

**INFLUENCE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF  
KAPROBU DAM PROJECT, MOIBEN SUB-COUNTY, UASIN GISHU COUNTY,  
KENYA**

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**A Thesis Submitted to the Graduate School in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements  
for the Master of Research and Public Policy Degree of Egerton University**


**EGERTON UNIVERSITY**

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## DECLARATION AND RECOMMENDATION

### Declaration

This thesis is my original work and has not been presented in this university or any other for the award of a degree.

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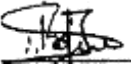
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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this research to the Holy Spirit and Almighty God for guiding me when developing this research work. It is also a special dedication to my parents (Mr Simeon Komen & Cicilia Rotich) and my siblings (Hillary Komen et al.) for the moral and financial support they gave me. It is also a dedication to the citizens of Uasin Gishu County, especially Kaprobu and Kapchunga villages, for upholding the public participation policy.

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## ABSTRACT

Public participation is a method of engagement in governance. People engage together for discussion and joint action within various interests, organisations, and systems, developing a civic uniqueness and including constituents in governance processes. In 2013, The Constitution of Kenya 2010 was implemented, and Article 174 highlights public participation as a crucial process in ensuring citizens' views are considered during project implementation. However, since the implementation of the constitution, public participation have been conducted on various projects, but there have been public complaints that their views are not being considered. Therefore, it created a need to investigate whether public participation influenced the implementation of projects, particularly the Kaprobu Dam project. The following objectives guided the study: influence of public participation on; legislative, budgetary and tendering processes. The study used concurrent mixed methods research design (QUANT + qual). Quantitative data was analysed using descriptive statistics (percentages and frequencies) and inferential statistics (simple linear regression, multiple linear regression & Pearson correlation coefficient), while qualitative data were analysed using content analysis. The hypothesis was tested at the  $\alpha=0.05$  level of significance. The regression model for public participation and; legislative process, Budgetary process, Tendering process and implementation of projects in Moiben Sub-County are given as  $Y=2.432+.463$ ,  $Y=4.252+.107$ ,  $Y=4.287+.085$ , and  $Y=3.559+.258$ , respectively. The study findings imply that there is a significant relationship between public participation and; legislative process, budgetary process, tendering process and implementation of projects. This also implies that public participation policy is working Moiben sub-county though implementation of citizens views needs improvement. The findings from this study inform the County Government of Uasin Gishu of the need to increase the uptake of public views given during public participation as an excellent measure to meet constituents' desires and uphold public participation policy. The study recommends that the county governments continue conducting public participation meetings to capture the people's desired way of running projects. The county governments should also not hesitate to distribute and use resources that the public has budgeted for various projects to ensure the completion of projects. This will help in solving actual citizens' challenges.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

BQ: Bill of Quality

C.o.G: Council of Governors

C.o.K: Constitution of Kenya

CDF: Constituency Development Fund

CG: County Government

CGA: County Government Act

CIEM: Curriculum Instruction and Educational Management

CRC: Citizen Report Card

CSO: Civil Society Organization

DFRD: District Focus for Rural Development

EU: European Union

FGD: Focused Group Discussion

FY: Financial Year

G.o.K: Government of Kenya

GDP: Gross Domestic Product

ICCPR: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

IEA: Institute of Economic Affairs

KI: Key Informant

KII: Key Informant Interview

KLRC: Kenya Law Reform Commission

KNBS: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

LATF: Local Authority Transfer Fund

MCA: Member of County Assembly

MEC: Members of Executive Council

MFED: Ministry of Finance and Economic Development

NACOSTI: National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation

OECD: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

PASGR- Partnership for African Social & Governance Research

PFM: Public Finance Management

PPOA: Public Procurement Oversight Authority

PPP: Public Participation Plan

QDA: Qualitative Data Analysis

qual: Qualitative

QUANT: Quantitative

RGB: Rwanda Governance Board

SMS: Short Message Service

SPSS: Statistical Packages for Social Sciences

SRDP: Special Rural Development Program

TISA: The Institute for Social Accountability

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

UNDESA: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UNDP: United Nation Development Program

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background to the Study

The history of citizen participation goes back to prehistoric Greece and Colonial New England earlier in the 1960s, where organisational developments and activities were aimed to permit citizen participation (Charles et al., 2019). Public participation was institutionalised in the mid-1960s by President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society Programs to ensure citizens' opinion in public decisions at all levels (Houlihan & Bisarya, 2021).

The European Union (EU) has made public involvement a legal requirement, as specified in many treaties and papers. In a White Paper published in 2001 on European Governance, a shift that would include better involvement and more openness was advocated (Alemanno, 2022). The article also encouraged broad participation in policy-making from initiation to implementation and evaluation. They argue that confidence will be brought to the institutions convey citizen-oriented policies. The paper pinpointed five principles of the good policy-making process; frankness, involvement, accountability, efficacy, and coherence (N'Guettia, 2016).

In Switzerland, *The Consultation Procedure Act*; Federal Act Article 3 is obligatory for citizens to engage in the implementation of projects. The citizens, political parties, and interested groups provide thoughts on project implementation. *The Federal Constitution of the Swiss Confederation* Article 147 states that; political parties, cantons, and interested parties shall be requested to give their ideas when implementing projects (Swiss, 2013).

Konstant and Moshikaro (2016) posits that South Africa's public participation framework has been ranked the best in Africa. South Africa's courts once challenged a lack of genuine public participation as its implementation of projects that had been left in the hands of parliament and provincial legislatures. They have devised several approaches: *izimbizo*, where all political leaders, from the president to councillors, discuss issues distressing the public with the community members; cabinet ministers conduct ministerial *izimbizo* with provincial Members of Executive Councils (MECs) to get citizen ideas. Ward committees are established under the *Municipal Structures Act* [Act No 117 of 1998] (Mtshweni, 2009).

Muriu (2013) argues that *the national decentralisation policy* guides public participation in Rwanda. The procedure was formulated to facilitate good governance and for citizens to control their destinies as they can decide on the projects to be implemented by the government. This study's findings are consistent with those found Goyena (2019), which

found that in the case of policy implementation against genocide ideology in Rwanda, the Chamber of Deputies in the Rwandan parliament initiated a Bill. They ensured the active participation of the community members and went further to implement citizens' views. One of the participants said; they contributed to the policy formulation, and their opinions were taken into account. The findings of the study were in agreement with the findings of this study.

Nyanjom (2011) claims that there have been several attempts to introduce public participation since independence in Kenya: The Constitution of Kenya provided devolution of power and resources through the eight regions but was later abolished in 1966. Other attempts were not very successful; Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF), Special Rural Development Program (SRDP), Constituency Development Fund (CDF) and District Focus for Rural Development (DFRD).

In 1967, Special Rural Development Program (SRDP) try out started in six selected pilot areas. It was the first effort towards a more horizontally oriented development planning and administration form. However, the implementation of the project was unsatisfactory, sluggish, and it never permitted citizen participation. The project was phased out wholly in 1977. SRDP failed because of unclear formulated objectives and terms of action. Unselected data collection also proved confusing rather than helpful. In July 1983, District Focus for Rural Development (DFRD) was introduced, but it only took shape on paper and not in practice (Muriu, 2013). European Commission (2012) adds that several challenges were leading to the failure of the policy; the role played by ministries was very vague, general sectoral policy guidelines were often lacking, and lack of information on budget ceilings hampered the actual transfer of responsibility towards the districts. The flexibility of planning and implementation in districts was still limited. Districts were not accorded any autonomy as resources were still centrally controlled.

