

**THE IMPACT OF COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATION ON THE
SOCIAL ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION OF COMMUNITIES IN
UGANDA**

A CASE STUDY OF DISASTER RESILIENCE INITIATIVE UGANDA.

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Abstract

The following goals served as the study's guiding principles: to establish how neighborhood organizations' (CBOs) farmland political and technological socioeconomic growth, to evaluate the effects of CBOs' education programs on the socioeconomic development of the local population, to ascertain how CBOs' health programs affect socioeconomic growth, and to examine the impact of CBOs' emergency preparedness initiative Uganda. 52.2% of neighborhood organizations' activities and programs were funded by member donations, 2.4% by loans from banks and other segments and sub organizations, 1.9% by grant money, and the rest proportion came from other sources, based on the survey. This demonstrates that most organisations have limited resources due to their reliance on member savings and donations, which limits the impact of their activities.

Key words: *community-based organization and social economic transformation*

Background of the study

Since 1986, Uganda has worked hard to implement democratic reforms and has made major advancements in human rights, especially by eliminating abuses by the police and army, which were pervasive under previous administrations. The country thereafter underwent foreign reforms that brought about economic growth and an

expansion of its community-based organisations fraternity (BBC, 2010) Societies that sought to oppose colonial rule before Uganda's independence eventually fell apart, mostly as a result of internal conflicts. The four main types of organizations representing civil society were as follows. First, massive membership groups like co-ops and unions were established to advance the social and economic goals of workers and farmers alike.

Second, affluent Africans who were angry over colonial policies started prestigious membership clubs. (1994, Mamdani and Onyango). Once the National Resistance Movement NRM took power in 1986, efforts were concentrated on creating new mechanisms of articulation between the state and civil society to replace the failed post-colonial ones. (1999; John and Camaroff). This complementing strategy made it possible for civil societies to function in administration and for national growth, which was crucial from a strategic and diplomatic standpoint to win over the public. The civil society in Uganda nowadays is made up of a range of organisations with diverse objectives. Some are headquartered abroad or are global, while others are native.

Problem statement.

A crucial component of community development in Uganda is the neighborhood organization (CBO), which has the potential to transform society and the economy. The extent to which CBOs influence the economic and social advancement of neighbourhoods in Uganda, however, needs to be looked into. The goal of the problem statement is to investigate how CBOs affect the social and economic transformation of Ugandan communities with a particular focus on understanding the elements that help or hinder their ability to accomplish their goals. The goal of the study is to close the knowledge gap regarding the function of CBOs in community development and to shed light on how they have influenced Uganda's social and economic development.

Specific objectives

- 1. To ascertain how agricultural programs run by CBOs affect socioeconomic growth.*
- 2. To evaluate the influence of CBOs' educational initiatives on the socioeconomic development of local communities.*
- 3. To determine how health programs run by CBOs affect the socioeconomic development of local communities.*
- 4. To assess how entrepreneurial programs offered by CBOs affect the socioeconomic development of local communities.*

Research questions.

The study aimed at answering the following questions;

- 1. How does group's agricultural program affect the socio-economic transformation of communities?*
- 2. What is the role of group's educational programs on the socio-economic transformation of communities?*
- 3. What is the impact of the group's health related programs on the socio-economic transformation of communities?*
- 4. How do group's entrepreneurial programs affect the socio-economic transformation of communities?*

Methodology

Research Design

The researcher used a quantitative research approach for the study that examined the Mityana District's contributing reasons for teenage pregnancy, its effects, and preventative measures.

Study Technique for sampling from a population

A total of 200 persons, 100 teachers, and 49 stakeholders were the targeted population. To obtain a sample, the researcher employed sampling methodology. The researcher employed the purposeful sampling method to choose the respondents in order to gather precise information for the study's evaluation and to include only those respondents who have important information.

Targeted population of the sample size

The study targeted 720 respondents from 42 women and 18 youth groups from Kampala and Wakiso district. It regarded the identified population as relevant group from which generalization can be drawn from. (Arkava and Lane, 1983). This population was drawn from communities around Kampala and Wakiso District Social Service officer's office as the groups that functional location offices and compiled by Disaster resilience Uganda offices in Kampala.

Data collection Instruments

The researcher would develop both primarily and secondary sources of information and data. In collecting Primary Data, the researcher used questionnaires as tools for collecting the data. For Secondary Data, publications by re-known authors in this field.

Questionnaires

This choice of tool was used due to the fact that the targeted population was literate and therefore capable of filling-in the questionnaires. It gives the respondents adequate time to give well thought out answers. Questionnaires were self-administered and provide a quick means of collecting data from a large population's sample.

