

# **Sokoine University of Agriculture**



## **MA. Dissertation**

### **Factors Influencing Community Participation in Planning and Implementing Agricultural Development Projects: Case Matongoro Cattle Auction Project in Kongwa District, Tanzania**

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**May 2024**

**FACTORS INFLUENCING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN  
PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECTS: CASE MATONGORO CATTLE AUCTION PROJECT IN  
KONGWA DISTRICT, TANZANIA**

**A Dissertation submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the requirements  
for the Degree of Master of Arts in Project Management and  
Evaluation at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro,  
Tanzania.**

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**EXTENDED ABSTRACT**

In Tanzania, different community development projects in various sectors including agriculture have been formulated and implemented following a bottom-up approach to reduce poverty and food insecurity among community members in our country. However, in many cases, the impact of such projects has not been significant due to various reasons including poor participation of the targeted population in the process. This study using the Matongoro cattle auction development project in Kongwa as a case investigated the factors influencing community participation in planning and implementing agricultural development projects. Specifically, identified the social-economic factors that influence community participation in the planning and implementation of agricultural projects, assessed the level of community participation in the planning and implementation of Cattle auction projects, assessed the strategies used in community participation at the community level and last to assess the respondents' attitude of their participation in project planning and implementation. Methodologically, the study adopted a cross-sectional research design whereby a questionnaire-based survey was used to collect primary data from 150 randomly selected respondents. The above was complemented by four (4) focus group discussions and nineteen (19) key informant interviews purposively selected. The study was founded on three theories; Participation theory, Social capital theory and Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB). Content analysis, descriptive statistical analysis and binary logistic regression model were used to analyse qualitative and quantitative data respectively with the aid of Index scales and the Likert scale to attain more precise results. As the study findings revealed that nearly 90% of respondents had low participation. In addition, the critical factors which were found to significantly influence community participation in cattle auction development projects at  $p > 0.05$  were income level, number of cattle owned, age, awareness, experience of participation in projects and sex. Additionally, the study findings show that the non-participatory approaches were mainly followed in engaging community members in

the area. The study results also show that the attitudes of community members toward the need for their participation were positive but they perceived negatively the approaches used for their participation in the process of the project cycle. Based on the findings it can be concluded that the project implementer utilize a non-participatory approach (top-down approach) as means of participation among the project stakeholders during the project implementation as there was inadequate accessibility of information sharing, collective decision-making and meetings that were found to be the most severe limitation of possessing facts and information. Also, the study concluded that the level of participation in the project by community members was very low, as there were low social relationships and poor cooperation among the agro-pastoralists and project implementers. Therefore, the study recommends that the government should design ways to increase local community participation throughout the project cycle to ensure the success and sustainability of community projects and community development. It also recommends the use of participatory approaches for ensuring the active participation of community members in the designing and implementation of community development projects.

**Keywords:** Participation, community participation, approach, attitude, development, ownership, project sustainability.

## IKISIRI KUU

Nchini Tanzania, miradi mbalimbali ya maendeleo ya jamii katika sekta mbalimbali ikiwemo kilimo imeundwa na kutekelezwa kwa kufuata mkabala wa chini chini kupunguza umaskini na uhaba wa chakula miongoni mwa wanajamii katika nchi yetu. Hata hivyo, mara nyingi, athari za miradi hiyo zimekuwa si kubwa kutokana na sababu mbalimbali ikiwamo ushiriki hafifu wa walengwa katika mchakato huo. Utafiti huu kwa kutumia mradi wa maendeleo ya mnada wa ng'ombe wa Matongoro huko Kongwa kama kesi ulichunguza sababu zinazoathiri ushiriki wa jamii katika kupanga na kutekeleza miradi ya maendeleo ya kilimo. Hasa, ilibainisha mambo ya kijamii na kiuchumi yanayoathiri ushiriki wa jamii katika kupanga na kutekeleza miradi ya kilimo, kutathmini kiwango cha ushiriki wa jamii katika kupanga na kutekeleza miradi ya minada ya Ng'ombe, kutathmini mbinu (njia) inayotumika katika ushirikishwaji wa jamii katika ngazi ya jamii na mwisho. kutathmini mtazamo wa jamii kuhusu ushiriki wao katika kupanga na kutekeleza mradi. Kimethodolojia, utafiti ulipitisha muundo wa utafiti wa sehemu mbalimbali ambapo uchunguzi wa dodoso ulitumika kukusanya data za msingi kutoka kwa watafitiwa 150 waliochaguliwa bila mpangilio. Hayo hapo juu yalijazwa na mijadala minne (4) ya vikundi na usaili wa watoa habari wakuu kumi na tisa (19) waliochaguliwa kimakusudi. Utafiti huo ulitokana na nadharia tatu; Nadharia ya ushiriki, Nadharia ya mtaji wa Jamii na Nadharia ya Tabia Iliyopangwa (TPB). Uchanganuzi wa maudhui, uchanganuzi wa maelezo ya takwimu na muundo wa urejeshaji wa vifaa vya binary ulitumiwa kuchanganua data ya ubora na kiasi mtawalia kwa usaidizi wa mizani ya Fahirisi na kipimo cha Likert ili kupata matokeo sahihi zaidi. Matokeo ya utafiti yalidhihirisha kuwa karibu 90% ya waliohojiwa walikuwa na ushiriki mdogo. Aidha, mambo muhimu ambayo yaligundulika kuathiri kwa kiasi kikubwa ushiriki wa jamii katika miradi ya maendeleo ya minada ya ng'ombe katika  $p > 0.05$  ni kiwango cha mapato, idadi ya ng'ombe wanaomilikiwa, umri, uelewa, uzoefu wa kushiriki katika miradi na jinsia. Zaidi ya hayo, matokeo ya utafiti yanaonyesha kuwa mbinu za kutoshirikishwa zilifuatwa zaidi katika kuwashirikisha wanajamii

katika eneo hilo. Matokeo ya utafiti pia yanaonyesha kuwa mitazamo ya wanajamii kuhusu hitaji la ushiriki wao ilikuwa chanya lakini waliona vibaya mbinu zilizotumika kwa ushiriki wao katika mchakato wa mzunguko wa mradi. Kutokana na matokeo hayo inaweza kuhitimishwa kuwa mtekelezaji wa mradi alitumia mbinu isiyohusisha ushirikishwaji (mbinu ya juu-chini) kama njia ya ushirikishwaji wa wadau wa mradi wakati wa utekelezaji wa mradi kwa vile hakukuwa na ufikivu wa kutosha wa upashanaji taarifa, kufanya maamuzi ya pamoja na mikutano ambayo ilionekana kuwa kizuizi kikubwa zaidi cha kuwa na ukweli na habari. Pia, utafiti ulihitimisha kuwa kiwango cha ushiriki wa wanajamii katika mradi kilikuwa cha chini sana, kwani kulikuwa na mahusiano duni ya kijamii na ushirikiano duni kati ya wafugaji na watekelezaji wa mradi. Kwa hivyo, utafiti unapendekeza kwamba serikali inapaswa kubuni njia za kuongeza ushiriki wa jamii katika kipindi chote cha mzunguko wa mradi ili kuhakikisha mafanikio na uendeleu wa miradi ya jamii na maendeleo ya jamii. Pia inapendekeza matumizi ya mbinu shirikishi kwa ajili ya kuhakikisha ushiriki hai wa wanajamii katika kubuni na kutekeleza miradi ya maendeleo ya jamii.

**Maneno muhimu:** Ushiriki, ushiriki wa jamii, mbinu, mtazamo, maendeleo, umiliki, uendeleu wa mradi

### DECLARATION

I, **GEOFREY KAMUGISHA FREDRICK** do hereby declare to the senate of the Sokoine University of Agriculture that this research report is my original work and has not been submitted for a master's degree award in any other University.

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Date

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## **DEDICATION**

This research work is dedicated to my parents, the late Mr. Fredrick Mtajwaha Dionice and Anatoria K. Mwanuzi, who in their love and patience, commenced and inspired me to pursue my studies. I wish my parents were alive to see what they started to start to yield good fruits. May his soul, rest in Everlasting Peace, Amen.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASDP II	Agricultural Sector Development Program Phase II
DADPs	District Agriculture Development Plans
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
FYDP	Five Years Development Plan
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
LGAs	Local Government Authorities
O&OD	Opportunities and Obstacles to Development
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TPB	Theory of Planned Behavior
UN	United Nations
URT	United Republic of Tanzania
VEOs	Village Executive officers
WDC	Ward Development Council
WEO	Ward Executive Officer

## CHAPTER ONE

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background Information

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (1988), agriculture includes both animal and crop husbandry of plants (agronomy, horticulture and forestry). Agriculture is important in economic development and poverty reduction efforts and more importantly in developing countries like Tanzania (Aref, 2011). In this context, various community development projects in the agricultural sector have been formulated and implemented over time. However, in many cases the impact of such projects has not been significant for various reasons; including the low participation of the target group in the planning and implementation process (Waweru, 2015). Community members' active participation is critical (Aref, 2011; Ochieng *et al.*, 2018) therefore if not considered during planning and implementation the project objectives may not be met.

Arguably, participation is founded on the quest for stakeholder engagement. The four types of stakeholder and public engagement (Rowe & Frewer, 2001) are

- (i) Top-down one-way communication and/or consultation: engagement is initiated and led from the top-down by an organization with decision-making power, consulting the public and stakeholders (but retaining decision-making power) or simply communicating decisions to them. Although Top-down or one-way would not generally be considered 'participation' (Rowe & Frewer, 2001); like most other typologies, we include them to show the full range of options available. However, unlike most other typologies, we do not place a value judgment on this type of engagement, as long as it is most appropriate for the purpose and context at hand. For example, when a decision has already been made and cannot be changed, but needs to be communicated to those affected.

- (ii) Top-down consultation and/or co-production: The engagement is initiated and guided from the top down by an organization with decision-making powers that engages the public and stakeholders in a two-way discussion of the decision, thereby enabling the decision-making body to understand proposals better and review them with stakeholders before making a decision. A more co-productive approach would typically involve consultation, but the decision (and how it should be implemented) would be developed and shared jointly by the agency and stakeholders/the public.
- (iii) One-way bottom-up communication and/or consultation: Engagement is initiated and led by stakeholders and/or the public, communicating with decision-making bodies, often through grassroots networks and social media, to persuade them to support their projects to open the decision-making process to examination and commitment. Alternatively, this type of engagement can occur when interest groups or the public-typically through mass mobilization of public opinion or interest groups - gain enough power to override previous top-down decisions. Those leading the process can consult with the public and stakeholders to better understand and represent their views, show endorsement and support, and thereby increase their ability to influence decision-makers or overturn decisions.
- (iv) Bottom-up consultation and/or co-production: The engagement is initiated and led by stakeholders and/or the public engaging in a two-way discussion of the decision with other relevant publics and stakeholders to reach a decision. The decision can be made and implemented by an individual or a small group of stakeholders/public based on the insights gained through consultation, or the decision can be co-produced, owned and implemented by the whole group.

There are many benefits to active participation such as ensuring value for money of intended projects, enabling self-mobilization of the community in all stages and an increased sense of ownership (Watson, 2014).

According to Frumence *et al.* (2014) ultimately leads to an increased awareness and need to work hard, individually and collectively, for the betterment of their community. In addition, this increases the relevance of the project and its sustainability (Kariuki & Mbwisa, 2014; Azizu, 2014). Muro and Namusonge (2015) add that active participation facilitates accountability, effectiveness, efficiency self-reliance spirit and momentum in implementing the project of community members.

Due to the importance of the Agricultural sector for the Tanzanians' development, as well as the Matongoro cattle auction project is important in developing and raising the income of the Matongoro community. Therefore, the participation of Agro pastoralists in running this project is very important, so that they can increase their income and the country increases the GDP percentage.

In Tanzania, the agricultural sector contributes about 28% of the country's GDP and an average of 24% of export earnings and directly employs about 65% of the population (URT, 2021). It is also a source of food supply and ensures food security in the nation (URT, 2021:16). To realize the importance of the sector, the Government of Tanzania established various policies and programs. For example, the Agricultural Sector Development Program Phase II (ASDP II) is a framework for agricultural development within the period of ten years starting from 2017/2018 to 2027/2028 (URT, 2017:1). The main objective of ASDP II is to transform the agricultural sector (crops, livestock & fisheries) towards higher productivity, commercialization and increase smallholder farmer income for improved livelihood and guarantee food and nutrition security (URT, 2017:3-4).