Despite the failures, there have been accomplishments of public participation in social programs such as family planning and anti-HIV/AIDS campaigns. Such campaigns were well received; many people were involved in the activities and yielded positive results as their views were implemented (García et al., 2013). Patrick (2013) postulates that the Constitution of Kenya 2010 pursues to clean all these messes by devolving both power and resources to county governments. The Constitution of Kenya 2010 gives citizens sovereign power that can be exercised directly or indirectly by national and county governments. Public participation is mandatory in project implementation in Kenya. Public participation policy is set out within the provisions of Articles 10, 118, 124, 201, 221, and 232 of The Constitution of Kenya 2010



and the National Assembly Standing Orders (Ministry of Planning and Devolution and the Council of Governors, 2016).

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 under Article 174(c) offers that the vital role of devolution is: "to stretch powers of self-rule to the people and enhance their involvement in decision making on issues affecting them and the implementation of the laws of the State." The county government Act CGA (2012) part VIII under; sections 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, and 92 provide public participation policy, sections 94, 95, 96, 97 provide access to information, sections 98, 99, 100, and 101 provide civic education and sections 114 and 115 provide public participation in county planning (The Government of Kenya [G.o.K], 2010).

Debates at the international level on policy implementation remain subjugated by first-generation studies. Participatory and administrative approaches that are bottom-up and top-down, respectively, overwhelm 2nd generation of policy implementation, as evidenced by (Stewart et al., 2008). Hicks (2014) conjectures that participatory performance emphasises community members and service providers, claiming that policy is made at the grassroots. Disconnecting project implementation from politics may face challenges during enactment.

In the European Union, public participation in policy implementation is strengthened significantly by the following documents; the Lisbon Treaty, the 2009 European Parliament Resolution on the perspectives of Developing Civil Dialogue under the Treaty of Lisbon, and the 2002 European Commission Communication (Bruno et al., 2010). The above documents control the involvement of the community members in resolutions made by the European Union institutions.

Several sections of the Constitution in South Africa facilitate community participation in the legislative process. They include; Section 59(1), Section 72(1), and Section 118(1). The South African legal systems construed the provision of citizen involvement, which states that "The foundations for a democratic and open society in which government is based on the will of the people", as indicating that "the people of South Africa reserved for themselves part of the sovereign legislative authority that they otherwise delegated to the representative bodies they created" (Czapanskiy & Manjoo, 2008).

In Kenya, Under Articles 201, 221, and 232 of the Public Finance Framework, it is a requirement that public participation is incorporated into the budgetary process. The Public Finance Management Act 2012 and the National Assembly Standing orders best expound it. The public members have a right to; make submissions on the budget by the county and attend public hearings on the budget and the Finance Bill (G.o.K, 2015).

The county government is accountable to the public; thus, they need a constructive plan when coming up with a budget. Planning and prediction are two essential aspects of the budgetary process. Planning is all about setting goals and forming policies. Prediction, on the other hand, provides a framework where citizens can consider future implications. In the context of county government, the CG budget should be well planned and forecasted (Antonini et al., 2015).

Kaprobu dam project is located in Sergoit ward, Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu County. The dam was commissioned for construction on 18th October 2018 by HE Governor Jackson Mandago (governor Uasin Gishu County). The key beneficiaries of the project are citizens from Kapchunga and Kaprobu villages. The dam was mainly constructed for irrigation and animal consumption. The county government of Uasin Gishu funded the project to transform the livelihoods of its people through the development of dams economically. Kaprobu dam project was chosen for study because it is among the mega projects in Uasin Gishu county.

Public participation was conducted before the construction of the Kaprobu dam project. It was unclear whether the citizens' views were considered during project implementation or not. Public complaints have been that their opinions are not being considered during project implementation (Northrift News, 2016). Therefore, this study's objective was to investigate the influence of public participation on the implementation of the Kaprobu dam project in the Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu county.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 was promulgated on 27 August 2010. Public participation became an integral policy consideration in any law, statutes, project or program. It was projected that public participation would be a crucial process in project implementation. It was expected to improve citizens' prospects, needs, and ability to build community support for projects. However, since the implementation of the constitution, public participation has been conducted on various projects, but there have been public complaints that their views are not being considered during project implementation. Therefore, this created a need to investigate the extent of the influence of public participation on the implementation of projects, particularly Kaprobu Dam project.

### **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study was to investigate the extent of the influence of public participation on implementation of Kaprobu dam project in Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu County.

### **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

- i. To investigate the influence of public participation on the legislative process of Kaprobu dam project
- ii. To investigate the influence of public participation on the budgetary process of Kaprobu dam project
- iii. To investigate the influence of public participation on the tendering process of Kaprobu dam project
- iv. To investigate the influence of public participation on the implementation of Kaprobu dam project.

### **1.5 Research Hypotheses**

To achieve the objectives of this study, the following null hypotheses were tested.

HO<sub>1</sub> There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on the legislative process of Kaprobu dam project

HO<sub>2</sub> There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on the budgetary process of Kaprobu dam project

HO<sub>3</sub> There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on the tendering process of Kaprobu dam project

HO<sub>4</sub> There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on the implementation of Kaprobu dam project.

### **1.6 Research Question**

- i. To what extent has public participation influenced the implementation process of Kaprobu dam project?

### **1.7 Significance of the Study**

The study was conducted to investigate the extent of the influence of Public Participation on the implementation of the Kaprobu dam project in the Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu County. The study is expected to benefit most of Uasin Gishu County's citizens. It is expected to spearhead conversation toward policy-driven allocation of resources. The

study is expected to enable citizens to be a component of the democratic policymaking process in Uasin Gishu County. The study is also expected to add knowledge on how tenders should be awarded to various contractors. This study is expected to be crucial to the county government of Uasin Gishu, considering that the research findings can be utilised to formulate citizen-centred policies in the future. The study is expected to be relevant to the county government of Uasin Gishu in showcasing citizen participation as a trustworthy process in promoting people' s rights. The information generated from this research study is expected to be of much value to future researchers to advance their knowledge in public participation and implementation of projects.

### **1.8 Scope of the Study**

This study was carried out in the Sergoit ward in Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu County. This study encompassed the influence of public participation on implementing the Kaprobu dam project in Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu County, by focusing on indicators of implementation of projects: legislative process, budgetary process, and tendering process. The study also focused on public participation indicators: public meetings, public hearings, and public opinion. The study participants encompassed adults above 18 years from Sergoit ward who engaged in public participation during the construction of the Kaprobu dam project. The key informants included; the ward administrator, chief, assistant chief, and two village elders. Other factors contributing to the implementation of projects other than public participation were not this study's focus. The researcher chose Moiben Sub County due to public outcry that their views are not considered during project implementation (Northrift News, 2016). To investigate citizens' claims, the study picked mega projects in uasin Gishu county. According to Uasin Gishu County (2017), the mega projects were; Construction of ECDE classrooms, dam desilting, construction of roads, construction of ECDE classrooms, construction of VTCs, rehabilitation/construction of cattle dips, and drilling and equipping of boreholes, among others. The study chose Kaprobu dam project because the project took a bit longer, and the public was largely engaged.

### **1.9 Limitations of the Study**

- i. The study only concentrated on the implementation of projects through public participation, while there may be other ways of implementing policies in Uasin Gishu County.

- ii. The study could not be done in all 47 counties of Kenya because, among other things, the researcher did not have enough resources. Since the study was only done in one county, the results can be generalized to other counties with care.