Data processing and Analysis

This involved tabulation of the collected data. A quantitative method was used in computation of percentages and totals. Tables was used to present and summarize data for easy interpretation and display of information

RESULTS

Response Rate.

A total of 159 respondents from the community-based organizations out of the possible 241 respondents, and all the 5 government officials responded. This translated to 66 % response rate. Other respondents who participated in the study included each official from the ministry of agriculture, education, health, social services and youth.

Gender of the respondents

The study sought to establish the gender of the respondents of the community-based organization, where the respondents were asked to indicate their gender as either male or female. The result is indicated as in the table below;

Table 1 Gender of the respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	37	23.3%
Female	122	76.7%

<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0%</i>
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The results on gender of community-based organization member shows that 76.7% were female while 23.3% were male. This shows a gender imbalance in the members' representation in community-based organization. This indicates that, more women are members of community-based organization as compared to their men counterparts.

Age category of respondents.

The study sought to know the age brackets of the members and officials of the community-based organizations. Respondents were asked to indicate their age brackets as either between 15 -20 years, 21-25 years, 26-30 years, and 31-35 years and above 35 years. This is represented in the table below.

Table 2 Age category

<i>Age</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>15-20 years</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>6%</i>
<i>21-25 years</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>7.5%</i>
<i>26—30 years</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>9.4%</i>
<i>31-35 years</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>25.8%</i>
<i>35< years</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>42.8%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>96.2%</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3.8%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

The study findings indicated that, higher percentage of community-based organization members are of age 35 and above years at a frequency of 54.9%, followed by members of age bracket of 31-35 years at frequency of 26.8% the rest being below 20 years at 0.6 %. Thus, indicating that, age is a factor in the community participation in the socio-economic activities.

Response on Membership Duration

Table 3 Membership Duration

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>1-2 years</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>12.6%</i>
<i>2-5 years</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>28.3</i>
<i>5<years</i>	<i>88</i>	<i>55.3</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>96.2</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3.8</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

The study findings established that, a higher percentage of the members and the officials have participated in the group's activities for over a period of five years at a frequency of 55.3 %, followed by between 2 and 3 years of existence at a frequency of 28.3 % and the rest which have been in existence for a period below 2 years at a frequency of 12.6 %, indicating that, most members had participated in the group's activities for more than 5 years.

Response on Group Formation

Table 4 Group Formation

<i>Group formation initiative</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Members initiative</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>88.7</i>
<i>Outside initiative</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2.5</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>91.2</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>8.8</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

The study revealed that, a higher percentage of the community-based organizations were formed through the members own initiative at a frequency of 88.7 %, while those formed through the outside initiative at a frequency of 1.9 %. This indicates that, most the community-based organization were formed through the community's own initiative; therefore, the community is able to identify its own felt needs and be able to strategize the ways of meeting them.

Response on funding.

Table 5 Funding

<i>Funding group activities</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Members contribution</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>52.2</i>
<i>Government grants</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1.9</i>
<i>Donor grants</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.6</i>

<i>Loans from bank and MEA</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>21.4</i>
<i>OTHER</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.6</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>76.7</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>23.3</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

According to the study, 52.2% of community-based organizations funded their operations and programs through member contributions, 2.4% did so through loans from banks and other micro-enterprise agencies, 1.9% did so through government grants, and the remaining percentage came from other sources.

Agriculture and socio-economic development

Table: 6 Production activities

<i>Activity</i>	<i>frequency</i>	<i>percent</i>
<i>Food crop</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>69.2</i>
<i>Cash crop</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>7.5</i>
<i>Animal production</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>9.4</i>
<i>Any other</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3.8</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>89.9</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>10.1</i>

<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>
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The study, established that, a higher percentage of community-based organizations dealt in food crop production at a frequency of 69.2 %, 9.4 % were involved in animal production, while 7.5 % were engaged in Cash crop production. This indicates that, food crop production is the major agricultural production activity in Kampala and wakiso district.

Response on acreage of farms***Table 7 Acreage of farms***

<i>Acres of farm</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>0-1 Acres</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>88.1</i>
<i>1-5 Acres</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>10.1</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>98.1</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1.9</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>159</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

The study established that, a higher percentage of community-based organizations, carried out their farm production on less than 1 acre piece of land at a frequency of 88.1 %, 10.1 % carried out their agricultural activities on piece of land that is between

1- and 5-acre piece of land and none carried their agricultural activities on more 10 acre piece of land. This indicates that, the agricultural production activities.

