample design is the framework, or road map, that serves as the basis for the selection of a survey sample and affects many other important aspects of a survey as well (Creswell, 2004). Sampling is an operation which consists in presenting a certain number of elements in the set of elements that are to be studied. It must be representative of the mother-population which means that it must have the characteristics of the mother population in the same proportions.

3.3.1 Sample Size

Sample size is part of the population that the researcher decides to use in a research as a representation of the total population. The sample of the study described selected using Sloven’s formula $n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$ (1960) whereby $n$ is the sample size, $N$ is the total population and $e$ is the sampling error (0.1).

$$n = \frac{384}{1+384(0.1)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{384}{1+384(0.1)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{384}{1+384(0.1)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{384}{1+384(0.01)}$$

$$n = \frac{384}{1+ 3.84}$$

$$n = \frac{384}{4.844} = 79$$
The sample size of this research was therefore 79 respondents selected from the total population.

### 3.3.2 Sampling Techniques

The study used a probability sampling method of simple random. Simple random sampling involved selecting a sample of population in such a way that samples of the same size have equal chances of being selected (Amin, 2005). In using the simple random sampling the researcher used the lottery method where all names of the elements were written on tag and placed in a container and each tag was picked without replacement until the required numbers was reached (Amin, 2005). Purposive sampling involved selection of respondents who are most knowledgeable and experienced in women and men participation and sustainability of VSLGs.

### 3.4 Data Collection Methods

Data collection is a term used to describe a process of preparing and collecting data. The purpose of data collection is to obtain information to keep on record, to make decisions about important issues, and to pass information on to others (Miller & Fredericks, 2006). The study used survey techniques to collect primary data.

This study used both secondary and primary data collection methods just like most studies. According to Miller & Gatta (2006), primary data are those data which are collected afresh and for the first time, and thus happen to be original in character; while secondary data are those which have already been collected by someone else and which have already been passed through the statistical process. Primary data is important because of the following reasons: it helps to formulate corrective measures of the problem analyzed; it allows the researcher to highlight the precision and the concise explanation of the problem under study; it enables the researcher to avoid prejudices and preconceived ideas.
Secondary data helps in relating literature and discussion of findings. The study went beyond secondary sources and contacted respondents for first hand information using questionnaire items. This enabled the researcher to cover a large population quickly and at a reasonable cost.

3.4.1 Data Collection Instruments

The researcher used a Self-Administered Questionnaire (SAQ) in order to solicit the needed information. A questionnaire is a set of questions for gathering information from individuals. The questionnaire constituted the main research instrument because it generates data in a very systematic and ordered fashion (Amin, 2005) and the respondents answer the questions in their own mood without being affected by the researcher’s presence.

The questionnaire comprised close ended items divided into sections namely: background information, VSLGs and socio economic development. A standard questionnaire was addressed to VSLGs members and interviews questions administered to local community leaders and Care International’s Leaders was used to get quantifiable primary data from individual respondents. A total of 79 questionnaires were distributed to the target group.

Interviews, Semi-structured interviews were conducted with individual participants. Free format responses were collected to allow a researcher to pursue topics of particular interest to each. This allowed them to talk about their experiences, explain their situation and describe events that had occurred in their lives.

Interviews with VSLGs, local Leaders and staff members of Care international started with general questions about their socio demographic characteristics followed by their involvement in community activities. This helped prepare women for the conversations.
about their involvement in development of VSLGs. Interviews with staff required more detailed discussion about the purpose of the study to gain their confidence. Interviews lasted between half an hour and one hour.

The interviews may be useful as follow-up to certain respondents to questionnaires. In this study, the researcher conducted interview with 79 Participants, were VSLGs members, local community leadership and program management in Nyanza District in order to complete data from different reports.

On documentary review, the researcher also had to review the documents containing information related to the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the economic development.