### **1.10 Assumptions of the Study**

In this study, the researcher assumed that;

- i. The statistical models employed in the analysis of the data for the study achieved a degree of accuracy that was considered significant for measuring the relationship between the study variables.
- ii. The mixed method approach to data collection aided in the collection of sufficient data for the study.

### 1.11 Operational Definition of Terms

The following are the definition of key terms:

**Budgetary process:** It is the process of creating and managing financial plans by institutions or individuals (Davis et al., 2012). The budgetary process in this study referred to how the public gives suggestions on how their resources will be utilised, e.g., allocation and use of resources on the Kaprobu dam project.

**Implementation:** Bringing an idea from the realm of concept to the world of practice (Cain, 2018). Implementation in this study referred to the process whereby the views of the people they gave during public participation are incorporated in legislative, budgetary, and tendering processes before, during, and after the construction of the Kaprobu dam project. Implementation in this study therefore means legislative, budgetary, and tendering processes.

**Influence:** It is a force a person exerts on others to change those people regarding behaviour, opinions, attitude, goals, needs, and values (Hall & Barrett, 2007). Influence in this study referred to where the policies implemented, budget formulated, and tenders given to contractors result from citizens' views.

**Key Informant:** An individual that shares knowledge with a researcher from an insider's perspective, particularly for ethnographic research. (Collins English Dictionary, 2018). Key informants in this study referred to ward administrator, chief, assistant chief, and village elders.

**Legislative process:** it is the method of coming up with regulations that have the power of authority under their promulgation by an official organ of a state or other organisation (Legal, 2017). The legislative process in this study referred to the making of policies used to run the construction of the Kaprobu dam project.

**Participation:** the exercise of power to identify needs, make decisions by a group of people from a specific geographical area, and share needs (Midgley & Hall, 2004). Participation in this study referred to participating in public meetings and expressing your opinions before, during, and after the construction of the Kaprobu dam project.

**Public participation:** is a method of involvement in governance whereby people participate together for deliberation and collective action within an array of interests, institutions, and networks, developing a civic identity and involving people in governance processes (Holdar & Natkaniec, 2002). Public participation in this study referred to citizens airing their views on; policies to run the construction of the Kaprobu dam project, determining resource allocation for the Kaprobu dam project, and determining contractors to be given tenders in

the construction of the Kaprobu dam project. Public participation will be used interchangeably with citizen participation.

**Public:** relating to all people in a country or community with common interests or characteristics (Simm, 2011). The public in this study referred to a group of people with a common interest, e.g., citizens of the Moiben sub-county. The public will be used interchangeably with citizens.

**Tendering process:** selecting the best or most inexpensive company to supply certain services or goods by requesting a couple of organisations to bid offers for services or goods (Guide, 2012). The tendering process in this study referred to giving a person, a group of people, or an organisation a responsibility to supply certain products or do a particular job on behalf of the county during the construction of the Kaprobu dam project. It also means ordering for the purchase of certain products. Tendering process involves; advertising, bid preparation, evaluation of qualifications and proposals, awarding tenders and lastly signing of contract. Tendering will be used interchangeably with public procurement.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of past studies on public participation, public participation and legislative process, public participation and budgetary process, public participation and tendering process, and public participation and implementation of projects. This chapter also assessed the theory related to this study and the conceptual framework.

#### 2.2 Public Participation

Public participation, also called citizen participation, is a method of involvement in the running of an institution, where people engage together for discussion and joint action within an assortment of welfares, organisations, and systems, evolving a civic uniqueness and including constituents in the policy-making process (Council of Governors [C.o.G], 2016). Citizen participation is grounded on the credence that those who ought to be affected by a policy or interested in that policy should be included in the policy-making process. Citizen participation is also a collaborative passing of a message and solving problems to attain improved and more satisfactory decisions (Holdar & Natkaniec, 2002).

*European Commission Principles and Least Values for Consultation of Interested Parties (2002)* emphasised generating enough time for public participation, involving all stakeholders, publishing public participation findings, and giving public participation feedback to the citizens. The Lisbon Treaty, signed by European Union member states in 2007 and enacted in 2009, emphasised including citizens when making policies and laws (Gibbins, 2014).

Engaging in public matters helps the citizenry work in unity to attain their interest while also considering other people's demands in society. It is believed to build a responsible community that knows the importance of unity to achieve short-term and long-term goals (World Bank, 2018). United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [UNDESA] (2012) further outlines that a good government's responsibility is to create institutions that facilitate public participation, fostering responsible and moral citizens. Good government is about conducting the everyday business of government affairs and admitting that governing enhances mental capabilities. Therefore, government should include the public in policy-making. The concept of public participation has become a slogan within the development community; thus, any projects without public participation have become unsustainable (Mathenge et al., 2017).



Based on Burby (2003), citizen participation has some expected returns, including; capitalising on local talents and resources, reducing the effects of not involving citizens, making citizens support projects they were involved in, identifying what citizens value in the community, satisfying legal requirements and improving general trust in government. The International Association has summarised the public participation core values of Public Participation. It is believed that those affected by the project should be involved during project implementation (The Institute for Social Accountability [TISA], 2015). Berry (2019) posits citizens are promised that the output will be due to their views during public participation. Skopje (2010) adds that citizen participation provides community members with the means to participate and information on how their ideas were implemented.

Chompunth (2011) categorises instruments of public participation into two; voice and vote. Voice is where citizens can influence decision-making, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of projects touching their social, economic, and political welfare. Citizens give opinions through public meetings, public hearings, social media, and petitions. On the other hand, voting is where citizens elect their representatives at all levels of government, both national and county levels (Berry, 2019).

Muriu (2013) alludes that policymakers use public participation as a routine instrument when influencing projects. Citizen participation enables policymakers to include the public in project implementation. The government of Kenya introduced public participation in counties to give citizens a voice in decision-making and ensure transparency and accountability in their actions. The Council of Europe recommendations, including the Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation, strengthen the importance of public participation in policy implementation (Draft, 2010).

Dean (2016) claims that citizen participation has been turned into a song and is a frequent exercise in society as many societies practice it. As evidenced in many countries, the contemporary world seems to be undergoing a participatory revolution in policy and politics. In Kenya, citizens must be involved in every action taken by the government, especially at the county level. Thus, it has become compulsory (Mapuva, 2015). Citizen Participation can be used to enlighten the citizenry and therefore put democratic principles into practice, obtain unanimity and some form of legality, or get feedback from citizens when they are in front of a problematic or imperfectly understood problem. By involving citizens in decision-making, governments gain insights into the challenge' s citizens face and get their views concerning their priorities. Involving citizens in decision-making prevents future rejection of projects as experienced in the past (Marzuki, 2015).

The constitution of South Africa under Section 19 strengthens political participation by protecting the freedom of expression in Section 16 (Czapanskiy & Manjoo, 2008). A citizen satisfaction survey is conducted to enable citizens to give their views on service delivery. The executive committee also meets the people, and public hearings and citizen forums are also undertaken. Public participation is covered in the following sections of South Africa's constitution; Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996 sections; (1) (a), 118 (1) (a), 160 (4) (b), Municipal Structures Act 117 of 1998, Municipal System Act 32 of 2000 at chapter 4; community participation (Desai & Reimers, 2018).

Rwanda Governance Board [RGB] (2018) advances this argument by suggesting that Rwanda gives the public a chance to implement projects that affect them as they have moved power and resources to local government and local levels. The achievement of public participation in Rwanda is the promotion of transparency and accountability in governance. The Rwanda Governance Board (RGB) conducts a Citizen Report Card (CRC) survey to enable citizens' opinions on service delivery.