With the above understanding and acknowledgement of the limitations of the top-down planning model, the Government of Tanzania has emphasized participatory planning in the economic planning process since independence. The Arusha Declaration was passed as one of the significant steps to bring decision-making powers closer to the people

and spearhead their development endeavours (Nyerere, 1967; URT, 2004). On the same grounds, Local Government Authorities (LGAs) were re-established in 1982 with a focus on decentralization. The LGAs have the right and ability to take an interest and to include targeted beneficiaries in the planning and implementation of the development projects within their jurisdiction and for the most part throughout the country (Massoi & Norman, 2009). The “Opportunities and Obstacles to Development (O&OD)” planning philosophy was introduced in 2002 to allow individuals in the local community to participate in the planning process, thereby promoting transparency and accountability. It also commits the central and local government to react to community needs and helps the mobilization of local resources to solve community problems (URT, 2014).

In the years 2019, an improved Opportunities and Obstacles to Development model was updated to facilitate the active participation of the target audience and to accelerate the Decentralization by Devolution (D by D) policy which aimed at providing better service to people (URT, 2019). It encourages people to be the main actors in their development will lead to the sustainable development of the project and promote community participation in mobilizing resources, knowledge and experience to stimulate initiatives at all levels of society and contribute to the attainment of Vision 2025. Furthermore, the goals of the Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP) II 2016/17-2021 also aim to strengthen the role of local participants (actors) in the planning and implementation of development projects (URT, 2019). Thus, the Matongoro cattle auction project involving the agro-pastoralists will help them to be sure of the market for their livestock and also will reduce the cost of transporting livestock to the Dosidosi auction in the Manyara Region where they go every month to sell cattle to improve their life.

The report on the Social-Economic Profile shows that community participation in Kongwa is minimal in different developmental project activities in planning and implementation, (URT, 2016:40). In connection

with that, the implementation of the ASDP program at the district level is done through District Agriculture Development Plans (DADPs). These are pivotal bottom-up planning tools, considering the vast geography of the nation. They guide the LGAs in identifying and prioritizing context-relevant and agroecological appropriate value chains that will optimize smallholder farmers' profitability. Following the framework, the Kongwa District Authority has made a concerted effort over time to improve the livelihoods of community members through the implementation of community development projects in various sectors, including agriculture.

For example, between 2013 and 2019 Kongwa District council implemented three projects in the sector including a slaughterhouse project in Mkoka village that was implemented from 2013 to 2014 at a value of Tsh. 40 000 000/-, Irrigation Project in Iduo village implemented from 2017 to 2019 at a value of Tsh. 600 860 000/ and a Maize market project in Mkoka village implemented from 2018 to 2019 with a budget of Tsh.400 000 000/-. These can play a key role as a driver not only in economic growth but also enhance food security and social transformation hence community development.

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

Over the years, the central government and Kongwa Local Government Authority have embraced participatory methods in planning and implementing development projects. This has been done through its budgetary processes to ensure community development by enhancing access to the market for agricultural products (Malangalila, 2009). Despite the efforts, the impacts of such initiatives have been minimal, a good example is the Matongoro Cattle auction project that was constructed in 2014 but is currently not used as planned. This shows that the outcomes of community participation in project planning and implementation have not been proportional to the budgetary support in the agricultural development sector.

Cognizant of the above, despite efforts at the policy level to increase community involvement in the planning and implementation of community

projects, the situation is discouraging in Matongoro, Kongwa. Although the cattle auction infrastructure was constructed, it is not providing the intended services it is there as a '*white elephant*'. Informed by participation, social capital and the planned behaviour theories, this study investigated the factors influencing community participation in the planning and implementing of agricultural development projects.

### **1.3 Justification for the Study**

The findings of this study could be a point of reference to the Kongwa district council, the central government and the policymaker in policy formulation for better forthcoming projects in relation to how best to integrate the targeted community in the process of project planning and implementation. This is done to attain the desired goals and community development. Also might assist the development stakeholders or project implementers in selecting and developing specific strategies for the optimization of community participation in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluating agricultural development projects. The findings of this study could form a basis for further research geared towards improving fruitful community engagement in rural development.

Lastly, the study is in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1&2; one (1) aims at ending poverty, promoting sustained inclusive and sustainable economic growth while SDG two (2) aims at improving the productivity and income of smallholder farmers and ending hunger (UN, 2013), and also the study facilitated the compliance of Agricultural Sector Development Program Phase II (ASDP II) which targets higher productivity and its marketing which increase income and guarantee food security (URT, 2017:3-4).

### **1.4 Research Objectives**

#### **1.4.1 General objective**

The general objective of the study was to investigate the factors influencing community participation in the planning and implementation of agricultural development projects in the Kongwa District.

### **1.4.2 Specific objectives**

The specific objectives of the study were:

- i. To determine the social-economic factors that influence community participation in the planning and implementation of agricultural projects.
- ii. To assess the levels and strategies used in community participation at the community level in the planning and implementation of the Cattle auction project.
- iii. To gauge the respondents' attitude toward their participation in project planning and implementation in the study areas.

### **1.5 Research Questions**

- i. To what extent do social-economic factors influence community members to participate in the planning and implementation of agricultural development projects?
- ii. Which levels and strategies were used in community participation at the community level in the planning and implementation of the Cattle auction project?
- iii. Which respondents' attitudes toward their participation in project planning and implementation in the study areas?

### **1.6 Theoretical and Conceptual Frameworks**

#### **1.6.1 Theoretical perspective**

This study is guided by three main theories namely participation theory, Social Capital theory and theory of Planned Behavior as further explained here:

##### **1.6.1.1 Participation theory**

Participation theory represents a move from the global, spatial and top-down strategies that dominated early development initiatives to more locally sensitive methodologies (Claridge, 2004). For example, the assumption is that the participation of stakeholders will cause decision-making processes to be more inclusive and, therefore, instigate ownership over development processes, which, in turn, leads to more sustainable development interventions. Chambers (1992); Rahman

(1993); and Oakley (1999) argue that community participation means the full involvement of community members and other stakeholders in the planning, implementing and evaluating community development projects designed to improve community life. On the other hand, Nkwake *et al.* (2013). Inform that community participation is usually defined as "the collective involvement of local people in assessing their needs and developing strategies to meet those needs. It gives people the feeling that they can solve their issues via thoughtful contemplation and collective action as a consequence of working together.

Its strength lies in democratic decision-making, community empowerment, and the possibility of increasing the sustainability and effectiveness of development projects. Thus, this theory puts more emphasis on the mutual participation of all major stakeholders, especially using the respective members of the community to make decisions and set plans for their future. This is because although they may not be that professional they have contextual understanding and a desire for a better future. The limitation of this theory is that the theory does not capture the social relationships and networks critically required in community participation. To cover this a social capital theory will also be used.

#### **1.6.1.2 Social capital theory**

"Social capital theory" emphasizes the importance of social relationships and networks in encouraging effective action and community development (Aghamirzaee *et al.*, 2014). The theory assumes that social networks are an important resource that can influence and support development projects (Putnam, 2000). Another key variable of the theory is its emphasis on trust, and cooperation in promoting community development (Ibrahim *et al.*, 2017). In this study, the theory was used to explain the influence of networking in the planning and implementation of the target project. The interaction and engagement of different stakeholders in the process of planning, implementing and evaluating a community development program require trust and social relationships founded on mutual benefits. More importantly, enforcing the quality of

those relationships is critical. One of the variables for this study is describing personal behaviour and intent to act, which cannot be explained by following either participation or social capital theory, this is the need for the theory of planned behaviour.

### **1.6.1.3 Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB)**

The theory maintains that three core components such as attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioural control, together shape an individual's behavioural intention. The theory adopts a cognitive approach to explaining behaviour which centres on individuals' attitudes and beliefs. It emphasizes that behaviour is planned for this reason it predicts deliberate behaviour (Ajzen, 1991). The intention is an outcome of the combination of attitudes towards behaviour. The positive or negative evaluation of the behaviour and its expected outcomes while subjective norms are the influence of the social pressure on an individual resulting from their perceptions of what others think they should do. Also, their inclination to meet specific standards and perceived behavioural control affect the individual intention to perform (Bandura, 2000). This theory was used in this study to provide a mechanism for evaluating the community's attitude and intention to participate in planning and implementing agricultural development projects.

### **1.6.2 Conceptual framework**

It is defined as a set of wide thoughts and main beliefs taken from related fields of enquiry and used to structure the following presentation (Reiche & Ramey, 1999). The conceptual framework for this study is provided in Figure 1. This conceptual framework illustrates community involvement in agricultural development projects can be influenced by independent variables such as education level, occupation status, income level, sex, experience, number of cattle owned, household size and age, attitude; awareness, opinions, approval of the community and strategies (technique) used to involve the community. This conceptual framework is useful to assess explanatory variables on the influence of community participation in the planning and implementation of agricultural projects, to analyze the respondents' attitude regarding their participation in

project planning and implementation and to identify strategies used to involve the community in agricultural development projects. The hypothetical relationships between the independent variables and the dependent variable and their proxy indicators are summarized.

### Independent Variables

❖	Levels of Education
❖	Income Level
❖	Sex of household head
❖	Occupation status
❖	Age of household head
❖	Household size
❖	No. of cattle owned
❖	Level of awareness
❖	Experience of household head
❖	Approach/Strategy
❖	Community Attitude

### Moderate Variable

➤	Tanzania's Social, political and economic background
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### Dependent Variable

Community Participation in Planning and Implementing Agricultural Development Project
▪ <i>Project ownership</i>
▪ <i>High level of Participation</i>
▪ <i>Market accessibility</i>
▪ <i>Improvement of livelihood</i>
▪ <i>Project sustainability</i>

**Figure 1: Conceptual framework for the study**

### 1.7 Overall Methodology

The study used a cross-sectional research design, collecting data once from a selected sample of respondents (Zangirolami-Raimundo *et al.*, 2018). The cross-sectional design was adopted because it is inexpensive, less time-consuming, allows data to be collected at a given point in time from different individuals or groups of respondents (Hemed, 2015) and because the research was descriptive and examined the relationship between the variables.

### **1.7.1 Population and sampling**

The study involved livestock sector stakeholders such as Agro Pastoralists, Extension officers, Village Executive Officers (VEOs), village chairpersons, Heads of institutions experts invited members of the WDC, Ward Executive Officer (WEO), Councilor, District agricultural extension officer, District economist and District planner officers which were the key partners in agricultural development projects and have depth knowledge on the phenomenon under review in the Kongwa district mainly in Matongoro ward. The targeted population was 240 Agro Pastoralists households; the sample frame was the Agro pastoralists from each village and the sample units were Agro pastoralist households.

To determine the sample i.e. 150 respondents, Yamane's (1967:886) simplified formula for sample size was used. To sample the respondents, first, the Agro pastoralists were clustered according to their village (Mlanje, Matongoro & Norini), and then a simple random selection was employed to get 150.

### **1.7.2 Data collection**

Quantitative and qualitative data were collected concurrently through Questionnaires, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) as the primary data. The questionnaire was used to collect data from the Agro Pastoralists. The questionnaire had open-ended and close-ended questions. The key issues covered were factors influencing community participation, levels and their attitude towards their involvement in cattle auction projects. In addition, four FGDs of Agro pastoralist leaders and 19 KIIs were used to collate qualitative data. The key informants were Extension officers, VEOs village chairpersons, Ward Executive Officers, councillors, District Agricultural Extension Officers, District economists and District Planning Officers. A checklist and interview guide were used.

### **1.7.3 Statistical data analysis**

Quantitative data was analysed using descriptive statistics to show frequency distributions, maximum and minimum values, percentages and averages while qualitative data was analysed using content analysis. Data for objective on social-economic factors were analyzed by Binary Logistic Regression where income level, occupation status, level of education, age, number (No.) of cattle owned, household size, experience, level of awareness and sex were used as predictors, The Binary Logistic Regression technique was used in this study because it measures the relationship between categorical variables (dummy variable) against one or more independent variables. The dependent variables were participated or not participated whereas the values were Yes =1 for participation and No=0 for not participation.