3.5. Validity and reliability

Validity and reliability are critical features of effective research. Validity refers to the extent to which questions in an instrument accurately measure the variables therein (Guy et al, 2007), while reliability refers to the degree to which a set of variables are consistent with what they are intended to measure (Amin, 2005). To ensure validity and reliability of the instrument, the researcher pretested it to a few respondents from the total population

3.6 Data Analysis

Data processing involves translating raw information into meaningful and relevant information for easy interpretation. The data collected were processed for analysis and then later actually analyzed. The collected data were edited, categorized or coded and computerized (Sarantakos, 2008).
All questionnaires from the field were processed and computerized. Data processing mainly consisted of data entry, correcting, cleaning, editing and analysis. Data entry and editing were done using Microsoft Excel 2010 and data cleaning and analysis were performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). Frequency distribution, cross tabulation and correlation among different variables were computed.

3.7 Ethical Considerations

The goal of ethics in research is to ensure that no one is harmed or suffers adverse consequences from research activities (Cooper & Schindler, 2003). The researcher attempted to observe good ethical principles in undertaking this study. Permission to conduct the research was sought from relevant authorities. Also, a letter of introduction and permission from Mount Kenya University to conduct research was guaranteed. In terms of ethical consideration, participation in this study was made at a voluntary basis and names of interviewees were not even be recorded anywhere. If a respondent feels like she/he don’t want to answer a particular questions or they feel like ending the interview at any stage, she/he was free to do so. For respondents who refused to participate in the study, no force was used.
CHAPTER FOUR: RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents analyses and interpretation of the views of respondents in relation to the study objectives. Data presentation was done using tables while analysis and interpretation was done based on frequencies and percentages of respondent’s views.

4.1 Socio Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

4.1.1 Gender of the Respondents

The researcher presented the profile of the respondents in terms of gender as follow:

Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Researcher, 2018

Table 4.1 shows that 76% of the respondents are female and 24% of the respondents are male. This indicates that gendered social norms and power relations of VSL in district, define the ways in which women and men members of VSL groups access money for savings; how they invest loans taken from the VSL group; and the extent to which they have decision-making authority regarding the use of loans taken and control over assets purchased with those loans.
4.1.2 Marital Status of Respondents

Table 4.2 shows the level of respondents according to their marital status as thus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>70.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>79</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Researcher, 2018*

Table 4.2 indicates that 14% of respondents are single, 70.8% belongs to the married, and 11.4% represent the widowed persons and 3.8% for divorced/separated people. The married people are important in this study because they are responsible for family management and VSLGs help them to solve their family issues like housing, nutrition, medical care, schooling and get money from working with VSLGs.

4.1.3 Category of the Respondents

Table 4.3 shows the categories level of respondents according to their categories and they are presented:
Table 4.3: Views of respondents according to categories in family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories in family</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have one male parent (Father or Foster)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have One Female Parent (Mother or Foster)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have both Parents</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>69.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have none of the parents</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>79</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Researcher, 2018

Table 4.3 results indicate that 6% of respondents have one male parent (Father or Foster), 16.4% of respondents have one female parent (Mother or Foster), while 69.6% of respondents have both parents then 8% have none of the parent because of the problems of recent bad situation (Genocide and other matters) which occurred in Rwanda. To explain this, a researcher mention that there is no exception for being member of VSLGs in Nyanza District as showed by different categories of people, some of them are total orphans and other are orphans for one parent, while the majority (69.6%) is not.
Table 4.4: Views of respondents according to their level of education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of householder</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not gone to school</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>53.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>24.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Researcher, 2018

Table 4.4 shows that 11% of respondents was not gone to school, 53.1% has finished the primary school, while 7.5 % has secondary level, 3.7% which are professionally in the different services and 24.4 % with bachelor’s degree.

Table 4.5: Educational status of family members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational level</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All members are/have been to school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only some members are/have been to school</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All have never been to/are out of school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some members dropped from School</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>79</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Researcher, 2018
Table 4.5 indicates that some of members in family have been trained to school at 100% level of respondents depending on financial means which were available to use and basing on capacity of such family. Considered the results from this table, I judged that many people in the different families have been to school due to the services offered by VSLGs in Nyanza District.