Institute of Economic Affairs [IEA] (2015) suggests that county assemblies can disseminate information or updates on their projects/programs through social media, for example, Facebook. Through social media, citizens can air out their views concerning the running of the county government, for example, projects/programs. Apart from overall development, citizens participating in all dynamics of life helps them develop at an individual level. Individuals will benefit from associating with others in diverse ways (Peter & Kopsieker, 2006).

Public participation enhances democratisation as it enlightens and educates citizens; it is, therefore, a potent tool. Scholars view public participation as getting information concerning needs, attitudes, and issues in which those affected express themselves before policy implementation (Babooa, 2008). In turn, it promotes fairness, equality, and reasonableness in the sharing and distributing of public resources. Through public participation, citizens are educated on the need to understand the affairs and desires of other people in society, thus resolving conflicts. They can promote collective welfare through in-person activities and relationship building which is key to any public participation strategy (Mbithi, 2018).

In public participation, citizens make decisions by themselves. Direct public participation is usually through referendum and elections (voting). An example at the county level is governors and Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) to represent the people. Indirect democracy occurs when the elected officials represent the citizenry in making

decisions on behalf. Public participation aims to bridge or abolish the gap between the county government and the governed [citizens] (Blanco, 2013).

Public meetings are avenues where local policy makers collect public views and allow the public to see how policy was made. Regular public meetings help increase citizens' understanding and involvement in the matter' s policymakers deal with (Hirzy, 2018). Public opinion is where the belief of purposeful democracy is grounded on exchanging ideas amongst community members in public. The administration calls for views from community members over a specific matter of concern. Draft (2010) suggests that the administration should only be a facilitator, but the ideas should come from the public. Dietram (2014) further argues that proper communication influences a person's enthusiasm to express their views on a matter of concern.

A public hearing is a specific meeting usually steered in response to a legislative, order, or managerial prerequisite. The main aim of conducting is to allow constituents to add up to a policy proposal or a petition (New York State Government, 2012). Burby (2003) adds that public hearings are usually more official than public meetings. Participants can submit their views either orally or written. The public should be educated before conducting a public hearing and given time to prepare. United Nations Development Program (UNDP) (2011a) suggests that project ideas may emanate from plans to reduce poverty, scarcity of critical services, or restoration of overused resources. Farrington et al. (2002) advance that project identification is not always democratic and transparent. At times it involves deception, manipulation, or bribing.

The above scholars have discussed public participation, its importance, and its challenges. They have stated its evidence in many countries, but they have not indicated if it is successful or not, and if it is successful, can it be applied in developing countries like Kenya? This study intended to fill the knowledge gap by establishing the influence of public participation on implementation of the Kaprobu dam project in the Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu county.

### **2.2.1 Public Participation and Legislative Process**

The academic dialogue was started by scholars with an idea to survey the concept of citizen participation in the legislative process (Imbo, 2018). International instruments are crucial in acknowledging the role of the citizenry in the legislative process. Non-binding UDHR is the most normative tool and enlightening thought under Article 21 of the statute, which believes people should participate in the country's governance. The 1966 ICCPR under Article 25 supports the same effect as it acknowledges the people to participate in the

country's governance, as Hoppe (2017) stated. The only difference with UDHR is that ICCPR is binding as states have incorporated public participation into law through direct participation and representative democracy. In The Constitution of Kenya 2010, under Articles 2(5) and 2(6), the statutes give room for the same (Leipziger, 2015).

Participation in legislative processes means a likelihood of community members and interested parties influencing decisions (European Union [EU], 2014). The participatory process helps reach consensus, create reflective policies, ownership of the decision, and increase assurance among governmental organisations, e.g. county government (Skopje, 2010).

At different stages of the legislative process in Canada, there are opportunities to involve the public, which can be organised by various parties in charge of the process. A suitable technique and mix of methods to successfully solicit input from citizens can be determined by considering the type of input sought at each step and the duties of relevant players (Gilman, 2005)

The National Association in Namibia has a legal mandate to seek out and include public opinion in national legislation as the only institution constituted of constituencies. The National Council's ability to operate is primarily shaped by the regional level and other vital institutions in a given region's access to people, technical, and financial capabilities. The public at large requires education and comprehension of the advantages and effects of national legislation on their lives, communities, and particular geographic locations (Mijiga, 2001).

Kenya Law Reform Commission [KLRC] (2015) cites that public participation in the legislative process can be through; oversight, direct input, and ratification. Direct consultation with the public or groups representing citizens can serve as another form of public participation during the legislative process; this can occur before, during, or after drafting the initial policy. Consultation should involve ordinary citizens, political parties, civil society groups, or other parts of the population. The critical issue is not involving citizens in public participation but how effective such public meetings are in incorporating citizens' views into policy? We hope that public engagements will provide direct fundamental input into the legislative process instead of relying entirely on political leaders and elites (Ginsburg & Elkins, 2014).

UNEP (2004) postulates that the National Council has a constitutional duty to seek out and consider the viewpoint of its constituents as the only entity composed of them. There are some negatives to public involvement in the legislative process, including inflated

expectations, a slow legislative process, and a need for funding. Governments and societies gained more significant advantages from it. However, the legality of the procedure, justice issues (fair opportunity for people and fundamental human rights), and the creation of better rules and, in the end, more robust quality of democracy make it clear that public participation is an essential aspect of the legislative process. The future approach should allow more straightforward access to information for the general public and more opportunities for marginalised groups to draft laws (Aris & Salman, 2018).

According to Ayoti (2012), the Constitution requires the State and all State organs to guarantee proper public consultation on all public policies, legislation, and decisions likely to impact Kenyans. The legislative instrument or policy framework becomes vulnerable to constitutional issues of legitimacy when the statutory duty of public participation is not considered, rendering it actionable for unconstitutionality in a court of law. In addition to being mandated by the Constitution, public involvement encourages a two-way exchange of ideas between the government and other facets of society. Openness, transparency, integrity, and respect for one another are the cornerstones of an effective public consultation process. The primary stakeholders are more likely to adopt the legislation due to this transparent procedure, making it easier to implement the legislation quickly and effectively (Strasbourg, 2016).

Civic education is a significant factor in public awareness. This is thus because, without provocation, people do not automatically become aware of novel phenomena. More than a solid constitutional foundation is needed for effective public engagement. Only when the people are informed about issues affecting their lives and how to engage the appropriate decision-makers on such matters is this participation possible. Civic education is vital for increasing public participation in this way (Imbo, 2018).

Njagi (2018) cites that, apart from citizens being invited to participate in the legislative process, public meetings are also helpful in educating citizens on the role and functions of county officials. Citizens can learn the impact of legislative issues on their lives and know how they can get involved. In deciding the policies that will govern citizens, the principle of inclusiveness and empowerment should be given priority. The delivery of services should be grounded on the government's legal background through the citizens' engagement and mobilisation in the legislative process (Motale, 2012).

The above scholars and articles have dealt with the role of citizenry in the legislative process and the importance of giving a chance to citizens to engage in the legislative process. Nevertheless, they have not stated if public participation has impacted citizens' lives; is there

a difference between countries incorporating public participation into policy and those who are not incorporating? This study therefore intended to fill this knowledge gap.