Response on the enhanced food security

The respondents were asked whether their agricultural activities had enhanced or not enhanced food security in their families and the district as illustrated in the table below;

Table 8- Enhanced food security

<i>Response</i>	<i>frequency</i>	<i>percent</i>
<i>Yes</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>50.9</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>49.1</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

The study established that, 50.9 % of the community-based organization's agricultural activities contributed to enhanced food security in the community. This indicates that, agricultural activities have enhanced food security in the district as most of them are engaged in food crop production.

Response on the demand of consumer goods and services.

The respondents were asked to indicate whether or not, their agricultural activities enhanced the demand for consumer goods and services. This is represented in the table below;

Table 10 Increased incomes

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Yes</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>49.7</i>

<i>No response</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>50.3</i>
<i>total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

The study showed that, community base organizations'' agricultural activities improved the group member's income. This is an indicator that, subsistence farming is the major economic activity of the communities.

Response on non –farm economy

The respondents were to indicate whether their agricultural activities contributed to the

Table 11 Non –farm economy.

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Yes</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>18.9</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>81.1</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

The study established that, 18.9% of the community-based organizations'' agricultural activities contributed to the growth in the non –farm economy. This indicates that, the agricultural activities.

Impact of educational programs on the socio-economic development

Response on the level of education. *The respondents were required to indicate at which level of education the group engages in. The results as per the table below;*

<i>Level of education</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>ECD</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>6.9</i>
<i>Primary</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>42.1</i>
<i>Secondary</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>38.4</i>
<i>Tertiary</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2.5</i>
<i>None of the above</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1.3</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>91.2</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>8.8</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

The study established that, that a higher percentage of community-based organizations contributed and sponsored primary level of education at a frequency of 42.1 %, 38.1 % contributed to secondary level of education, while 6.9 % participated. At the early child hood education and the achievement of their contribution to the education sector

Response on services provided to schools.

Table 13 Service provided

<i>Service provided percent</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
<i>Advisory through representation on the school boards 64.8</i>	<i>103</i>
<i>Provision of physical facilities 15.7</i>	<i>25</i>

<i>Provision of teaching materials 1.9</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Sponsorship to students and pupils 5.7</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Total 88.1</i>	<i>140</i>
<i>No response 11.9</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Total 100.0</i>	<i>159</i>

The study revealed that, a higher percentage of community-based organization provided advisory services to schools through their representation on the school boards at a frequency of 64.8%, 15.7 % of the organizations provided physical facilities to the schools, 5.7 % sponsored students and pupils and 1.9 % provided teaching materials to the schools.

Response on the achievement of the group in enhancing accessibility to schools

Table 14 Enhanced accessibility to schools

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Yes</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>30.8</i>
<i>No</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.6</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>31.4</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>109</i>	<i>68.6</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100</i>

From the study, 30.8% of the respondents agreed that the groups have provided an enhancement to accessibility to school. 68.6% were indifferent of the about the achievements. This indicates that, have had limited impact on the accessibility to schools in the district.

Response on enhanced retention of pupils and students in schools.

The study sought to establish, whether the group's participation in education sector enhanced the retention of pupils and students in schools.

Table: 15 Enhanced retentions of pupils and students in schools

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Yes</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>54.1</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>45.9</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

From the study, it was established that, 54.1 % agreed that, their participation in the education enhanced the retention of pupils and students in schools, while 45.9% did not agree on the impact. This indicates that, the group had an impact in the retention of students in schools, but the study did not point out how it does it.

Response on the enhancement of the performance of students and pupils. *The study sought to establish, whether the group's participation enhanced the performance of students and pupils.*

Table 16 Enhancement of the performance of students

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Yes</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>44.0</i>
<i>No</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>44.7</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>88</i>	<i>55.3</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

From the study, 44% of the respondents agree that the groups' activities have had an enhancement of students and pupils. However, 55.3% couldn't agree or disagree on the impact. This indicates that, the performance of schools was not a key aspect of the group's engagement in the education programs and activities.

Response on the teacher's morale

The study sought to establish whether the group's involvement in education helped boost the teacher's morale as illustrated in the table below;

Table 17 Teachers' morale

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Yes</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>6.3</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>6.3</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>93.7</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

From the study, 6.3% of the respondents were in agreement that community-based groups" enhanced morale of the teachers while 93.7% couldn't agree or disagree about the groups" participation in the enhancement of the teacher's morale. This almost means that the groups participation in teachers" morale is low or do not carry out.

Response on the group's health level of intervention in the health sector.

Table 18 Group's level of intervention in the health sector.