To determine respondents' attitudes towards their participation in planning and implementing agricultural development projects, a Likert scale was used. This was done through the summated score from the constructed statements with a positive and negative attitude, the respondent had three options, agree, undecided or disagree with the statement to indicate an attitudinal position. To agree, the score was 2, undecided the score was 0 and 1 score to disagree. To avoid confusion in scoring all statements were stated positively. For qualitative data content analysis, the technique was used. An index scale was used to determine the level of community involvement, giving him/her 1 point for each yes answer and 0 points for each no answer. Therefore, the highest score was five (5) if the respondent answered "Yes" for each phase of the project, and the lowest score was 0 if the respondent answered "No" for each phase of the project. The calculation of Index score levels was 5 scores as the highest, 3 average scores and 0 lowest score.

### **1.8 Study Limitations**

The study was limited by the unwillingness of some respondents to provide reliable information when requested, but the extension officers' and village chairperson's assistance in success and organizing agro-pastoralists for active and effective results helped to offset this limitation.

### 1.9 Organization of the Dissertation

The dissertation is organized into three chapters. Chapter one covers the general introduction; the background information, the problem statement, the justification for the study, research objectives, research questions, theoretical and conceptual frameworks and limitations of the study. Chapter two presents the first manuscript title: *Factors Influencing Community Participation in Planning and Implementing Agricultural Development Projects*. Chapter three presents the second manuscript titled: *The influence of Participation Approaches and Community Members' Attitudes on community Participation in development projects*. Chapter Four presents a summary of the findings, conclusions and recommendations.

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## CHAPTER TWO PAPER I

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### Factors influencing Community Participation in Planning and Implementing Agricultural Development Projects: A Case of the Matongoro Cattle auction project in Kongwa district, Tanzania

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**Keywords:**

Participation,  
Development,  
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Participation,  
Project,  
Ownership,  
Sustainability.

In Tanzania, different community development projects in various sectors including the agriculture sector have been formulated and implemented following a bottom-up approach. However, in many cases, the impact of such projects has not been significant due to various reasons including poor participation of the targeted population in the process. This study intended to investigate the factors influencing community participation and its levels using the case of the Matongoro cattle auction project. Data were collected from a sample of 150 respondents using respondent questionnaires, key informant interviews, and focus group discussions. Descriptive statistics, which generated percentages and frequencies and a binary logistic regression model were used for data analysis. Study findings show that the dominant narrative on the bottom-up approach to enhancing participation; nearly 90% of respondents indicated a low level of participation. The critical factors which were found to significantly influence community participation projects at  $p > 0.05$  were income level, number of cattle owned, age, awareness, experience, and sex. The study recommends that the government should design ways to increase local community participation throughout conceptualisation, formulation, and implementation to ensure the success and sustainability of these agricultural projects.

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**INTRODUCTION**

Community participation aims at involving people within the community to urge the utmost benefit for the entire society. It is primarily related to the involvement of individuals and communities in making decisions in terms of the aspects that affect their lives (Burns *et al.*, 2004). Aref (2010) argues that community participation in agricultural projects, if not considered from the initial stages such as problem identification, during planning, implementation, and evaluation, development and sustainability will not be attained. This means that the active participation of target communities in project planning and implementation is very important in many ways. First is ensuring value for money of intended projects, and second is enabling self-mobilisation of the community in all stages that bring a sense of ownership to the targeted community, which eventually raises awareness and a need to work hard individually and collectively for the betterment of their community (Watson, 2014). As expounded by Kariuki (2014), this increases the relevance of the project and its sustainability but also increases the possibilities of addressing a real and specific problem faced by the targeted community (Azizu, 2014). Further, according to Muro and Namusonge (2015), active participation of community members facilitates accountability, effectiveness, efficiency, self-reliance spirit, and momentum in implementing the project.

The importance of the Agricultural sector of the financial sector in Tanzania is that it contributes to almost 65% of employment, about 28 % of the country's GDP and about 24% of export earnings, and ensures food security in the country (FYDP3, 2021, p. 16). Realising this importance, the Government of Tanzania established the Agricultural Sector Development Program (ASDP) phase II as a framework for agricultural development for a period of ten years starting from 2017/2018 to 2027/2028, and be implemented into two phases of five years each while the first started from the year 2017/18, (URT, 2017). The main objective of ASDP II and its two components among four is to transform the agricultural sector (crops, livestock & fisheries) towards higher productivity and commercialisation levels and increase smallholder farmer income for improved livelihood and guarantee food and nutrition security (URT, 2017, p. 3-4). Likewise, Matongoro Cattle Auction Development Project as an agricultural project can play a key role as a driver not only in economic growth but also in poverty reduction in the targeted community since it aims to provide a market to Agro pastoralists and improve their income (livelihood improvement) and foster the community development in general.

In the same way, due to the importance of the agricultural sector and community participation in Tanzania in 2019, improved Opportunities and Obstacles to the Development model were initiated to facilitate the active participation of the target

audience and to accelerate the Decentralisation by Devolution (D by D) policy which aimed at providing better service to people (URT, 2019). It encourages people to be the main actors in their development, which will lead to the sustainable development of the project and promote community participation in mobilising resources, knowledge, and experience to stimulate initiatives at all levels of society and contribute to the attainment of vision 2025. Furthermore, the Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP) II 2016/17-2021 objectives also aim at strengthening the role of local participants (actors) in the planning and implementation of a development project (URT, 2019). The Social-Economic Profile report produced by the government of Tanzania in 2016 shows that community participation in the Kongwa district was minimal in different developmental project activities most especially in planning and implementation (URT, 2016, p. 40).

In connection with that, the Kongwa district authority has over time, taken a concerted effort to improve the livelihoods of community members through the implementation of community development projects in various sectors including the agricultural sector. For example, between 2013 and 2019, the Kongwa District council implemented three projects in the sector. These include a slaughterhouse project in Mkoka village that was implemented from 2013 to 2014 at a value of Tsh. 40 000 000/-, Irrigation Project in Iduo village implemented from 2017 to 2019 at a value of Tsh. 600 860 000/ and a Maize market project in Mkoka village implemented from 2018 to 2019 with a budget of Tsh.400 000 000/- (Personal communication with WEOs & Extension Officers, 2021). Thus, the purpose of this study was to investigate the factors that influence community participation and its levels of community participation in Agricultural development projects.

Despite the effort made by the central government and Kongwa LGA (Local Government Authority) to utilise participatory methods in planning and

implementing development projects initiated through its budgetary processes to ensure community development (Malangalila, 2009), the impacts of such initiatives have been very minimal. A good example is the Matongoro Cattle auction project which was constructed in 2014, but today the structure is not used for its intended purpose (Personal communication with Matongoro village chairperson, 2021). Reflecting on the discourse and realities on the ground and reading the objective of the project, it becomes clear that there is a great mismatch. This demonstrates the efforts taken by the Kongwa LGA, and the outcome has not been proportional to the budgetary support in the agricultural development sector.

Cognizant of the above, despite efforts taken at the policy level to increase community involvement in the planning and implementation of community projects, the situation is discouraging in Kongwa. Despite the recognition of the importance of community participation in the planning and implementation of Agricultural development projects, there is still a gap in understanding the factors that influence community participation in these initiatives. Therefore, the research aims to identify and analyse the factors influencing community participation and the levels of community participation in the Matongoro Cattle Auction project. The findings of this research will help the Kongwa district council and the Central Government, and other policymakers to design programs and policies that will ensure active and interactive participation, as this not only improves the knowledge and ability of participants but enriches a realisation of needs where people learn to realise their objective more easily. It is also a means of determining values, priorities and collective actions. This is true as through awareness programs, community members are made aware of and can fully realise their potential and the ability to access, process and use existing information in the process of participation. This is important for stakeholders in selecting and developing specific strategies for

the optimisation of available resources and opportunities in ensuring the sustainability of agricultural development projects. trust, and cooperation in promoting community development (Ibrahim *et al.*, 2017).

## THEORIES RELATED TO THE STUDY

### Participation Theory

The study is founded on "Participation theory". The eventual effect of participation theory is that people, as part of a social system, try to participate in a certain activity or project with a certain incentive (Jennings, 2000). The theory postulates that proper community participation usually facilitates project ownership and sustainability. According to Jennings (2000), community participation is the full involvement of members of the community and other stakeholders in the planning and implementation of development projects to improve the community's life. Thus, participation theory puts more emphasis on the mutual involvement of all-important stakeholders, especially the use of respective members of the community to make decisions and set plans for their future. Yet this theory may not completely capture the social relationships and networks that emphasise community participation. So this theory was used in this study to explain the importance of community participation for the sustainability of agricultural development projects.

### Social Capital Theory

The study adopted the "Social capital theory", which emphasises the importance of social relationships and networks in encouraging effective action and community development (Lin 2001). This theory assumes that social networks are an important resource that can be leveraged to support development projects. In the context of this study, the theory might focus on identifying how community networks can be used to support the planning and implementation of Agricultural development projects for farming, marketing and distribution. The strengths of this theory include its emphasis on the importance of social relationships,

### Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework explains and summarises the relationship between research objectives and the variables and their indicators. Thus, it is defined as a set of thoughts and beliefs taken from related fields of inquiry and used to structure the following presentation (Reiche & Ramey, 1987). On the other hand, community participation is a process that requires planning and resources, but also, where individuals and groups from the community are recognised and given a chance to express their views and wishes, the outcome is good. In such a situation, collective action is taken to significantly contribute to solutions (Burns *et al.*, 2004). Therefore, the study conceives that community participation in agricultural development projects can be influenced by independent variables such as Education level, Occupation status, Income level, Sex, Number of cattle owned, Household size, Experience, Age, and Level of awareness; opinions, approval of the community, and strategies (techniques) used to involve the community. As well as Government policies were considered the moderate variable.

Aref (2010) also listed a few obstacles to community participation. These obstacles include a lack of information, people's inability to engage, weak and ineffective government institutions, a lack of emphasis on the development of human resources, reliance on the government, and a lack of community power. Therefore, a lack of information and knowledge frequently limits active engagement. Farmers must possess knowledge of decision-making processes to actively participate in agriculture planning (Cole, 2006). It is anticipated that a high level of community participation will contribute to the effective implementation of development projects.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Description of the Study area

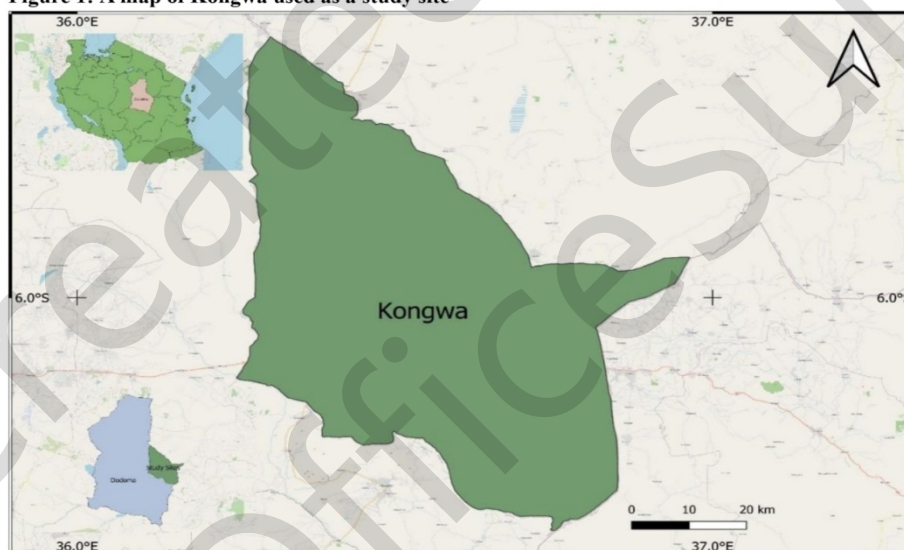
Kongwa district council is located between latitude  $5^{\circ} 30'$  to  $6^{\circ} 00'$  South and longitudes  $36^{\circ} 15'$  to  $36^{\circ} 00'$  East of Greenwich Meridian (URT, 2016). Kongwa is one of the seven districts of the Dodoma region. The council has been implementing various projects within its 22 wards and projects that were implemented with the participation of the community have been successful; some of them are the Mkoka Slaughter house development project, the Mlali irrigation development project, and the Mkoka maize market development project.