### **2.2.2 Public Participation and Budgetary Process**

As Mathenge et al. (2017) ascertain, the budgetary process involves following suggestions when making a budget. Community members must complete a follow-up and ensure their proposals are followed. In so doing, policymakers can easily be held accountable (Rowe & Frewer, 2004). Budgeting is an instrument offering goals and track. Budgets help monitor the job environment and prevent problems from occurring (Schmets et al., 2016).

A budget regulates the actions of organisations as it is expected to work well as expected. Budgeting enables communication among management and employees in an organisation. A budget may be short-term, intermediate or long-term (Shim & Siegel, 2005). Making financial arrangements is the foundation of the regulation process in almost all institutions and is an accounting means institution use to execute projects. Budgeting provides institutions with objectives and plans in monetary value, thus making it easy to implement (Mathenge et al., 2017).

Songole (2019) argues that Kenya enacted The Constitution of Kenya 2010 and the lawmaking of the new Public Financial Management Act 2012. It necessitates that community members be involved during the budgetary process. The whole process should be circulated and published. The government's efficient resource allocation depends on collecting public views regarding matters of concern. As per the non-governmental organisation, failed projects are caused by community members' lack of vigorous, real and lasting public participation (Muluh et al., 2019). Devolution provides public participation, which is a vital aspect of development. Community members decide how their funds will be distributed (Public Finance Management Act [PFMA], 2012).

The Parliamentary Budget Office is strongly encouraged to be keen on the principle of citizen participation on issues concerning the budget. The Treasury is mandated to inquire about and consider the citizens' opinions during the budgetary process annually (Republic of Kenya, 2019). Tiberious et al. (2016) support the continual references to public participation. They argue that the drafters of the Bill acknowledged that Article 201 of The Constitution of Kenya 2010 must be respected. Therefore, The Constitution of Kenya 2010 gives Kenyan citizens the right to influence policies on public finance successfully. This is also provided in the Public Finance Management Act 2012.

According to Transparency International Kenya (2014), a county government budget shows the county government's proposed revenues, expenditures and priorities for a given financial year. The budget is passed by the county assembly, approved by the governor and presented by the county treasury to the county assemblies. The county government's financial arrangements are used for economic policy, supervision and answerability. Mathenge et al. (2017) adds that the county budget process means how the county government budget is made, implemented and planned. Yearly, the county reviews, implements and plans for its funding. The budget implementation consists of cash for county operations, payment of goods and services and departments procuring goods and services.

Citizen participation in the budgetary process is a practice where the plan and implementation of monetary policies are influenced by the interaction of community members and non-state actors with the government (Struić & Bratić, 2018). It can take many forms: indirect (electing political leaders to public office) and direct (when citizens meet, they discuss budgetary priorities and forward them to policymakers).

Citizen participation in the budget-making improves a county's economy as transparency while distributing public resources reduces leaks and increases the allocation of community resources (Cangino et al., 2012). The well-organised collection and distribution of the community resources can be achieved through citizens having whole, exact and comprehensible information concerning the budget, thus increasing government officials' accountability and limiting corruption opportunities (Arizti et al., 2010).

Many social movements perceive county governments as the stumbling block to getting the desired resources. Due to the mistrust, social activities target the county governments as they perceive it to be the cause of citizens not fully engaging in public participation. The county governments encourage their citizens to engage in implementation, but they already have a preconceived mind, thus affecting the decisions made (Christiansen, 2009).

A budget audit is an assessment of the budgetary process. It inspects if the budget is functioning well or not. For it to be effective, it should be dynamic (Kibunja, 2017). Shim and Siegel (2005) further outline that budgets should measure progress during a specific period in quantitative expressions. Budget reports should be given more regularly. Essays should concentrate more on parts that need to be improved.

As Green et al. (2000) ascertain, little attention has been placed on distributing resources among different geographical areas. Few only focused on equity and effectiveness. Budgeting is essential for the distribution of resources as it helps monitor the allocation of scarce resources, thus achieving organisational goals. The eventual aim of a budgetary

process in public spending is for the citizens to feel their money's worth on how it was used, and how the materials are used matters a lot to the public. Quality of materials, the total life cycle of projects and the long-term benefits also matter to the public (Hirzy, 2018).

OECD (2011) suggests that good procurement should be fair by offering all interested parties equal and ample competition. Institutions should provide an excellent environment for competition among parties participating during the tendering process. Opportunities at government institutions should be advertised as early as possible, and notices of contracts awarded should be published on the county website (Arrowsmith, 2010).

If the citizens can trust the county government, there are benefits in terms of good policies being made, accessible tax collection and effective income redistribution (Keeley, 2015). A government that faces mistrust among its citizens will find that they are ignored by citizens and are always suspicious of the county government's programs and policies they want to implement. Public participation promotes openness and accountability, and in the long run, it advances fair-mindedness and integrity (Mathenge et al., 2017).

Shah (2007) states that, budgeting failures have been caused by poor budgeting skills, subsequently caused by limited budgetary training. The process is also complex, and the professionals have inactive involvement. The condition deteriorates when the professionals are frequently transferred, thus failing to maintain continuity. Experts should therefore do the allocative process, and there should be no frequent transfers (Mathenge et al., 2017). Ufartiene (2014) Posits that planning is a tactic to handle a competitive and disturbing environment. In the ever-changing environment, organisations must develop continuously for survival. Planning is key to the success of every organisation. It helps forecast the future and achieve organisational objectives. Planning makes the impossible possible.

The above scholars have stated that citizens have a right to engage in the budgetary process and forums and the importance of involving citizens in the fiscal process. They have also mentioned that efficient resource allocation can be achieved by giving citizens a chance in the budgetary process. But they have not said if public participation has been successful in the fiscal process, in that the budget made is a result of citizens' opinions. This study therefore intended to establish the influence of public participation on the budgetary process.

### **2.2.3 Public Participation and Tendering**

Kim (2014) reports tendering as a procurement Process whereby prospective contractors are called to propose a price and how they will supply certain goods and services.



Tendering is grounded on competitiveness, justice, transparency, frankness and integrity. Ayoti (2012) adds that bidders should follow all the required processes.

Budgetary entails massive judgment by the government to pursue developmental agendas. The budgetary process is often confusing, as most people cannot satisfactorily explain it (Khan & Hildreth, 2002). In most cases, the public procurement process involves three stages. Procurement planning deals with deciding on goods to be bought. The second is issuing a contract to get those goods or services. Lastly is administering the contract to safeguard effective performance (Ministry of Finance and Economic Development [MFED], 2013).

Ayoti (2012) ascertains that one of the factors influencing the efficiency of the public sector's tendering process is the length of time required. If poorly handled, it will cost the business much money. All public sectors must comply with the law governing the length of the tendering procedure. It is crucial to guarantee that the size of the tendering process is appropriate and legal. After years of procurement firms misusing public monies, the Act of Parliament went into effect on January 1st, 2007. Kagendo (2012) claims that the objectives include maximising economy and efficiency, promoting the justice and integrity of the procurement process, increasing accountability and openness, and boosting public trust in government processes. Concern existed among Kenya's citizens, civil society, and development partners.

For purposes of democratic governance, citizens and taxpayers should be given information that they are entitled to, in fiscal transparency, to hold authorities answerable for the use of public resources. In so doing, most domestic industries in developing countries have developed through public procurement to overcome regional imbalances and bring together marginal or underprivileged communities (Muteti & Moronge, 2017).

Procurement notices must be published as soon as feasible in widely read publications and on the government's website for procurement. All of the information required to facilitate the participation of qualified bidders should be included in these announcements. MFED (2013) emphasises that improving the business community's knowledge and familiarity with government procurement practices, legislation, regulations, manuals, and bidding documents should be available on the government's (procurement) website. It is suggested for Procuring Entities to invite Civil Society groups to important procurement cycle events, including bid openings and contract signing ceremonies.