Table 4.6: Member of a group or cooperative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group cooperative</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>75.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>24.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>79</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Researcher, 2018

Table 4.6 results indicate that all respondents have joined the group at 75.9% in order to help each other for improving their living conditions in NYANZA District.

4.1.1. Economic Contribution

Table 4.7 shows the monthly saving of group members after joining the saving group.

Table 4.7: Monthly saving after joining groups or cooperative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savings</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1000-20000</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20000-50000</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>58.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50000-100000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 100000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>79</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Researcher, 2018
Table 4.7 results indicate that 30.4% of respondents have saved between 1000-20000, 58.2 of respondents have saved between 20000-50000, 8.9% of respondents have saved between 50000-100000 and 2.5% have saved above 100000 after joining the saving group. The different categories of people after joining the VSLGs in Nyanza District their income generation has increased and facilitated them to easily get savings.

4.2 Socio – economic contribution

Table 4.8: Assets of households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TV</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor bike</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running water</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbits</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>64.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>74.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duck</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Researcher, 2018

Table 4.8 indicates that the majority of people in Nyanza District use their funds gained
mainly from VSLGs to access different assets, such as bicycles at 81%, cows at 74.4%, goats at 64.6%, TV at 20.2% etc. This opportunity for the VSLGs clients to access different assets is the factor to explain the improvement of living conditions of people in Nyanza District.

Table 4.9: Views of local community leaders on the VSLGS contribution to the socio economic development of people

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both positive and negative</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Researcher, 2018

Table 4.9 shows that 100% of respondents believe that VSLGs have a positive influence on the socio economic development of Rwandan people in Nyanza District since villages saving loans enabled people to increase their life conditions.

Table 4.10: Views of program managers and stakeholders on the VSLGs contribution to the socio economic development of its Beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both positive and negative</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Researcher, 2018

Table 4.10 shows that 100% of respondents believe that VSLGs have a positive
influence on the socio economic development of beneficiaries in Nyanza District since villages saving loans enabled people to increase their life conditions.
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents a summary of the data presented and analyzed in chapter four. The summary of the major findings are presented basing on the research objectives, the conclusion is drawn from the major findings of the entire research and some recommendations are put forward by the researcher.

5.1 Summary of the Findings

VSLGs services supported by Care International enable households to earn more incomes through the provision of loans as shown in Table 4.10 which indicates that the majority of respondents have opened bank accounts in different financial institutions and this show that all customers preferred Bank of Kigali at 88.5%, BPR at 84.7%, Umurenge SACCO at 96.4% and other microfinance at 43.9% because these are financial institutions which give credit to customers according to the size and maturity.

Results from Table 4.8 indicate that the majority of people in Nyanza District use their funds gained mainly from VSLGs to access different assets, such as bicycles at 81%, cows at 74.4%, goats at 64.6%, TV at 20.2 % etc. This opportunity for the VSLGs clients to access different assets explains the improvement of living conditions of the people in Nyanza District.

The findings in this chapter also indicate that the majority of the people in Nyanza District get money from agriculture at 90%, commerce at 83.8% and savings and loan groups at 89.4% in order to accumulate their production in different services.
5.1.1: Implementation of VSLGs in the socio-economic development in Nyanza District

The study examined if VSLGs can help its beneficiaries to expand and diversify their enterprises and increase their incomes. In order to examine if VSLGs helped its beneficiaries to expand and diversify, and if it can contribute in the increase of their income, the researcher asked questions related to usage of fund borrowed in form loans. The research data showed that there was creation of new businesses based on the amount received in the VSLGs, were 30.4% of respondents have saved between 1000 - 20000, 58.2 of respondents have saved between 20000 - 50000, 8.9% of respondents have saved between 50000 - 100000 and 2.5% have saved above 100000 after joining the saving group. The different categories of people after joining the VSLGs in Nyanza District their income generation has increased and facilitated them to easily get savings. This was an opportunity of all clients to be able solve their family problems and get exceeded capital to deposit on account bank accounts.