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Preventive</i>	26	16.4
<i>Curative</i>	5	3.1
<i>Referral</i>	114	71.7
<i>Other</i>	7	4.4
<i>Total</i>	152	95.6
<i>No response</i>	7	4.4
<i>Total</i>	159	100.0

From the study, it was established that, 71.7% of the respondents carry out referral health programs among the community members while 16.4% carry preventive services measures in the community. This indicates that the community-based organization has increased referral and saving of lives of the sick by linking them to relevant agencies.

Response on the Health services carried out by the groups.

Table 19 Health services

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>MCH</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>3.1</i>
<i>Food and nutrition</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>6.3</i>
<i>Malaria</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>10.1</i>
<i>AIDS</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>56.6</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1.3</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>123</i>	<i>77.4</i>
<i>No response</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>22.6</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100.0</i>

The study established that, 56.6 % of the respondents, engaged in HIV/AIDS programs, 10.1 % carried Malaria related activities, 6.3 % carried out Food and nutrition activities, while 4.1 % carried out Mother and child health activities. This indicates that, HIV/AIDS is the major health program that, the community-based organization.

Outcome of the health program on the socio-economic development

Response on labor productivity

The respondents were to indicate whether their health program enhanced labor productivity in Kampala district.

Table 21 Labor productivity

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Yes	25	15.7
No response	134	84.3
Total	159	100.0

The study established that, 15.7 % of the respondent agreed that, their health-related activities enhanced labor productivity in the agricultural sector. This indicates the groups' health related activities have very little impact on the labor productivity.

Response on behavioral change and reduced HIV/AIDS infection

Table 22 Behavioral Change and reduced HIV/AIDS infection

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Yes	128	80.5
No response	31	19.5
Total	159	100.0

The study established that, 80% of the community-based organizations health related activities enhanced behavioral change and reduced HIV/AIDS infection in the Kampala District. This indicates that, the community-based organization in Kampala district have a great impact in behavioral change and reduction of HIV/AIDS infections.

Response on nutrition

The respondents were to indicate whether or not their health-related activities. had an impact on the nutritional aspect of the community. The results as per the table below,

Table 23 Nutrition

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Yes	45	28
No	2	1.3
Total	47	29.6
No response	112	70.4
Total	159	100.0

The study established that, 28 .3 % of the group's activities contributed to improved nutrition in the community. This indicates the group's health related activities have little impact on the nutritional aspect in Kampala district.

Response on the basis of the entrepreneurship activities.

Table 24 Basis of the entrepreneurship activity

<i>Response</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Agricultural 113	71	0.1
Non agricultural	20	12.6
Total	133	83.6
No response	26	16.4

The study established that, a higher percentage of the groups „entrepreneurship activities were agricultural at a frequency 71.1 %, 12.6% were non-agricultural. This

indicates that, agriculture is the major economic activity in Kampala and wakiso district.

Response on expanded market for group's products

The respondents had to indicate whether or not the entrepreneurship activities had enhanced the market for group's product. The results are as per the table below

TABLE 25: Expanded markets for group's product

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	26	16.4
No	1	0.4
Total	27	17.0
No response	132	83.0
Total	159	100.0

The study established that, 16.4 % of the group's entrepreneurship activities enhanced the expansion of group's market. This indicates that, most groups' activities are not commercialized and there no networking between the group members who are producers and the consumer who could be outside the district.

Conclusions

According to the study's findings, only a small portion of the adolescents in the Kampala area participate in socioeconomic development since they do not typically belong to community-based organizations. The community members are able to recognize their urgent demands; thus, they have answers to problems relating to raising their socioeconomic standards. Members of the group finance their own programs and

activities rather than relying on donors and funds from the government or other donor agents, making them an invaluable resource for rural development.

The primary economic activity in the village is agriculture, and food crop production takes place on less than one acre of land. Via their extension services, this ministry of agriculture should provide training to the members of these groups in order to increase the high productivity of their output. To counteract the impact of small farm holding, the community should also support animal production as a company. When it comes to raising educational standards and motivating teachers, the group's educational activities have little effect because of the low performance standards in education.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, results have shown that community-based organizations have an impact on the socio-economic development of the rural communities of Kampala district, which was realized at $P > 0.05$, the study makes the following recommendations.

Programs and activities in agriculture

In order for the community to benefit and see an improvement in their socioeconomic standards, the Ministry of Agriculture must take advantage of the requirement for society organization in the planning and implementation of the programs.

Education initiatives and programs

To raise the district's educational standards, community-based organizations must collaborate with instructors who serve as role models for students and children.

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