Tendering process involves several stages. The tender process is first determined as the tender to be used is defined. Tender is secondly requested to summarise what is required and

how they should give feedback. Thirdly, the tender is then invited, stating how they are invited. Fourthly, suppliers give feedback and, if possible, attend the pre-tender briefings. The fifth stage involves evaluating and selecting suppliers with the best value for institutions' money. The sixth stage encompasses notification and debriefing of the winner of the tender. Lastly, contracts are now established and managed (Ayoti, 2012).

Following the tender closing date, all bids submitted per the guidelines outlined in the delicate invitation materials must be publicly available. According to government regulations, the general public must take part in the oversight of tendering activities. The basic details included in each tenderer's submission must be disclosed during the tender opening session, recorded in the minutes of the tender opening, and signed by the present representatives of the party calling for tenders, the tenderers, and any pertinent bodies (Ayoti, 2012).

Owing to the number of resources involved in procurement, political intrusion in administration has become a severe challenge to politicians in government and bureaucrats (Stapenhurst et al., 2006). Public procurement can add to the advancement of developing countries depending on how resources are managed, as public procurement usually contributes to the leading local market. Governments use public procurement to provide physical infrastructure, e.g. roads, and the supply of essential medicines to various avenues, e.g. hospitals, to achieve their developmental needs (Public Procurement Oversight Authority [PPOA], 2009).

During the tendering process, organisations usually offer contracts to the lowest bidders. Tenders may, at times, be awarded to undeserving candidates. Transparency and accountability are critical in the whole process. Probity during the tendering process is vital to ensure equality and fairness (OECD, 2016). Governmental institutions should establish their Tenders Committee to advise officials on accepting tenders for works, services and stores. The Committee is empowered to call upon any Departmental officers to assist with expert advice. The Committee should forward its decision as a recommendation to its head for a final decision (PPOA, 2009).

Training is the process of getting acquainted with the Team who plays a part in the procurement process for competent and effectual service delivery (Govender et al., 2019). The challenge is that they rarely offer training, yet quality training should be provided for quality services. For the proper implementation of any project, training people involved is compulsory (Lind et al., 2014). Unethical practices can be experienced in public procurement when transparency and accountability are missing in the organisation; the applicable

procedures are consistently unreachable to the public as they do not get a chance during project implementation (World Bank, 2008).

The above scholars have dealt with the importance of public procurement, the benefits of giving information to taxpayers and how countries have developed through public participation. They have stated that one way of curbing public procurement is training, but they again argue that they rarely provide training. Still, they have not stated if the citizens' views have been incorporated during the budgetary process. This study therefore intended to fill this knowledge gap.

### **2.3 Public Participation and Implementation of Projects**

Project implementation is what realises decisions or what generates output. Public support and public participation reduce the uncertainty of policymakers by the public. Policy problems and solutions always experience an uncertainty about the concepts developed by the policymakers. The problem with the process is the differing interpretation and valuation of the information and not a lack of information (Papa, 2016). The implementation is usually a process of issue interpretation, yet policymakers do not often define problems and solutions clearly. In the implementation, compromise and negotiations are crucial; it is not majorly an educational process (Calhoun et al., 2016). When policymakers make good policies, it increases their support, thus increasing the chances of re-election.

Citizens' involvement can have an anticipated spill-over effect on the know-how of the citizens. It increases the knowledge and awareness of the citizens about an issue under consideration. It also reduces conflicts among participants as issues are made clear and transparent options are considered (Charles et al., 2010). Continuously involving stakeholders in each implementation step usually speeds up complex policymaking. Resistance and delays in the latter stages of the policymaking process are caused by neglecting public participation at the start of the process (Jeffery, 2009). Most policymakers ignore the parties' views that will be affected by the project/program leading to failure or delay due to resistance by beneficiaries or lack of proper visibility study (Bruce, 2013).

United Nations (2018) argues that citizens must believe that their opinions matter and that they can affect the situation and the direction of action if they are inspired to participate. They must be allowed to express themselves openly about anything that troubles them. Their viewpoints must be given the respect they deserve. However, local administrators and authorities must also comprehend the importance of promoting genuine participation. Thus, holding workshops on regional development and citizen participation is helpful. According to

Kusek and Rist (2004), the seminars can demonstrate some best-practice examples, demonstrating the necessity of active citizen participation in developing plans and their successful implementation. Without involving the public, a beautiful plan can be created, but when it comes time to implement it, there will be significant issues. The citizens will not be well-informed about the project, need to be coerced into following the decisions, and frequently object, all of which make execution challenging, if not impossible.

Nyaranga et al. (2019) posits that in China, public engagement is still in its infancy, which presents numerous difficulties. The newly released map, a result of public attention, is used in the research to analyse its influence in preventing environmental pollution using the difference in different techniques. They discovered that the map's dissemination decreased industry pollution intensity, and the marginal benefit has increased over time, albeit with some variation. UNEP (2005) adds that involvement from numerous groups in environmental preservation will lower pollution. They concluded that since the government controls the entire process, it should create a positive attitude. Other strategies to increase engagement include changing the law to allow public participation on more favourable terms, sharing data with residents, and using the media to enlighten the public.

Community involvement is a process whereby residents' worries, desires, and values are incorporated into law to better public-supported decisions. Citizen participation provides a connection between the government and the community members (those affected by policies implemented by the government). It is viewed that policies implemented after involving community members can readily be accepted, creating a superb quality of decisions (Abelson, 2006).

The soundness of government policies depends on the participation of citizens. They provide deep insight, information and knowledge on how they want to be ruled. By allowing citizens to engage in the implementation of projects, the county government will be promoting access to the tools of democracy. Public participation allows citizens to influence policies being made by the county government (OECD, 2005).

Planning can benefit, and the public can benefit from effective public participation. Participation is valid when it leads to more intelligent community planning and better decisions. Citizen participation is meaningful when the public gets opportunities to shape decisions and feels responsible for the community plan (Miskowiak, 2004). Written processes for including the public in a community's planning process are contained in a Public Participation Plan (PPP), which offers a model for successful public involvement. The PPP provides a way to express in general terms what is required to successfully engage the public

in planning. Similar to a blueprint, the PPP offers available information to assist in achieving the goal of creating a community plan with public participation. The PPP serves as a roadmap for the government's implementation. Public participation as a participatory democracy has merits. Citizens can determine their destinies. The citizens are usually more informed politically, air out their views and interests, and ensure legitimate rule where community members rarely reject policies they have made by themselves (Motale, 2012).

According to Mohamud (2020), there is a level of public participation in helping the public and the government ensure that public health forums are successful, and the other information that they provide helps in ensuring that services are delivered efficiently and effectively. Research shows the impact of public participation on health sector development policies in Japan. The study found that by mandating consultative decision-making within the county, public meetings ensure that citizens are actively engaged in the democratic process. According to the report, most county residents were not included in decision-making, which caused the county officials to delay project execution.

Citizen participation signifies an open, responsible process where community members can exchange ideas and impact the implementation of projects (Kim, 2014). The Constitution of South Africa under Chapter 10 specifies the importance of public participation: "people's needs must be responded to, and the public must be encouraged to participate in policymaking." Public participation should revolve around people's varied desires, changing situations, customs, values, and understanding. Public participation is collaborative communication and interaction to better implement projects being backed by the public (Sefora, 2017).