The main economic activities in the council are crop production and livestock keeping (URT, 2016). With a population of 157,016 cattle and 108,521 goats with an average annual increase of 2.9% for cattle and 4% for goats and marketing of livestock is not conducive in the district council. Currently,

livestock keepers from the study area travel to the Dosidosi area, which is 42 km in the Manyara region to sell their cattle. To cover that distance, they incur the costs of travelling to the project one day before the cattle auction, and also, they incur the costs of paying the guards to take care of their cattle. Moreover, there is also the cost of getting a permit to transport livestock (cattle) and other legal requirements associated with trans-regional animal transportation. Therefore, they incur considerably high costs.

The study was conducted in the Kongwa district. The district was chosen specifically even though there is a high population of livestock in the study area; marketing has been poor and unprofitable. This has raised the question of whether or not the people are involved in the initiation and running of such projects and, thus a need for the study (URT, 2016).

**Figure 1: A map of Kongwa used as a study site**



### Research Design

The study used a cross-sectional design whereby data were collected once from a selected sample of respondents (Zangirolami-Raimundo *et al.*, 2018). The cross-sectional design was adopted because it is cost-effective, less time-consuming, and a lot of information is obtained in a relatively short period and allows data to be collected at one point in time from different individuals or groups of respondents (Hemed, 2015).

### Study Population

The study involved growing Pastoralists as the targeted population. Key informants were; Extension officers, VEOs, village chairpersons, Heads of institutions such as Schools and hospitals as experts invited members of the WDC, WEO, and Councillor, District extension officer, District economist and District planner. These key informants are partners in agricultural development projects and knowledgeable of the phenomenon under review in the Kongwa district, mainly in the Matongoro ward.

### Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

The study employed a cluster sampling technique in obtaining the sample size of respondents, where clusters were formed based on villages, which means each village stands as a cluster. Agro Pastoralists were grouped according to their villages (Matongoro, Norini and Mlanje) as clusters, and then a simple random selection through lottery was used to get 150 respondents. Also, the purposive sampling technique was used to select Agro Pastoralists leaders for FGDs and Extension officers, VEOs, WEO, village chairpersons, Councillor, and heads of technical institutions invited members of the WDC and participants from the district level for KIIs who were involved according to their positions.

The sample size was determined using Yamane's (1967:886) simplified formula for sample size, which is:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where n=sample size, N=Number of Populations (240) and e= margin errors and the confidence level is 95%.

$$n = \frac{240}{1 + 240(0.05)^2} = 150$$

### Data Collection Procedure

Quantitative and qualitative data were collected concurrently from various sources of data. The Primary data were obtained from the respondents through questionnaires, Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KII). Key informant interviews were used to collect qualitative information using a checklist. For quantitative data, a questionnaire was used. The questionnaire had both open and closed questions and contained four sections. Section one aimed to collect background and socioeconomic information, section two aimed at collecting data on the factors which influenced community participation were mentioned, and section three included questions on assessing attitudes towards community participation and levels of community participation were done through the use of a questionnaire.

Nineteen Key Informant interviews were done and included the four (4) Extension officers, four (4) Executive Officers (3VEOs & 1WEO), three (3) village chairpersons, four (4) Heads of institutions, Councillor, district extension officers, district economist, and district planner through a checklist. Four (4) Focused Group Discussions were done involving 9 people in each FGD. The FGDs included the -agro-pastoralist leaders from each village (formed by -the agro-pastoralist committee) and at the ward level (-agro-pastoralist ward committee). These Key informants and FGDs respondents have a virtue of knowledge and experience on the phenomenon under reviews of the Matongoro cattle auction project.

A pretest was conducted at the Mkoka house slaughter project, which has more or less similar

features (characteristics) to the study village, to check the validity and relevance of the questions to the intended respondents to get relevant information. Pretesting is a method of checking that questions work as intended and are understood by those individuals who are likely to respond to them (Hilton, 2017). After pretesting, the instrument was revised based on identified changes.

#### Data Analysis

Binary Logistic Regression was used to determine the association between the explanatory variables (income level, occupation status, level of education, age, number (No.) of cattle owned, household size, experience, level of awareness and sex, which were used as independent variables) and community participation. These variables helped in measuring community participation in terms of attending meetings, decision-making, volunteering work, use of local resources and following through with commitments. This model was used because the dependent variable was a dummy variable (Participated or Not participated). The Binary Logistic Regression equation is as follows:

$$\ln(P/1-P) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \beta_5 X_5 + E.$$

Where P = probability of participation in the development project, (1-P) represents the

probability of non-participation,  $\beta_0$  = Constant,  $\beta_1$ ..  $\beta_4$  = Parameter estimates, and  $X_1$ =Income level,  $X_2$ =Education level,  $X_3$ =Occupation status,  $X_4$ =Age,  $X_5$ =No. of cattle owned,  $X_6$  =Household size,  $X_7$ =Experience,  $X_8$ =Levels of awareness and  $X_9$ =Sex and E=Error term.

Also, descriptive analysis was used to determine the level of community participation in the Matongoro cattle auction project, where five (5) statements were used. Whereby for every 'Yes' response, the respondent scored 1(one) mark, and for every 'No', the respondent scored one (1). Therefore, the highest score was five (5) if the respondent responded 'Yes' for every stage or phase of the project, and the lowest score was one (1) if the respondent responded 'No' for every phase of the project. The calculation of Index score levels was five (5) scores as the highest, three (3) average scores, and one (1) lowest score, where five (5) statements were used.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Socioeconomic Characteristics of Respondents'

Several respondents' characteristics were taken into consideration during the study. They include; sex, age, marital status, education level, main occupation as well as the home village of the respondents.

**Table 1: Socioeconomic characteristics of respondents (n=150)**

	Respondents' characteristics	Percentage (%)
Villages	Mlanje	33.3
	Norini	33.3
	Matongoro	33.3
Sex	Male	85.3
	Female	14.7
Age (years)	18 – 35	8.2
	36 – 49	38.8
	≥ 50	53
Marital status	Single	2.2
	Married	79.7
	Divorced/separated	4.1
	Widow/Widower	11.3
	Never/ married	2.7

Respondents' characteristics		Percentage (%)
Education level	No formal education	29.5
	Primary education	62.4
	Secondary education	8.1
	Tertiary education	0
	University education	0
Main occupation	Livestock keeping	82.6
	Crop production	9.3
	Government/Privately employed	3.9
	Others	4.2

#### Factors that Influence Community Participation in Cattle Auction Development Projects

A binary logistic regression model was used to define the explanatory variables that influence community participation in planning and implementing development projects.

Income level, education level, occupation status, age, household size, number (No.) of cattle owned, awareness, experience, and sex were the variables included in the model. The model summary shows that the independent variables fit well in the regression model ( $R^2= 0.929$ ). The Cox & Snell R Square and Nagelkerke R Square of 0.792 and 0.929, respectively, reveal the correlation between participation and explanatory variables, which are

Income level, education level, occupation, age, household size, number of cattle owned, awareness, experience and sex.

The results (Table 2) show that some explanatory variables such as income level, age, number of cattle owned, awareness, experience and sex significantly influence community participation in planning and implementing cattle auction development projects, while education level, occupation and household size did not have a significant influence at a 5% significant level ( $\alpha$ ). This is consistent with the research reported by Magagan and Ngugi (2021), which highlights the growing significance of project management techniques as more and more work is structured around projects and programs.

**Table 2: Factors influencing community member participation in the cattle auction development project**

Variables	B	df	Sig.
Occupation	3.114	3	.331 <sup>+</sup>
Education level	6.336	4	.216 <sup>+</sup>
Income level	.806	1	.001*
Age	.703	2	.000*
No. of cattle owned	1.099	3	.002*
Awareness	.921	1	.001*
Household size	4.234	3	.442 <sup>+</sup>
Experience	.663	2	.000*
Sex	1.089	1	.002*

\*=Statistically significant at  $\alpha = 0.05$ ; + = statistically not significant at  $\alpha = 0.05$

The results in Table 2 suggest that the level of income an individual receives has a positive, significant influence on individual participation in

cattle auction development projects ( $0.001 < 0.05$ ); therefore, the higher the income level, the higher the participation in cattle auction development projects.

The influence on individual participation increased at a rate of 0.806 for every additional shilling received by the respondents. The findings imply that for persons to participate in a project, they must have capital; it requires a certain amount of capital to own and keep livestock for business purposes (Ongachi *et al.*, 2018). As some of the households in the study area owned a small number of cattle and claimed that they could not start selling until the number of cattle increased. Furthermore, this was revealed in discussion with one of the FGDs; they reported that due to a lack of a profitable market, they transfer and distribute their cattle to relatives or friends outside the district or region to them to get manure and milk, which leads to remains with a small number of cattle.

The results in Table 2 show that number of cattle owned by household significantly influence participation positively ( $0.002 < 0.005$ ), which means that agro-pastoralist with a high number of cattle will have an additional participation rate of 1.099 in cattle auction development project more than those having a low number of cattle. This is due to the fact that running a business selling cattle each month requires a greater number of cattle or capital to run the business; as it was revealed in a discussion with one of the FGDs, the respondents reported that due to lack of a profitable market, they transfer and distribute their cattle to relatives or friends outside the district or region to them to get manure and milk, which leads to remains with a small number of cattle.

The results in Table 2 show that age had a positive relationship and significantly influenced community participation ( $0.000 < 0.05$ ). The results demonstrate that when a person becomes older, his or her likelihood of taking part in programs to develop cattle auctions likewise increases. This could be because, among most tribes of livestock keepers, like the Maasai, Mang'ati, and Sukuma, the elder is the one who owns a sizable herd of animals, which will be passed down to his offspring after his passing (Steve, 2015). The elders of these livestock

keeper tribes teach their children how to care for various livestock such as cows, sheep, goats, donkeys, and so on (Roberts, 1996). As the children grow, the parents will offer their children several livestock as capital (Attanasio *et al.*, 2022). As time goes on, the number of livestock will increase, and as the children grow older, their livestock numbers will also increase (Roberts, 1996; Steve, 2015).

The results (Table 2) show that the amount of information (making aware) Agro-pastoralist received has a significant positive influence on participation in cattle auction development projects ( $0.001 < 0.005$ ). This means that the community participation level will be 0.921 times more for every additional information about the project. The findings imply that for the agro-pastoralists to increase their participation, they must receive information related to the project. This could be about decision-making (in planning), volunteering raw materials, and even training about the market or access to loans.

Also, the study revealed that although there is awareness about the cattle auction, lack of effective information (transparency) and teamwork between project implementers and the agro-pastoralists throughout the project circle resulted in poor participation during the implementation of the project goals, the respondents claimed that 'we saw project implementer build the contractions and some of the members from our society were hired as labourers. The outcome is related to that of Kwena and Letting (2013), who reported that community involvement in development projects is not only essential to awareness of their roles and tasks but knowledge and skills on how to accomplish the responsibilities so that they are capable of taking part in development projects that will improve their lives.

The results in Table 2 show that experience of a person influences participation in cattle auction development projects positively and significantly ( $0.000 < 0.005$ ). The findings indicate that agro-

pastoralists with a positive experience in agricultural development projects will have an additional rate of 0.663 in cattle auction development projects than those having a negative experience. This could be to the fact that positive experience on a given subject boosts individual participation and establishes commitment and a sense of ownership, while negative experience hinders a person's participation since it tends to resist new ideas, which affects the project's sustainability. The finding is connected to the study by Miruka and Otieno (2016), who found that experiences (negative experiences) like lack of project ownership and incomplete projects lead to low participation in water projects of local beneficiaries.

As indicated in *Table 2*, the results show that sex has a significant influence ( $0.002 < 0.05$ ) on community participation in cattle auction development projects positively at a rate of 1.089. The results show that males are the ones who mostly participated in cattle auction development projects more than females. In interviews with village chairpersons and Councillors, they claimed that in the study area, women are not do much voluntarily, and they (women) want to hear messages or information from men. This is due to the fact women are highly concentrated on the house chores such as cooking and taking care of the children, thus leaving men to concentrate highly on different economic activities. In most of the tribes in Tanzania, males are the head of the family and property owners (Arieko and Kisimbii, 2020). Furthermore, the ownership of property in most developing country societies is mostly owned by men rather than women; therefore, ownership of livestock keepers is mainly by men, and this highly influences men in participating in cattle auction projects such as the Matongoro. The results are in line with the study by Njuki and Mburu (2013), who reported that property ownership is mainly based on men in most livestock-keeping societies, thus influencing women not to be able to participate in most cattle auction projects.