5.1.2: Socio-economic development of VSLGs members supported by Care International

The study analyzed if the access to the VSLGs can enhance the household capacity to purchase and own some valuable assets by the VSLGs clients.

The research showed that the majority of the people in Nyanza District use their funds gained mainly from VSLGs to access different assets, such as bicycles at 81%, cows at 74.4%, goats at 64.6%, TV at 20.2% etc. This opportunity for the VSLGs clients to access different assets is the factor to explain the improvement of living conditions of people in Nyanza District.
5.1.3: How beneficiaries of VSLGs appreciate the support they are receiving

The respondents explained that they appreciate the support given by CARE International. The 79.5% of respondents believe that VSLGs supported by Care International help the members to diversify their businesses which eventually increase the savings of the clients in the long run, and easily afford many cost based life needed items. As far as the exploration of perceived views and opinions of care International VSLGs program beneficiaries and stake holders on their effects on rural community development. The 100% of respondents believe that VSLGs have a positive influence on the socio economic development of Rwandan people in Nyanza District since villages saving loans enabled people to increase their life conditions.

5.2 Conclusions

The study aimed at examining the NGOs and socio-economic promotion in Rwanda, case study of Village Saving and Loans Groups supported by Care International in Nyanza District. The study was built on the specific objectives of the study. Data was collected using a questionnaire as the main data collection instrument. It was found that VSLGs help the members to diversify their businesses which eventually increase their savings in the long run, and they can easily afford their basic needs.

The clients of VSLGs supported by Care International in Nyanza District argued that this is evidenced by the provision of the loans to the usually non trusted clients, meaning that the poor people who are neglected by commercial banks and other institutions, and the acquisition and possession of valued object that were not owned before the adhesion to The VSLGs. Many people get loans from financial institutions as that it was founded purposely to help some people give household property as security to be given loans.
The challenges faced by members of VSLGs supported by Care International in Nyanza District in receiving loan is the lack or insufficiency of loan securities whereby most of the clients of different banks do not receive the amounts they wish to borrow because of lack of collateral securities.

5.3 Recommendations

After analyzing the findings and the general conclusion of the study, the researcher came up with these recommendations:

Other partners in socio-economic development should diversify the package of service they have for the client as this can increase the reputation of the microfinance and at the end many would wish to work with them, thus attaining their objectives.

Local community leaders should through facilities improvement, keep supervision, and continuous training opportunities to their communities, as an attempt to improve general socio-economic development services essentially those specific to VSLGs by improving the physical environment and capacity of different practitioners.

The beneficiaries should be active and work with VSLGs in order to get benefits from the services offered by the saving and loans groups or cooperatives.

5.4 Suggestions for Further Research

The study was not exhaustively handled; this implies that more on the topic area and related field need to be examined, with that note these topics are suggested for further research:

Research should be carried out on the analysis of financial institutions’ impact on their
customers’ self development,

Research should be carried out the role of Non-Government Organizations and poverty reduction in Rwanda.
REFERENCES


Bell, H. (2013), Analysis of new plan to collect data, CANADA


Laporta D, and Burns J, (2005) Bench to bedside review: Dealing with increased intensive care unit staff retention–a leadership challenge.


development and poverty reduction strategies


APPENDIX A: RESEARCH AUTHORISATION LETTER

Mount Kenya University
KIGALI CAMPUS
SCHOOL OF POST GRADUATE STUDIES

RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION

2nd December, 2014

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/Madam,

MR. JEAN PIERRE NKUNDAYE - MPAM/3056/12

This is to confirm that the above named person is a bona fide student of Mount Kenya University (Kigali Campus). He is currently carrying out research work to enable him complete his Master of Public Administration and Management (Community Development & NGOs Management Option) degree program. The title of his research is:

NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS AND THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROMOTION IN RWANDA:
A CASE STUDY OF VILLAGE SAVINGS AND LOANS GROUPS SUPPORTED BY CARE INTERNATIONAL IN NYANZA DISTRICT

The information received will be confidential and for academic purpose only.

Any assistance accorded him to complete this study will be highly appreciated.