At an early stage, when all possibilities are still available, community members should be able to participate in the decision-making process. This requires, for instance, that before the start of the process, public authorities refrain from making any official, irrevocable decisions. Additionally, it mandates that no actions be made that would undermine actual public involvement, such as significant investments in a particular choice or commitments to a specific result, including those reached with another State organ, a non-State actor, or another State (Imbo, 2018).

Working with the poor to understand their needs, comprehending how development decisions are made in their communities, and recognising institutions and procedures that gain opportunities and resources are necessary for reaching the poor. Papa (2016) adds that public participation is not viable for your project if there is little or no room for public input

into the decision-making process. Instead, you want to consider undertaking a public relations initiative suitable for your requirements, time, and situation.

Although county governments encourage their citizenry to partake in public participation, direct participation in implementing projects is often dodged (UNDP, 2011b). Citizens usually feel their issues will not be taken into consideration. They perceive their participation will not incite any alterations within the county government. Citizens argue that in a large public meeting, the likelihood that a single act of involvement will considerably change the result is minimal. This sensible thinking helps us understand why some citizens do not participate in public participation (Antonini et al., 2015).

The above scholars have dealt with; requirements, aim, role, the importance of involving stakeholders in the implementation of projects and challenges faced during implementation of projects, but they have not stated if public participation has impacted the implementation of projects. This study therefore intended to establish the influence of public participation on the implementation of projects.

## **2.4 Theoretical Framework**

The study was conducted within the framework of participatory democratic theory developed in 1762 as a viable alternative to liberal democracy and later theorized by American political scientist Carole Pateman in 1970. The participatory democratic theory insists on constituents' broader involvement in managing political systems (Cunningham, 2002). It visualizes thorough engaging the residents to achieve self-rule. It endeavours to generate openings for all members of a society to make a significant input to major decisions. It pursues to widen the variety of constituents which can have those changes (Dean, 2016). The theory underpins an inseparable universal agreement between constituents and their leaders. It argues that the presence of spokesperson institutions at the central level of government alone is not enough for consensus; thus, it should be devolved to the local level. For devolution, power and resources were stretched from the National government to county governments (Karue, 2011).

The primary purpose of involvement in participatory democratic theory is an educative one. Involvement has an integrative effect, and it helps in getting joint conclusions. Public participation enables individuals to get psychological satisfaction and know-how in practical autonomous skills and dealings (Doughty, 2014). The more an individual partakes in public participation, the more they become knowledgeable in matters concerning public

participation. For democratic politics to exist in society, public participation must be involved. In this sense, societies must take care of their lives and resources. The legal authority structures must be well structured to engage in policymaking (Antonio, 2013). Pateman's views are relevant to the study as it links public participation and implementation of projects. The limitation of participatory democratic theory is the argument on minimal democracy. The main argument against it is that opposers don't think citizens can handle more responsibility. Some people dispute the viability of participatory methods and their purported educational advantages.

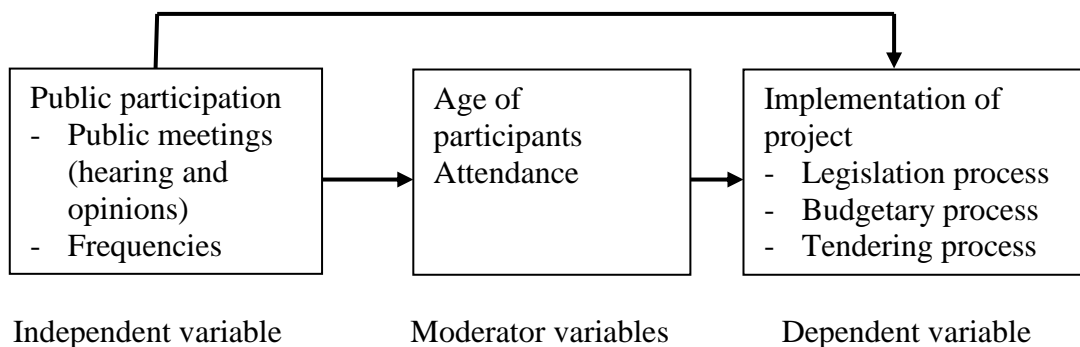
The above theory was relevant to the study as it detailed how public participation should be conducted. This study sought to establish the influence of public participation on the implementation of projects in Uasin Gishu County. The theory of participatory democracy provided the link between public participation and the implementation of projects. As per the theory, there must be maximum citizen engagement to be a practical implementation of projects. Capacity building is necessary when citizens engage in social training, which can only be achieved through Public Participation.

## 2.5 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework describes how the researcher explored the research problem (Imenda, 2015). It also elaborates the connection among the main variables of the study (Grant, 2014). The conceptual framework is presented in the Figure 1.

**Figure 1**

*Diagrammatic representation of conceptual framework*



The conceptual framework depicts the connection between variables; the independent (Public Participation), the dependent (implementation of projects), and the intervening variable. The dependent variables are; the legislative process, budgetary process and tendering process.

These depend on various independent variables: public meetings, public hearings and public opinion. The intervening variables refer to abstract processes that are not openly noticeable but provide a connection between the independent and dependent variables. They cause a change in the dependent variable either positively or negatively. In this study, they included; age of participants and attendance. The study focused only on citizens who were above 18 years. The study ensured that only those participants who engaged in public participation during the construction of the Kaprobu dam project became the study participants. This was aided by the records kept by the secretary of the committee for the construction of the Kaprobu dam.





timesaving properties, the concurrent mixed technique was chosen for the conduct of this research [both quantitative and qualitative data were collected simultaneously] (Dawadi et al., 2021). The research design best suited the study as qualitative data provided more insights and in-depth information from the information collected quantitatively (Ahmad et al., 2019).

### **3.3 Location of Study**

Sergoit is a ward in Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu County. Kaprobu dam project is found in Sergoit ward, among the mega projects in Uasin Gishu county. The County covers an area of 3345.2 square kilometres. It is located in the mid-west of Rift valley province. Uasin Gishu county borders; Bungoma County to the west, Transzoia county to the north, Elkeyo Marakwet to the east, Baringo county to the southeast, Kericho county to the south and Nandi county to the southwest. The population of Uasin Gishu County is approximately 1,163,186. Moiben sub-county had 181,338 adults (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics [KNBS], 2019).

Uasin Gishu receives an average and evenly distributed rainfall ranging between 624.9 mm to 1,560.4mm. The main economic activity in the Moiben sub-county is farming, the main cash crops being maize and wheat. The most appropriate time to conduct research in Moiben sub-county is between November and February (Uasin-Gishu County, 2013). The researcher chose the Moiben sub-county due to public outcry that their views are not considered during project implementation (Northrift News, 2016). This study, therefore, sought to find out the authenticity of the claims. The map showing the study area and the climatic conditions are shown in appendices V and VI, respectively.

### **3.4 Population of the Study**

The study had a target population of 181,338 (adults in Moiben sub-county) participants, while the accessible population was 23,355 adults from Sergoit ward. The sample size was drawn from citizens who engaged in public participation during the construction of the Kaprobu dam project and 5 Key Informants. Key informants included; the ward administrator, chief, assistant chief and two village elders (Kapchunga and Kaprobu villages). The dam serves only two villages thus settling on the 5 KI. The researcher used the county government of Uasin Gishu records to identify those citizens who engaged in public participation during the construction of the Kaprobu dam project.

### 3.5 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

The sample sizes of the respondent' s groups were determined using a formula, then various procedures used to select the participants.