*"Most of the people who are involved in this cattle development project are men; women are very few in most of the auctions. In this area, men are taken as the ones to look for food for a family, whereas women stay at home to take care of the children"* (Key Informant Interview, VEO, May 2022).

Nonetheless, the findings show that the education level of the respondents had a positive beta coefficient, implying that an increase in the level of education has the possibility of increasing respondents' participation in the cattle auction projects. The finding concurs with that of Paltasingh and Goyari (2018), who argued that farmers' level of education influences the adoption of modern technologies, thereby influencing their participation in different development projects. In addition, Urassa (2010) argues that the household head's education is thought to boost the possibility of family members' participation in different community activities. Hence, farmers with greater levels of education are more likely than their counterparts to have an impact on participation in different community projects such as the Matongoro cattle auction projects.

The results presented in *Table 2* show that the occupation of the respondents had a positive beta coefficient. That is to say, the occupation of agro-pastoralists influences their participation in cattle auction projects. The observation is in line with the findings by Maniriho *et al.* (2018), who reported that a respondent's occupation had a significant effect on the community members' participation in different community projects. Most of the employed personnel will have low participation in different community projects compared to the unemployed personnel. This is highly influenced by the fact that the employed personnel deal mostly with office work rather than pastoral activities.

*"Here in the cattle auction project, most of the participants are the agro-pastoralists themselves or people who are involved with*

*agro-pastoralists. This reduces the level of community participation in the area since the auction aim to improve the people/community livelihoods” (Key Informant Interview, Extension Officer, May 2022)*

#### Level of Community Participation in Cattle Auction Development Project

On levels of community participation in the project, the study takes into account the involvement of local communities (information, meeting, involvement and teamwork) in five phases of the project, which are conception and initiation, planning, execution, performance/monitoring, and project close. The result below shows that most of the respondents 100% were just involved in the implementation stage only.

**Table 3: Community involvement in different phases of the project (N=150)**

Project stages	Yes		No	
	F	%	F	%
Conception and initiation	4	2.67	146	97.33
Planning	6	4	144	96
Implementation	150	100	0	0
Monitoring	12	8	138	92
Project close	6	4	144	96

The study used Index scales to determine the degree of the levels of participation in the projects based on phases whereby for every ‘Yes’ response, he/she received 1 score and for every ‘No’ response, he/she received 0 scores. For that reason, the maximum score was five (5) and this occurred if the respondent responded ‘Yes’ for every phase of the project. Index score levels were constructed as follows based on calculation, five (5) was a maximum score, whereas three (3) was an average

score. Thereafter, any score below-average score was regarded as a low level of participation, an average score was regarded as a medium level of participation, and any score above average score was regarded as a high level of participation. The result (Table 4) shows most respondents, 90%, fall into the group of low level of participation, 6% of medium level and only 4% for a high level of participation.

**Table 4: the level of community participation in agricultural projects (N=150)**

Level of participation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Low level of participation	135	90
Medium level of participation	9	6
High level of participation	6	4

The engagement of respondents in various phases was calculated based on the project’s five key phases, which are initiation, planning, implementation, performance/monitoring, and project closing (Omotesho *et al.*, 2016). The results (Table 3) demonstrate that the majority of the community members participate in the project during the implementation phase. This was further

revealed during a discussion with one of the key informant interviews who remarked that they were only being informed by their leaders to go and participate in implementing project activities.

The respondents asserted that;

*“They only learn about agricultural projects planned for implementation in their area from*

*their leaders; they must be ready and cooperate sufficiently during implementation” (Key Informant Interview with Extension officer & one of the FGD May 2022).*

That indicates that they were not involved in the initial stages of initiation and planning. Likewise, during the interview with the Agro pastoralist leaders and village chairpersons, they complained that the project implementer was the sole designer, initiator, and planner, and the community (Agro pastoralists) were just observers. The results are in line with those of Ongachi *et al.* (2018), who claimed that most development projects are organised by knowledgeable individuals or influential leaders and are carried out for the benefit of the local population without seeking their opinions or comments on such projects. The leaders of many local communities lack sufficient confidence in the degree of locals' expertise to offer their thoughts on the start and planning of the project (Okech & Steve, 2016). A high percentage (90%) of low-level individual participation was the only outcome of including a large number of people during the implementation stage, as seen in table 4 after the index scale score. For a medium or high degree of engagement, many people should be active in more than two phases of the project's implementation. By including locals in the project at different stages of its development, project sustainability may be increased. Involving locals in a project at different stages, according to Aref (2011), makes them feel more responsible for it and connected to it, which is essential for its sustainability. Green (1986); Huff and Kline (1999) state that participation in a greater sense, therefore, is the involvement of members of a particular community in the formulation of public policy or its implementation and its usage. That is, it is the participation of local people in the development process as a whole.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study intended to investigate the factors influencing community participation in Agricultural development projects and the levels of their participation. Below are the conclusions drawn from the findings.

On factors influencing community participation in the Matongoro cattle auction development project, the findings show that income level, number of cattle owned, age, awareness, experience and sex significantly influenced the community participation in planning and implementing the cattle auction development project while occupation did not have a significant influence on community participation at a 5% significant level ( $\alpha$ ).

Referring to levels of community participation in the project, the study concluded that most of the respondents 100% were involved in the implementation stage since they were informed about involving in such a stage, but also, they were interested in the project and only a few people in the initiatives, planning process, and monitoring. That makes most of the respondents 90% fall into the group of low level of participation, 6% of medium level and only 4% for a high level of participation. Generally, the project was done through a participatory style of the bottom-up approach, which not promotes the active participation of local people, project ownership, project sustainability and levels of community participation.

The research study recommends that the government should work to increase local community participation in the initiatives, planning process, and monitoring, and not just only in the implementation stage to ensure the success and sustainability of these agricultural projects. This could be accomplished by enacting laws that will direct project implementers to guarantee that local communities, as the project's primary stakeholders are included from the beginning to the end. When attempting to engage the community in development projects including cattle auctions,

consideration should be given to variables like income level, age, education, and sex. On the other hand, there should be equal participation of community members in development projects; this will ensure sustainable growth of people's livelihoods due to the ongoing projects. Also, the study suggests the design of the project should be straightforward and adaptable in light of the complicated reality of rural areas. The first step must be a modest one, built on coherent packages of modestly sized capital-intensive enterprises that are sensitive to local circumstances. Packages can be changed, added to, or removed based on experience. Such a step-by-step strategy requires a well-structured monitoring and assessment mechanism.

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**CHAPTER THREE****MANUSCRIPT II****Participation Approaches and Community Members' Attitudes on  
Community Participation in development projects: A Case of  
Matongoro Cattle Auction Project in Kongwa District, Tanzania.**

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**Abstract**

In Tanzania, different community development projects in various sectors including the agriculture sector have been formulated and implemented to improve community members' welfare. However, in many cases, the impact of such projects has not been significant due to various reasons including poor participation of the targeted population in the process. This study, intended to investigate the community participatory approaches employed and the community members' attitudes towards the importance of community development projects using the case of the Matongoro Cattle Auction project. Data were collected from a sample of 150 randomly selected respondents through questionnaires and key informant interviews. Descriptive statistical analysis was done to generate percentages and frequencies and a Likert scale was used to determine the community members' attitudes towards community development projects. The study findings show that the non-participatory approaches were mainly followed in engaging community members in the area. In addition, results show that the attitudes of community members toward the need for their participation were positive but they

perceived negatively the approaches used for their participation in the development and implementation of the project. The study recommends the use of participatory approaches for ensuring the active involvement of community members in the designing and implementation of community development projects.

**Keywords:** Participation, community participation, approach, attitude, ownership, project sustainability.

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### 3.1 Introduction

Community participation plays a vital role in any development project; therefore, the effective involvement of community members in projects empowers them and enhances possibilities for improving their livelihoods thus promoting development (Sulemana *et al.*, 2018). Mselle and Kirway (2013) argue that involving the targeted community in analyzing existing problems for example leads to setting realistic action plans and monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Nour (2011) is of the view that participation is recognized as a basic operational principle of development as it addresses the shortcomings of top-down development practice.

There is a general agreement among scholars that there is a relationship between effective community participation and positive public project delivery (Bakari *et al.*, 2017; Steve, 2015). One of the key reasons is that it creates ownership and a sense of responsibility (Steve, 2015). In the context of the Matongoro cattle auction project, this is critical as it would be the community to attach its expectation and therefore actively engage in all project cycles to ensure it is successful.

Sulemana *et al.*(2018) summarizes the principles on which effective participation is anchored, they include promotion of accountability, transparency, allowing for participation at all levels, and ensuring participation is accessible to all stakeholders. Other principles are valuing diversity; voluntarism and encouraging stakeholders to create their ideas and solutions among others.

D'silva *et al.* (2010); in their study inform that attitude plays a big role in figuring out an individual's excellence in any field implying that individuals to succeed must have the right attitude closer to something of interest. Therefore, for community members to efficiently participate in agricultural development projects they should have sufficient information on when, how and why they need to participate (Bahaman, 2010). This is critical in influencing their attitude. In the context of this study, therefore establishing the state of the community's attitude to participation in

development projects processes is critical. If the attitude of individuals is in favour of the project, this can facilitate active participation. According to Adesina (2016), a positive attitude towards the project could lead to a high level of participation and vice versa. Ongachi *et al.* (2018) study indicates that negative community members' attitude expressed in negative experiences of participating in projects, community opinions or views and approval or acceptance has a direct relationship with participation in development projects. This results in poor results (Brahmi & Thakur, 2011).

Similarly, improper and insufficient awareness of the community members and lack of collective decision-making affects participation in development projects (Okwusi, 2008). Most development projects have temporal dimensions with clearly defined responsibilities, fixed deadlines and budgets. Therefore, the inability to involve the target community may have negative implications (Olajuyigbe, 2016).

Cognizant of the above, in Tanzania, several initiatives have been taken by the central to improve community participation in development projects. Among the initiative include a review of Opportunities and Obstacles to the Development model under the mouthpiece of the Devolution (D by D) policy which aimed at providing better service to people (URT, 2019). Formulation of Agricultural Sector Development Program Phase II (ASDP II) which at the district level is implemented under the District agriculture development program (DADP) framework. Under the framework, Kongwa District Council (LGA) initiated the Matongoro Cattle Auction Development Project among others purposely aiming at improving the marketing of cattle in the district and even nearby districts like Gairo, Mpwapwa, Chamwino, and Dodoma rural and increasing income among the community members and their livelihood. It was meant to relieve them from travelling a long distance from their district to the Dodosi Manyara region. Even though the cattle auction played a key role to those agro-pastoralists and the structure is there but it is not providing the intended goal.

Despite the recognition of the importance of community participation in planning and implementing Agricultural development projects, URT (2016:40) found that the success of the project was very low. What is not clear is the relationship between community participation approaches and community attitude towards the development projects in their areas. This study, intended to investigate the influence of participatory approaches and community members' Attitudes on Community Participation in development projects. The findings will help stakeholders and policymakers (Kongwa LGA, Central Government) in designing community engagement strategies for the optimization of available resources and opportunities in ensuring community project ownership and sustainability of agricultural development projects. Also, the findings will assist development partners to strengthen the utility of the participatory approach which facilitates active participation and sensitize the community on the need of participating in all project cycles. In addition, the study is in line with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1, which aims at ending poverty and promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth and SDG 2, which aims at ending hunger but also it facilitates the compliance of Agricultural Sector Development Program Phase II (ASDP II) which aims at higher productivity and its marketing.

### **3.2 Theoretical and conceptual frameworks**

#### **3.2.1 Theory of planned behaviour (TPB)**

The tenets of the theory underscore that the results of a person's behaviour are from three core components which are attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioural control, these, together shape an individual's behavioural intention, so the behaviour is planned to predict deliberate behaviour (Ajzen, 2011). The theory adopts a cognitive approach to explain behaviour which centres on individuals' attitudes and beliefs; Attitude speaks of a farmer's desired will, while Subjective norm signifies the influence of social force on farmers in following and accepting and Perceived behavioural control represents the level of ease or toil to follow (Mahdavi, 2021). The intention of an individual towards his/her performance may be influenced positively or negatively by

collective opinions (Bandura, 2000). Thus personal attitudes and approaches to community involvement might influence community participation positively or negatively.