Thank you,

Coordinator
School of Post Graduate Studies

Mercyline Kamande PhD
COORDINATOR School of POST GRADUATE STUDIES
APPENDIX B: RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS 1: QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear esteemed respondent,

I am conducting a research on the ‘Non Governmental Organizations and the socio-economic development promotion in RWANDA: A case study of VSLGs supported by CARE INTERNATIONAL in NYANZA District’.

I kindly need your attention and cooperation as this research is basically for academic purposes and I will maintain high confidentiality on the information you will provide.

Would you mind if I get back the questionnaires within 15 days after receiving them?

Nkundiye Jean Pierre

Researcher
SECTION ONE: QUESTIONS RELATED TO GENERAL & DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

(Independent variables)

Instructions to the respondent: Put an “X” symbol in the box of the selected answer (s). Do not read responses unless the directions indicate.

1. Gender of respondent (chose the appropriate answer)
   □ 1 Male
   □ 2 Female

2. What is your Marital Status? (Chose one)
   □ 1 Single
   □ 2 Married
   □ 3 Widowed
   □ 4 Divorced/Separated

3. Are you a member of a saving group or cooperative?
   □ 1 Yes
   □ 2 No □Skip q6 and go section two

   (i) If the answer is “Yes”, which group or cooperative do you belong to?
   (ii) What are the activities undertaken by your cooperative?
4. Level of education

(a) Not gone to school

(b) Primary

(c) Secondary

(d) Tertiary

(e) University
SECTION TWO: QUESTIONS RELATED TO VSLGs’ MEMBERS AND BENEFICIARIES (Dependent Variables)

5. How much money do you earn from your savings per month? (WRITE THE AMOUNT MENTIONED)

RWF_______/month

6. In your household do you have? (Read the following possible answers and chose one answer.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| ☐   | ☐  | Bicycle
| ☐   | ☐  | Motorbike
| ☐   | ☐  | Motor Vehicle
| ☐   | ☐  | Computer
| ☐   | ☐  | Running water
| ☐   | ☐  | Electricity
| ☐   | ☐  | Internet
| ☐   | ☐  | Hens
| ☐   | ☐  | Rabbits
| ☐   | ☐  | Goats
| ☐   | ☐  | Cows
7. How is the educational status of your family members? (Check all that are mentioned.)

☐ 1 All members are/have been to school

☐ 2 Only some members are/have been to school

☐ 3 All have never been to/are out of school

☐ 4 Some members dropped from school

8. Do you have a Bank Account? (Chose one answer)

☐ 1 Yes

☐ 2 No ☐ Q12

1. If yes, in which bank do you have your account? (Read the following choices and tick one answer.)

Yes No

☐ ☐ The People’s Bank of Rwanda [BPR]

☐ ☐ Banque of Kigali [BK]

☐ ☐ I&M Bank [Former BCR]

☐ ☐ Fina Bank

☐ ☐ Equity Bank

☐ ☐ Umurenge SACCO

☐ ☐ Agaseke Bank

☐ ☐ Urwego Opportunity Bank
☐ ☐ Guaranty Trust Bank (GT Bank)

☐ ☐ Other banks [specify_________________________]

2. How much is your Principal Capital Deposit in your bank account(s)? (CHOOSE ONE)

☐ 1  RWF 1,000 – RWF 100,000

☐ 2  RWF 100,000 – RWF 1,000,000

☐ 3  RWF 1,000,000 – RWF 5,000,000

☐ 4  Over RWF 5,000,000

3. What is the origin of the money you started with? (Check all that are mentioned and tick one of your choice.)

Yes  No

☐ ☐ Salary

☐ ☐ Agriculture

☐ ☐ Commerce

☐ ☐ Tontines

☐ ☐ Other sources [specify] ____________________________

4. What did you do with the money you earned the last time you earned something? (Read the following choices and tick one answer.)