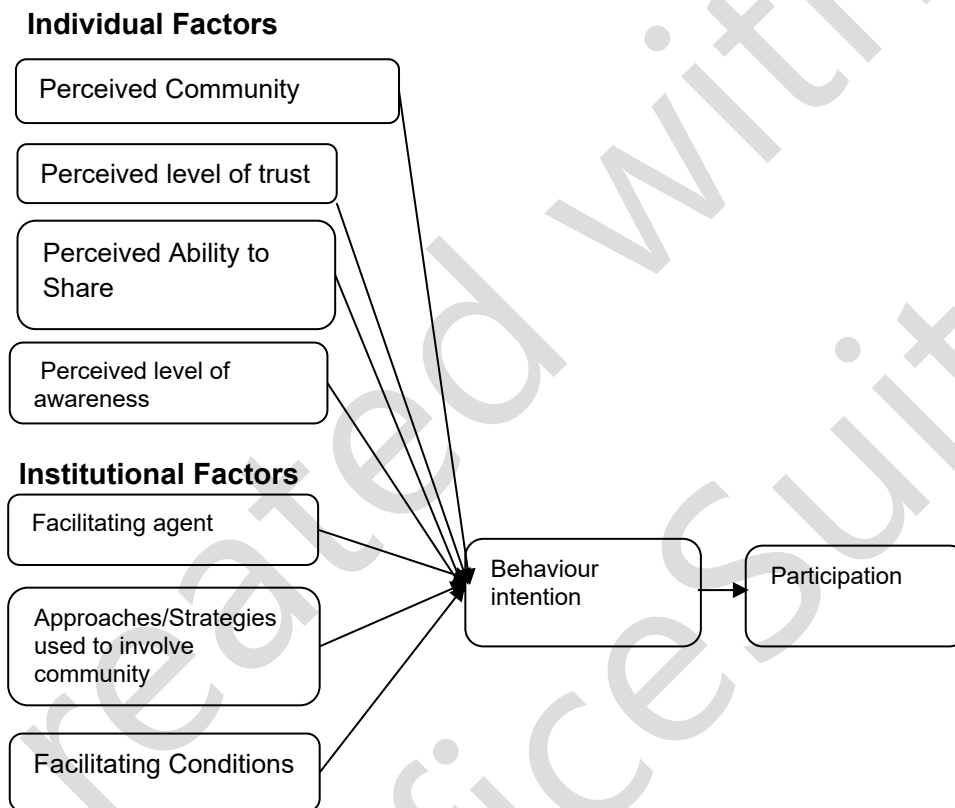
Therefore in the context of this study, it follows that intention behavioural refers to an individual's aim to participate in a cattle auction project and perceived behavioural control is a person's opinion or awareness about the project that one belief that is part of the project. So if the communities were well informed about the project and its problem intends to solve and the mechanisms put in place for them to participate in the process, a result is influenced to engage and control the process and their intention and attitudes will be positive towards the process.

The theory has been applied most effectively in a variety of disciplines and contexts to explain human behaviour and to predict and modify human behaviour (attitudes and means of facilitating settings) towards the desired one as used by Mahdavi (2021) to understand farmers' intentions to accept water policy options, Local participation in community forest management (Apipoonyanon *et al.*, 2019), and to explain Cultural Participation in Childhood (Ursin *et al.*, 2016) as well as study on Participation and Physical Activity Communication in the Workplace (Bardus & Suggs, 2015). Therefore TPB is used to describe persons likely to perform given activities if he/she trusts that the activities will lead to particular results he/she value and feel that have essential resources and chances to perform that activity.

### **3.2.2 Conceptual framework**

It is described as a set of wide thoughts and core principles occupied from allied grounds of enquiry and used to structure the next presentation (Reiche & Ramey, 1999). This conceptual framework reveals that community participation in agricultural development projects can be influenced by independent variables such as individual factors and institutional factors, and dependent variable which was Community Participation. Independent variables from TPB include individual factors (Perceived Community Benefits, Perceived level of trust, Perceived

Ability to Share and Perceived level of awareness) while the institutional factors comprised Facilitating agent, Approaches/Strategies used to involve community and Facilitating Conditions. The presence of the individual, institutional, and intervening variable (behavioural intention to participate) leads to actual community participation behaviour (dependent variable) shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1:** Adapted and Modified from Ajzen (1991) and Ajzen & Fishbein (1980)

All these explanatory variables are conceived as having direct and indirect effects on the dependent variable. This conceptual framework is useful to evaluate the explanatory variables on the community participation approaches and attitudes of community members towards the need for participation in agricultural development projects, to analyze the respondents' attitude regarding their participation in project planning and implementation and to identify strategies used to involve the community in Matongoro cattle auction development project.

### **3.3 Materials and Methods**

#### **3.3.1 Description of the Study Area**

This study was conducted in the Kongwa District (Figure 2) one of the seven (7) districts in the Dodoma Region, Tanzania. The district is found between latitude 5° 30' to 6° 00' South and longitudes 36°15' to 36°00' East of Greenwich Meridian, (URT, 2016). The council has been carrying out several projects within its 22 wards and projects that were performed with community involvement have been successful, some of them are the Mkoka Slaughterhouse, Mlali irrigation and Mkoka maize market development projects.

Crop production and livestock keeping are the main economic activities of the council (URT, 2016). By a population of 157 016 cattle and 108 521 goats with an average annual increase of 2.9% for cattle and 4% for goats. The district was chosen specifically because of the presence of a community development project being implemented as well as familiarity and easy access by the researcher.



**Figure 2:** A map of Kongwa District used as a study site

### 3.3.2 Research Design

The study hired a cross-sectional design whereby data were collected once from several samples of respondents (Zangirolami-Raimundo *et al.*, 2018). The cross-sectional design was taken on because it is economical, time-saving and a lot of data is obtained in a relatively short period and allows information to be collected at one point in time from different persons or groups of respondents (Hemed, 2015). Also, the design is chosen for the reason that the study is descriptive and it studied the association between the variables.

### 3.3.3 Study Population

The population of the study comprised the community members (Agro pastoralists) in the study area. Key informants were; Extension officers, VEOs, village chairpersons, Heads of institutions as professionals invited members of the WDC, WEO and Councilor, District agricultural extension officer, District economist and planners officer and District planner officer. These key informers are partners in agricultural development projects and are familiar with the phenomenon under review in the Kongwa district mainly in the Matongoro ward.

### 3.3.4 Sample Size and sampling procedure

A cluster sampling technique was used in obtaining the sample size of respondents, where clusters were formed based on villages, which means each village stands as a cluster and then a simple random selection through a lottery was done to get 150 respondents. The sample was determined using Yamane's (1967:886) simplified formula which is:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}, \text{ Where } n = \text{sample size, } N = \text{Number of Populations (240)}$$

and e= margin errors and the confidence level is 95%.

$$n = \frac{240}{1 + 240(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = 150$$

Purposive sampling technique was employed to select Agro Pastoralists leaders for FGDs and Key informants such as Extension officers, VEOs, WEO, village chairpersons, Councilor, members of the WDC, district agricultural extension officers and district economist and planner's officers and district planner officer.

### 3.3.5 Data collection

Quantitative and qualitative data were obtained simultaneously from different sources. The questionnaires, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were used to collect primary data from respondents in the study area. FGDs and KIIs were used to collect qualitative information using a checklist, while the questionnaire was used in obtaining quantitative data.

Through questionnaires in section three community members' attitudes on community participation in agricultural projects were evaluated, and the approaches used to involve the agro-pastoralists in the project cycle were done through FGDs and KIIs. Where Nineteen KIIs were done and comprised the four (4) Extension officers, four (4) Village Executive Officers (3VEOs & 1WEO), three (3) village chairpersons, a councillor, a district agricultural extension officer, a district economist and planners officer, and district planner officer over a checklist. But also four (4) FGDs were completed including 9 persons in each FGD. The FGDs involved the animal keepers leader (agro-pastoralist leaders) from each village (formed by the agro-pastoralist committee) and at the ward level (agro-pastoralist ward committee). These Key informants and FGDs respondents have good information and experience on the approaches utilised during the construction of the Matongoro cattle auction development project.

A pre-test was conducted in Mkoka village. Pretesting is a technique of inspecting that questions work as intended and are understood by those persons who are likely to respond to them (Hilton, 2017).

### **3.3.6 Data analysis**

Descriptive statistics were used to analyse quantitative data through frequency distributions, maximum and minimum values, percentages and averages while qualitative data were analysed using content analysis.

## **3.4 Results and Discussion**

### **3.4.1 Socio-economic Characteristics of Respondents'**

Some respondents' demographic characteristics were taken into consideration during the study. The results (Table 1) show that most of the respondents 79.7% were married and 85.3% were male. Almost 62.4% of respondents had primary education, while only 8.1% had secondary education (ordinary level) and 29.5% had no formal education. More than half of the respondents (53%) were aged 50 years and above which is influential age in animal keeping, Steve (2015), said that in animal-keeping tribes like Maasai, Sukuma and Mang'ati, which supports

the results, the elders are the ones who own a large number of cattle. Additionally, the results show that animal keepers dominate the agricultural sector in the study area by 82.6% which increases the needs of the cattle market.

**Table 1:** Socio-demographic and economic characteristics of respondents (n=150)

Respondents' characteristics		Percentage (%)
Sex	Male	85.3
	Female	14.7
Age (years)	18 - 35	8.2
	36 - 49	38.8
	≥ 50	53
Marital status	Single	2.2
	Married	79.7
	Divorced/separated	4.1
	Widow/Widower	11.3
	Never/ married	2.7
Education level	No formal education	29.5
	Primary education	62.4
	Secondary education	8.1
	Tertiary education	0
	University education	0
Main occupation	Livestock keeping	82.6
	Crop production	9.3
	Government/Private employed	3.9
	Others	4.2

### 3.4.2 Approaches used to involve Agro pastoralists in cattle auction development projects at the community level

The findings on the approaches used to involve agro-pastoralists in the Matongoro cattle auction development project in all stages of the project cycle. The results in Figure 3 below two strategies were named to be used to involve the community to participate in the Matongoro cattle

auction development project, which is a participatory approach (involving Agro pastoralists in every stage of a project and they have a voice) and non-participatory approach (Agro pastoralists are just listener to project implementers).

The result shows that most of the respondents (60.7%) suggested the approach used was non-participatory approach such as agro-pastoralists were not consulted from the beginning and did not have access to planning information and there were no plans jointly and collective decision making while a group of participatory approaches makes only 39.3%, this group of participatory when asked why participated they responded that they had partial participation and not fully involved, either not at the meetings conducted rather they were forced during project constructions to improve their life as labourers (part-time employees). Furthermore, during one of the FGDs, it was revealed that participation was very low as per the following extract

"The project implementer did not involve the local community members (Agro pastoralists) at the designing, initial and planning stages and even extension officers did not involve from the beginning, so we did not exactly know what was going on in our respective area about planning cattle auction project" (FGDs at Mlanje village, May 2022).

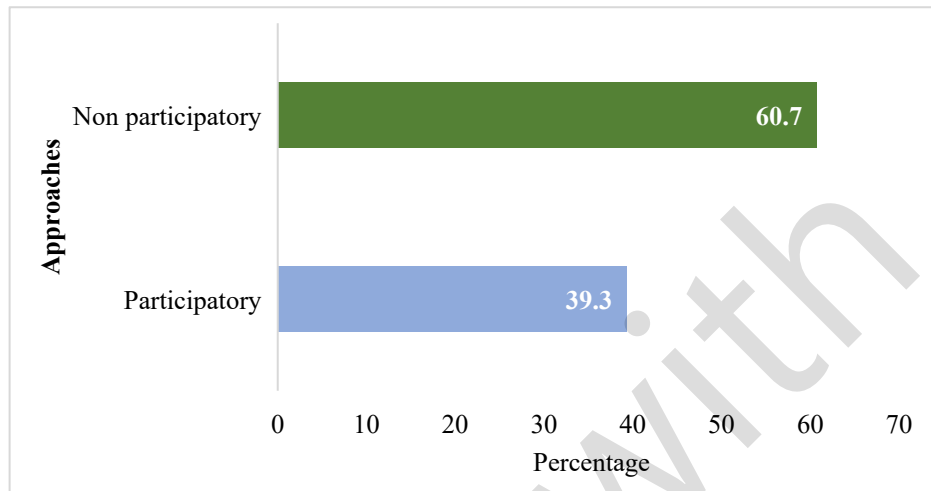
This indicates that the project implementers were the ones, who designed, initiated and planned the project and did not set the platform for community members' active participation throughout the project cycle. This finding implies that they opposed the basics of people-centred (bottom-up approach ethics) in formulating and implementing (processes of construction) the cattle auction development project. This is further argued by Sulemana *et al.* (2018) that the non-participatory approach contradicts proponents of transparency and accountability, project ownership and sustainability and a high level of community participation.

Moreover, Figure 3 shows that most of the respondents more than half (60.7%) of the respondents were just listeners and recipients of instruction from project implementers rather than partners. This implies that the respondents had no space to give views in terms of information sharing or discussion, mutual assessment and cooperation or collective decision-making, concerning the cattle auction development project. One would argue that respondents are not benefiting from the program for capacity building that is done by extension services in the area. The finding is consistent with the finding by Msindo (2018) who reported that extension services are important to be offered to the cattle auction stakeholder for the betterment of the project.

But also during KIIs with the Matongoro councillor, it was revealed that some of the respondents have low capacity to participate as the project implementers did not consider local community active participation as a social learning process through experiences of participating in projects (need of knowledge from both sides: facts, meeting, taking part and collaboration) that possibly will be favourable to communities (both educated and uneducated) this will ensure the community to place greater emphasis on the development project on hands like cattle auction development project.

In addition, this was also exposed by Matongoro and Norini village chairpersons at different times during interviews as they said

‘Why should I participate in planning something that I am not even aware of? I have heard of the Matongoro cattle auction project in this area, so I don’t have any contribution to make during the planning process (KIIs with Village Chairpersons, May 2022).



**Figure 3:** Approaches Used to Involve Local Community to Participate in Matongoro Cattle Auction Development Project

### 3.4.3 Respondents' Attitude toward the Need for Their Participation in Planning and Implementation of the Cattle Auction Development Project

For the assessment of respondents' attitudes, the study employs a Likert-scale with three (3) points score responses with the specification of 2 to agree, 1 to disagree, and 0 to be undecided/neutral to fit respondent feelings while means and standard deviation values were used to associate each item for each statement were used to determine the attitude of the Agro pastoralists toward Matongoro cattle auction development project shown in Table 2. The result for the logical statement and overall score for attitude to be interpreted (positive, neutral and negative) toward their participation in project planning and implementing the Matongoro cattle auction development project, the mean of each item ranged from 1.5 and above was measured positive attitudes and the values which were below the mean were considered as negative attitudes. The findings (Table 2) show that in all six positively phrased statements, respondents perceived that, the overall attitude of

agro-pastoralists was positive (mean=1.85) towards the Matongoro cattle auction development project but negative in the mode of implanted project.

Table 2 shows that a total of 62% of the respondent which is equivalent to 93 respondents agreed that the project will be sustainable when there is interaction and self-mobilization participation among the stakeholder and 26% of the respondents' equivalent to 39 respondents were undecided while 7% of the respondents' equivalent to 18 disagreed with this attitudinal statement.

**Table 2:** Score on the items of the Likert scale for assessing respondents' attitudes toward their participation

Attitudinal statement	Agree		Undecided/ neutral		Disagree		Mean	Std Deviation
	n	%	n	%	n	%		
Projects become sustainable when there is interactive and self-mobilization participation	93	62	39	26	18	12	1.84	0.66
For effectiveness, involving community members in all project cycles is very important	149	99	1	0.7	0	0	1.95	0.89
Willingness and awareness about the project play a significant role in the community involved in the agricultural project.	94	63	37	25	19	12	1.84	0.67
Participating in the project was a wastage of time	0	0	1	0.7	149	99	0.98	0.99
As a community member, I have been actively involved in all stages of the project.	8	5	6	4	136	91	1.22	0.78
I will be more willing to participate if I am sure the project will be of benefit to the community	96	64	38	25	16	11	1.85	0.68

The mean value of 1.84 generally indicated that most of the respondents agreed with the statement and this means that interaction and self-mobilization are associated with project sustainability while a standard deviation of 0.66 shows low variation in responses.

This could be because involving the local community through participatory approaches facilitates transparency, accountability, project ownership and sustainability, and a level of participation to key stakeholders and ensures a favourable attitude of the targeted audiences to agricultural development projects.

This substantiates the finding of Msindo (2018) who reported that for the better attainment of a sustainable agriculture project, the stakeholders should be able to work interactively to attain the desired goal of the project.

Furthermore, the largest proportion of 99% of the respondent equivalent to 149 agreed with the statement that Agro pastoralists were involved in the project after completion of the project construction. This was backed by the mean value of 1.95 which indicates the association of each item and shows low variation in responses with a standard deviation of 0.89. Also, this was revealed by respondents in Klls from Norine & Mlanje villages when they said:

“The Government leaders came to us any time when they want our contributions (money) for the government events like Huru touch, but we wonder for our benefit they don't come at the right time”.

This indicated that the majority of the agro-pastoralists did not have adequate knowledge and information on the cattle auction project which caused them to believe that they were not part of the project. This might be caused by inadequate accessibility of information sharing, collective decision-making and meetings which were found to be the most severe constraint of possessing knowledge and information. The result also agreed with Ahmad and Shausi (2020) who found that a lack of

knowledge of farmers leads them to accept incorrect information as stored crop production with storage chemicals are safe for human eating particularly when used without considering their suggested rates.

Also, this finding implies that the Agro pastoralists were eager to participate in the Matongoro cattle auction development project since it was the source of income. Similarly, the results are in line with the study by Ongachi *et al.* (2018) who reported that due to a lack of sufficient income, the majority of residents of rural areas do participate in the projects carried out in such areas for the aim of gaining some amount of money by selling their resources. In addition, those who agree that Willingness and awareness about the project play a significant role in the community involved in the agricultural project were 63% of respondents equivalent to 94 respondents with a mean value of 1.84, 12% disagreed while 25% of respondents were not sure with the statement. The standard deviation value of 0.67 is an indication that there was a small dissimilarity in the responses given by the respondents. This result supports those of Ongachi *et al.* (2018) who reported that appropriate knowledge and information concerning new technologies stimulate farmers' ability to be able to practice improved seeds and fertilizers, pest and disease control and access to markets which influences the acceptance of new ideas and interest in agriculture.

Moreover, the descriptive results in Table 2 show that the community members (99%) of the respondents equivalent to 149 disagree with the statement that participating in the project was a time wastage, as confirmed by a standard deviation value of 0.99, while undecided response comprises only (0.7%). This implies that the agro-pastoralists know the benefits and importance of the Matongoro cattle auction development project. This is probably for two reasons; first, the cattle market situation is not profitable in the study area since they incur high costs in the transportation process, secondly because most of the respondents (Table 1; 82.6%) were agro-pastoralists that dominate the agricultural sector and increases the need of cattle market in the study area.

The study revealed that despite knowing the project benefits and its importance the communities blamed the project implementers for failing to involve them from the beginning which rises doubt and poor attitude toward project progress, they want to know and be involved in all stages of the project cycle.

This finding is supported by the study of Adesina and Favour (2016) who found that attitude of youths was one of the key issues that considerably influenced youth participation in agricultural activities, while D'silva *et al.* (2010) argue that attitude plays a key role in motivating people to participate in agricultural activities.

Also, more than half (91%) of the respondents equivalent to 136 disagreed with the statement that the project was implemented through participatory approaches, this was confirmed by a standard deviation of 0.78, while (4%) were undecided and only (5%) of respondents agreed with the attitudinal statement. The standard deviation value of 0.78 is an indication that there was low agro-pastoralist involvement that could create an unfavourable attitude. Meanwhile, the effect of using a non-participatory approach to implement development projects is the negative effects on agro pastoralists' attitude towards participation in agricultural projects. Likewise, the study revealed that respondents were blaming the project implementers and some government leaders for failing to involve or consulted them from the beginning in decision-making (they utilized a top-down model of decision-making) that limits targeted members' knowledge and information accessibility.

This could be highly influenced by the fact that the non-participatory approach was the dominant means of participating, therefore, decreasing the rate of participation and creating an unfavourable attitude among the community members. The results are consistent with the study by Bahaman (2010) reported that for people to efficiently participate in agricultural development projects there is want for them to be aware of when, how and why they need to participate.

Therefore extension services need to be conducted for equal participation in the development project. In addition, the respondents who were interrogated proclaimed that

“After completion of the construction of the project, we were informed to attend the meeting of district leaders at the ward office (area). In that meeting, we were told to bring our cattle for selling at market place” (Kilis at Matongoro village, May 2022).

Additionally, on whether the favourable (positive) attitude of the agro-pastoralists influences their participation in agricultural development projects, 64% of the respondent equivalent to 96 respondents with means values of 1.85 agreed while 25% of respondents were neutral and 11% disagreed with the statement. This indicates that the agro-pastoralists generally agreed that positive attitudes influence them to participate in agricultural projects as backed by a standard deviation of 0.68 that shows low variation in responses. Adesina supports the findings and Favour (2016) who found that attitude of the youths was one of the key factors that considerably influence their participation in agricultural activities.

### **3.5 Conclusion and Recommendations**

This study intended to investigate the influence of participatory approaches and community members' attitudes on community Participation in the Matongoro cattle auction project. Based on the findings and the discussion presented, the study concluded that the project implementer utilize a non-participatory approach (top-down approach) as means of participation among the project stakeholders during the project implementation as there was inadequate accessibility of information, collective decision-making forums such as meetings. Also, the agro-pastoralists had a favourable attitude (felt positive) towards the project but had an unfavourable attitude toward the mechanism used to implement the project hence limited engagement. Lastly, it can be concluded that even though the cattle auction project has been facing

several challenges which need to be sorted for improved livelihood of the community members it is still needed and useful to the community since the agro-pastoralists dominate the sector and the cattle market is not good.

To ensure the success, project ownership and sustainability of agricultural projects and community, the study recommends that the government and development partners should design ways to increase local community participation throughout the conceptualization, formulation, and implementation stages not just only during the implementation stage. Also, the study suggests that the designing of the community development project should adhere to the Opportunities and Obstacles to the Development model as envisaged in the decentralization policy and other frameworks for community participation as the project's key stakeholders.

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## CHAPTER FOUR

### 4.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter provides a summary of the findings, Contribution of the Study to the System of Knowledge, conclusions and recommendations based on the specific objectives of the study.

#### 4.1 General Discussion of Major Findings

This study collected and analysed data about the factors influencing community participation in planning and implementing agricultural development projects. Specifically; to identify the social-economic factors that influence community participation in the planning and implementation of agricultural projects and to assess the level of community participation in planning and implementation of Cattle auction project. Also the study aimed to assess the strategies used in community participation at the community level, and to assess the respondents' attitude towards their participation in project planning and implementation. Two manuscripts have been prepared from the study each of which is based on two specific objectives and each manuscript or article is a chapter in this thesis.

##### 4.1.1 Levels of participation and factors influencing Community Participation in Planning and Implementing Agricultural Development Projects

The findings on the Levels of participation and factors influencing Community Participation in Planning and Implementing Agricultural Development Projects were discussed in Chapter Two based on Objective one and two. The findings have revealed that most of the respondents 90% fall into the group of low level of participation, 6% for medium level and 4% for a high level of participation. Furthermore, the findings indicate that there were low information sharing, no meetings called and poor involvement and cooperation. The findings also indicate that community members were not involved in the initial stages of initiation and planning to seek their opinions.

Our findings on factors influencing community participation it revealed that some explanatory variables were statistically significant at 5%; such as income level  $p=0.001^*$ , age  $p=0.000^*$ , number of cattle owned  $p=0.002^*$ , awareness  $p=0.001^*$ , experience  $p=0.000^*$ , and sex  $p=0.002^*$ , significantly influence community participation in planning and implementing cattle auction development projects positively. Our findings also indicate that education level  $p=0.216^*$ , occupation status  $p=0.331^*$  and household size  $p=0.442^*$  did not have a statistical significance influence at 5% significant level ( $\alpha$ ). Moreover, the findings show that the Agro pastoralists dominate the agricultural sector in the study area to about 82.6% which increases the demands of the cattle market.