Yes  No

☐ ☐ Built/Bought a [new] house

☐ ☐ Bought Farming Land
☐ ☐ Paid School Fees
☐ ☐ Bought new cloths
☐ ☐ Paid for food
☐ ☐ Paid health insurance
☐ ☐ Bought TV
☐ ☐ Bought Bicycle
☐ ☐ Bought Motorbike
☐ ☐ Bought Motor Vehicle
☐ ☐ Bought Computer
☐ ☐ Bought Running water
☐ ☐ Bought Electricity
☐ ☐ Bought Internet
☐ ☐ Bought Hens
☐ ☐ Bought Rabbits
☐ ☐ Bought Goats
☐ ☐ Bought Cows
☐ ☐ Bought Sheep
☐ ☐ Bought Pigs
☐ ☐ Bought Ducks
☐ ☐ Other: [specify] __________________________

Thanks you for your participation
APPENDIX C: INTERVIEW

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS ADMINISTERED TO LEADERS OF CARE INTERNATIONAL

Individual Interview Guide

Opening: “Welcome! My name is NKUNDIYE Jean Pierre, and I am from Mount Kenya University, an MPAM candidate. I am here to ask your ideas on how Non Governmental Organizations i.e CARE International’s VSLGs “Intambwe” promote the socio-economic development in this region. I just want to get your opinions and thoughts about this issue. Instructions: Interviewer, put an “x” in the box corresponding to the category of respondent. And ask the following questions. Make sure the questions are asked in a kind and friendly way that encourage people to be thoughtful and honest.

In which category is the respondent? (Do not ask this question, tick the corresponding box accordingly)

☐ CARE Inter VSLGs Program Manager ☐ CBO Leader
☐ Other NGO Leader ☐ Church Leader
☐ CSO Leader ☐ Local Administration leader
☐ Other Stake Holder ☐ Community Leader

1. Can you tell me about CARE International’s VSLGs “Intambwe” in this area? When did they start? Why?
2. Who are the members of Village Savings and Loans Groups?
3. Who benefits from VSLGs?
4. How useful do you think are these Village Saving and Loans?
5. Do you think VSLGs contribute to the socio-economic development of this area?

How?

6. What is the visible evidence showing the extent to which the socio-economic status of VSLGs beneficiaries has changed as a result of this programme?

7. Is there anything else you can add?

8. What do you suggest for improving these VSLGs?

Thank you for your participation
APPENDIX D: INTERVIEW QUESTIONS ADMINISTERED TO MUKINGO AND KIGOMA SECTORS LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS

Individual Interview Guide

Opening: “Welcome! My name is NKUNDIYE Jean Pierre, and I am from Mount Kenya University, a MPAM candidate. I am here to ask your ideas on how CARE International’s VSLGs “Intambwe” promotes the socio-economic development in this region. I just want to get your opinions and thoughts about this issue.

Instructions: Interviewer, put an “x” in the box corresponding to the category of respondent. And ask the following questions. Make sure the questions are asked in a kind and friendly way that encourage people to be thoughtful and honest.

In which category is the respondent? (Do not ask this question, tick the corresponding box accordingly)

☐ CARE Int’l Program Manager ☐ CBO Leader
☐ Other NGO Leader ☐ Church Leader
☐ CSO Leader ☐ Local Administration leader
☐ Other Stake Holder ☐ Community Leader

1. Can you tell me about CARE International’s VSLGs “Intambwe” in this area? When did they start? Why?
2. Who are the members of Village Savings and Loans Groups?
3. Who benefits from VSLGs?
4. How useful do you think are these Village Saving and Loans Groups?
5. Do you think VSLGs contribute to the socio-economic development of this area? How?
6. What is the visible evidence showing the extent to which the socio-economic status of VSLGs beneficiaries has changed as a result of this programme?

7. Is there anything else you can add?

8. What do you suggest for improving these VSLGs?

Thank you for your contribution.
APPENDIX E: RESEARCH AREA

ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF NYANZA DISTRICT

Legend
- Study Area
- Nyanza District's Section

Nyanza
Nyagisozi
Rwabicuma
Busasamana
Kibilizi
Cyabakamyi
Muyira
Ntyazo
Bosoro

1:170,000

7 3.5 0 7 Kilometers