Based on these findings, it can be concluded that the level of participation in the project utilizing community members was very low, utilizing low social relationships and poor cooperation among the agro-pastoralists and project implementers. It can further be concluded that to enhance the levels of community participation, the grassroots community should be involved in all phases of the project cycle. In addition on the basis of factors findings also concluded that when the community involving properly these factors could enhance the accessibility of cattle market and project ownership and sustainability. So Results from Binary Logistic Regression Analysis shown the critical factors that positively influenced community participation were income level, number of cattle owned, age, awareness, experience and sex, while occupation status, education level and household size influenced community participation negatively.

#### **4.1.2 Participation Approaches and Community Members' Attitudes on Community Participation in development projects**

The findings on the Participation Approaches and Community Members' Attitudes on Community Participation in development projects were discussed in Chapter Three and were based on Objective Three and Four. The findings indicate that most of the respondents (60.7%) suggested the approach used was a non-participatory approach as the agro-pastoralists were not consulted from the beginning and did not have

access to planning information and there were no plans for joint and collective decision-making. The findings also revealed that participation was very low as the project implementers were the ones, who designed, initiated and planned the project and did not set the platform for the agro pastoralists' active participation throughout the project cycle. In addition the Results from a Likert-scale of three (3) points score responses with means ranging from 1.5 and above measured positive attitudes and the values below the mean considered as negative attitudes. The findings revealed that attitude plays a key role in encouraging the community to participate in agricultural activities. Moreover, findings show that the overall attitude of agro-pastoralists was positive (mean=1.85) towards the Matongoro cattle auction project but negative in the mode of implemented project.

Therefore, based on these findings, it is concluded that there was no room for the local community to give their views as the project implementers utilize a non-participatory approach (top-down approach) as means of participation among the project stakeholders during the implementation of the project as there was inadequate accessibility of project information from the beginning. Also it can be concluded that the Agro pastoralists had a favourable attitude toward the project but feel not part of the project due to the mechanisms used to implement it. Further, it can be concluded that to boost the community's attitude, project implementers should facilitate local people's involvement throughout the project cycle.

#### **4.2 Contribution of the Study to the Form of Knowledge**

The findings of this study contributed to the understanding of community participation in livestock-related projects. This has been done following participatory and social theories and planned behavioural theory (TPB) that were used to explain and guide the importance of using primary stakeholders to make decisions and set the plans for their future and the importance of social relationships and networks in inspiring active participation in agricultural development project. The TPB can be used to

provide a tool for evaluating the community's attitude and intention to participate in planning and implementing agricultural development projects.

#### **4.3 Conclusion**

The main objective of this study was to investigate the factors influencing community participation in planning and implementing agricultural development projects. Based on the study's findings, the acute factors that influenced community participation positively were income level, number of cattle owned, age, awareness about the project, the experience of participation in projects and sex, while occupation status, education level and household size influenced community participation negatively. The findings show that there was a low level of community member participation in the project and the project implementer applied a non-participatory approach (top-down approach) in implementing the project. Similarly, it can be concluded that the agro-pastoralists had favourable attitudes toward the Cattle Auction agricultural project and then had an unfavourable attitude toward the mechanism used to implement the project.

#### **4.4 Recommendations**

Therefore, based on the study findings and conclusions it can be recommended that the government and development partners should design ways to increase local community participation throughout the project cycle and not just during the implementation stage only to ensure the success, projects ownership and sustainability and community development. This could be able by passing laws that require project implementers to ensure that local communities, as the project's primary stakeholders, are involved from the start to the finish. Also, the study recommends that the designing of the community development project should adhere to the Opportunities and Obstacles to the Development model as envisaged in the decentralization policy and other frameworks for community participation.

**APPENDICES****SOKOINE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE  
DEPARTMENT OF POLICY PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT**

Questionnaire No.

**Appendix 1: A Questionnaire for Research on****Factor Influencing Community Participation in Planning and  
Implementation of Agricultural Development Projects: A  
Case of Cattle Auction Project in Kongwa District, Tanzania****By****Fredrick, Geoffrey K.****(MA-Project Management and Evaluation) Student**

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**INTRODUCTION**

My name is Geoffrey K. Fredrick. I'm a Master's Degree student from Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Department of Policy Planning and Management (DPPM). I am undertaking research to fulfil requirements for my degree programme, with the purpose to investigate the Factors Influencing Community Participation in the Planning and Implementation of Development Projects in this district. This exercise is very important for me to fulfil my studies. You have been purposively and randomly selected from the village to participate in this research. Taking part in this research is entirely VOLUNTARY. If you choose not to participate, you have the right to stop at any time. Your responses will be kept CONFIDENTIAL and will be analysed jointly with those of other respondents.

**Section A: General Information of the Respondent**

Name of the ward:.....Name of village:.....Date of interview:.....

1. What is the sex of the household head? 1) Female 2) Male
2. Age of Respondent ..... (Years).
3. Sex of Respondent 1) Female 2) Male
4. Marital Status of the respondent
  - 1) Single 3) Divorced/Separated 5) Never married
  - 2) Married 4) Widow/Widower
5. Education level of the respondent..... [Years of schooling].
6. Main Occupation of the respondent
  - 1) Livestock keeping
  - 2) Crop farming
  - 3) Salary employment. Teacher, Nurse
  - 4) Non-livestock keeping e.g. business
  - 5) Others specify.....

**Section B: Factors influence community participation in Cattle auction development projects**

7. Before the Cattle auction development Project started in your ward were there any other prior activities conducted to make you aware of the project? 1) Yes 2) No

If yes **continue to 8** but if no **skip to 9**

8. What was conducted to create awareness in the community about the project?

.....

9. Apart from Cattle auction development Project were there any other development projects in your village? 1) Yes 2) No

If no **skip to 10** but if yes, how many do you know? ..... [Numbers].

10. Did you participate in any of the development projects mentioned above? 1) Yes 2) No

If no **skip to 11** but if yes, how many of them did you participate in? ..... [Numbers].

11. What was your estimated income per year from different activities you were involved in during the start of the Cattle auction development Project? ..... [Amount in TZS].

12. Are` the major source of your income, livestock keeping?

1)Yes 2) No

13. During the start of the Cattle auction development Project what was your household size? ..... [Numbers].

14. During the start of the Cattle Auction development Project how many cattle you owned? ..... [Numbers].

15. Do you think, the project focused on the priorities of your community?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, **explain your answer**, but if no what were the communities' priorities

.....  
16. Do you think Cattle auction development Projects are sustainable in this ward?1) Yes 2)No

17. Explain why.....

18. How did you benefit from Cattle auction Development Projects?

.....  
19. What should be done to improve future agricultural development projects?

.....

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### Section C: Respondent's Attitudes towards participation

Based on your opinion please indicate agreement or disagreement with the following statements by ticking (✓) the response:-. 1= Disagree (D). 2=Uncertain or Neutral (U). 3=Agree (A).

S/No.	Statement	A	U	D
20	Cattle auction development projects become sustainable especially when interactive and self – mobilization participation were involved			
21	The reasons made the community participates in Cattle auction development projects were made after the completion of the project in this ward			
22	Participating in Cattle auction development Projects was a wastage of time.			
23	The extent level of participation in the project planning cycle of the Cattle auction development project was community participatory.			
24	Willingness and awareness about the project play a significant role in a community involved in an agricultural project			
25	Agricultural development projects like Cattle auction Projects become more successful if the community participates fully in all stages of the project cycle.			
26	Community member have been involved in project implementation from the beginning of the project.			

### Section D: Level of Community's Participation in Cattle auction development Projects

27. Do you know about the Cattle auction development Projects in this ward? 1) Yes 2) No
28. Did you participate in Cattle auction development Projects in this ward? 1) Yes 2) No
29. How did you participate in the project mentioned above  
1) Committee Member 2) Community member

30. Did you participate in the identification stage of Cattle auction Development Projects?  
1) Yes 2) No  
If yes what activities did you do and continue to 31, but if no why you didn't participate and skip to 33.....
32. Are you satisfied with how you participated in the identification of Cattle auction Development Projects? 1) Yes 2) No. Please explain why.....
33. Did you participate in the planning/designing stage of Cattle auction Development Projects?  
1) Yes 2) No  
If yes what activities did you do and continue to 35, but if no why you didn't participate and skip to 36? .....
35. Are you satisfied with how you participated in the planning/designing of Cattle auction development Projects? 1) Yes 2) No  
Please explain why.....
36. Did you participate in the implementation stage of the Cattle auction development Projects?  
1) Yes 2) No  
If yes what activities did you do and continue to 37, but if no why you didn't participate and skip to 38? .....
37. Are you satisfied with how you participated in the implementation of Cattle auction development Projects? 1) Yes 2) No  
Please explain why.....
38. Did you participate in the Monitoring and Evaluation (control) stage of the Cattle auction development Projects? 1) Yes 2) No  
If yes what activities did you do and continue to ,.....
39. Are you satisfied with how you participated in the Monitoring and Evaluation of Cattle auction development Projects? 1) Yes 2) No  
Please explain why.....

**Thank you for your cooperation**

**Appendix 2: Checklist for Focus Group Discussion (FGD)**

1. When did the Matongro Cattle auction development Project start in your ward? -----
2. Apart from the Matongro Cattle auction development Project, how many other development projects implemented in your village?  
-----
3. Which approach was used to involve the community in your village to initiate/establish the project and why?  
-----  
-----
4. At which project stage did you involve in this Cattle auction development Project and why? --  
-----
5. What was your role in Cattle auction development Projects and why?  
-----
6. What is your attitude about participating in Cattle auction Development Projects? -----
7. Do you think this project help you and your society?  
-----
8. Do you think the Cattle auction development Project had any impact on your life? -----
9. In your opinion what should be done to improve the future agricultural development projects?  
-----

**Thank you for your cooperation**

**Appendix 3: Checklist for Key Informant Interview (KII)**

1. When did Matongro Cattle auction development Projects start in your Kongwa District?  
-----  
-----
2. What was the nature of the team composition (professionalism) of the project?  
-----  
-----
3. Which strategies/approach was used for each village to initiate/establish the project and why?  
-----  
-----
4. At which project stage did Agro Pastoralists involve in Project and why?  
-----  
-----
5. What were the Agro Pastoralists' roles in each stage of the Matongro Cattle auction Projects?  
-----  
-----
6. What is the attitude of Agro Pastoralists regarding their participation in the projects and why?  
-----  
-----
7. What do you think are the impacts of Matongro Cattle auction Projects in this area?  
-----  
-----
8. Do you think the Matongro Cattle Auction Project is sustainable and why?  
-----  
-----
9. What should be done to improve future development projects?  
-----  
-----  
-----

**Thank you for your cooperation**



### **Kuhusu Tasnifu Hii**

Nchini Tanzania, miradi mbalimbali ya maendeleo ya jamii katika sekta mbalimbali ikiwemo sekta ya kilimo imeundwa na kutekelezwa kwa kufuata njia ya chini kwa chini ili kuboresha ustawi wa wanajamii. Hata hivyo, mara nyingi athari za miradi hiyo zimekuwa si kubwa kutokana na sababu mbalimbali ikiwamo ushiriki hafifu wa walengwa katika mchakato huo. Utafiti huu, kwa kutumia mradi wa mnada wa ng'ombe wa Matongoro huko Kongwa kama kisa, ulinua kuchunguza mambo yanayoathiri ushiriki wa jamii katika kupanga na kutekeleza miradi ya maendeleo ya kilimo. Matokeo ya utafiti yanaonyesha kuwa mbinu za kutoshirikishwa zilifuatwa zaidi katika kuwashirikisha wanajamii katika eneo husika lakini pia matokeo yanaonyesha kuwa mitazamo ya wanajamii ilikuwa chanya lakini waliona hasi mbinu zilizotumika kuwashirikisha. Aidha, matokeo yanaonyesha kuwa karibu asilimia 90 ya washiriki walionyesha kiwango kidogo cha ushiriki na mambo muhimu ambayo yaligundulika kushawishi ushiriki wa jamii katika miradi ni kiwango cha mapato, idadi ya ng'ombe, umri, uelewa, uzoefu wa ushiriki katika miradi na jinsia.