#### 3.5.1 Sample Size

The sample size used depended on several factors, which included comparisons made, nature of analysis carried out, and the desired precision of the estimates the researcher wanted to achieve, variables examined and how diverse the population was sampled (Lind et al., 2014). The sample size should be chosen carefully so that it is representative enough to draw valid and generalized conclusions. There are many ways to figure out the size of the sample. These include using a census for small populations, copying a study's sample size, using tables that have already been made public, and using formulas to figure out a sample size (Singh & Masuku 2014). The study' s sample size was therefore adequate for generalization of findings. The Table 1 presents target population, accessible population and sample size of the study.

**Table 1**

*Tabular Representation of Sample Size*

Participants	Target Population	Accessible Population	Sample Size
Citizens	181,338	23,355	155
Ward Administrator	1	1	1
Chief	1	1	1
Assistant Chief	1	1	1
Village Elders	2	2	2
Total	181,343	23,360	160

According to Nassiuma (2000), a sample of 155 participants was obtained using the formula below for sample size calculation.

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

Where

n=sample size

N=population size

C=Coefficient of variation which is  $\leq 30\%$

e=margin of error which is fixed between 2-5%).

The study sample was calculated at 25% coefficient of variation and 2% margin of error.

$$n = \frac{23,355 * 0.25^2}{0.25^2 + (23,355 - 1)0.02^2}$$
$$n = \frac{1459.6875}{155.2182}$$
$$n = 155.2182$$
$$n = 155$$

The sample size was 160 participants from an accessible and target population of 23,355 and 181,338 respectively.

Professionals in qualitative research argue that there is no single answer to the question of “how many”, and the sample size depends on several concerns relating to epistemological, methodological, and practical considerations (Baker& Edwards, 2012). Sample sizes for qualitative research should be both substantial enough to foster the development of new and richly textured knowledge of the phenomenon under study and manageable enough to allow for depth, case-oriented examination of qualitative data (Vasileiou et al., 2018). According to Morse (2000), the fewer participants are required, the more valuable data are gathered from each subject. Guidelines for sample size recommended that 20 to 30 interviews would be sufficient (Dunarea et al., 2020).

The participants for qualitative study comprised of 5 key informants (Ward administrator, chief, assistant chief and two village elders [Kaprobu and Kapchunga villages]) and 15 citizens (seven and eight from Kaprobu and Kapchunga villages respectively). The two village elders and the oversight committee helped in identification of the 15 citizens. The 15 citizens who participated in the FGD also filled out the questionnaire. In an FGD, participants provide more insights and in-depth information. The researcher could also probe. The village elders and the oversight committee knew the participants who had more knowledge on the construction of the Kaprobu dam and were consistent in the meetings; thus, settling on the 15 participants. Thus, the total sample size was 160 participants from total target and accessible population of 181,343 and 23,360, respectively.

### **3.5.2 Sampling Procedure**

Stratified sampling was used to divide the Moiben sub-county wards into five strata (Moiben, Kimumu, Tembelio, Meibeki/Karuna, and Sergoit). The purposive sampling

technique was used to select Sergoit Ward because the Kaprobu dam project is among the mega projects initiated by the Uasin Gishu County government. After getting records from the county government of Uasin Gishu, purposive sampling was used to select citizens who participated in public participation meetings during the Kaprobu dam project construction. Simple random sampling was used to pick 155 participants, from 155 participants, purposive sampling was used to select 15 participants who participated in Focus Group Discussion. Finally, purposive sampling was used to select five key informants.

### **3.6 Instrumentation**

The study used questionnaire and interview schedule [Focused Group Discussion (FGD) and Key Informant Interview (KII)] as methods of data collection. The study used semi-structured questionnaire and unstructured interview guides to collect data. The Key Informants included; ward administrator Sergoit ward, chief Sergoit location, assistant chief Chepkoilel sub-location, village elders Kaprobu and Kapchunga villages.

#### **3.6.1 Questionnaire**

The study used researcher administered questionnaire. The questionnaire contained both open-ended and closed-ended questionnaire. An open-ended questionnaire enabled the participants to give personal comments. This enhanced the validity, richness, and depth of responses. Closed-ended questionnaire enhanced the consistency of the responses though it may hinder in-depth responses (Desai & Reimers, 2018). One hundred and fifty-four randomly selected citizens from the list provided by the county government of Uasin Gishu who participated in public participation were given a questionnaire to fill. The items on the questionnaire were based on the objectives of the study. The first section of the questionnaire asked about the participants' background information. The subsequent sections of the questionnaire were based on the objectives of the study. The questionnaire were semi-structured so as to investigate the influence of public participation on implementation of projects in Moiben sub-county using a scale of 1 to 5, one being strongly disagree and five being strongly agree.

#### **3.6.2 Focused Group Discussion**

Focused Group Discussion (FGD) helps bring persons of the same upbringing to discuss a topic of concern. Better results will be achieved when respondents can give views

on how they think about the matter of concern (Dilshad & Latif, 2013). Of the 155 randomly sampled participants, 15 were purposively chosen by village elders and the oversight committee to participate in FGD. The guide was unstructured, thus allowing in-depth information and more insights to be obtained, and the participants had a chance to debate and issue. The researcher could easily probe and get clarifications on issues. The interview guide for community members is attached in appendix II.

### **3.6.3 Key Informant Interview**

Unstructured interview schedules were used to collect data from key informants. KII is an in-depth qualitative interview with a person who understands more about ongoing activities in the community. First-hand information about a community can be gotten from professionals, residents and community leaders who are knowledgeable about the community (Margot, 2012). Five key informants chosen purposively participated in KII, they included; ward administrator Sergoit ward, chief Sergoit location, assistant chief Chepkoilel sub-location, village elders Kaprobu and Kapchunga villages. The selection of these five key informants was based on the assumption that they would have a greater depth of understanding concerning the building of the dam, given the greater part they played in the actual execution of the project. The interview guides for key informants is attached in appendices III and IV.

### **3.6.4 Validity**

Validity means the extent to which findings from the information analysis represent the phenomenon under research study; thus, the representation of the study's variables will depend on the degree of the findings obtained from the analysis. Five experts from the Department of Curriculum Instruction and Educational Management (CIEM) assisted in validating the research instruments (questionnaire and interview schedule) by checking instrument items against the study objectives. The researcher used the supervisor's and expert's comments to improve the instrument's accuracy.

### **3.6.5 Reliability**

Reliability is the degree to which a research instrument produces steady findings when performed for repeated trials. When a researcher assesses a subject matter twice and gets similar findings on the second assessment as the first finding, then the instrument is reliable

(Akib, 2015). A sample of a tenth of the total sample with similar characteristics is suitable for questionnaire piloting (Tiberious et al., 2016).

The questionnaire was administered randomly to forty-five (45) participants for piloting in the Sergoit ward to citizens who engaged in public participation during the construction of the Kaprobu dam project. It helped guide the researcher on whether the questions were framed correctly and efficiently understood by the participants. Those who participated in piloting did not participate in the actual study. The researcher used Cronbach's alpha coefficient to estimate the reliability of the instruments. Cronbach's alpha is most commonly used when the researcher wants to evaluate the internal reliability (how closely related a set of items are as a group) of a questionnaire made up of multiple scale of 5 points. A coefficient of .881 was obtained; thus, the instruments were reliable (Taber, 2018).

The idea of truthfulness was used to achieve reliability and validity in qualitative data. It helped eliminate biases and increase the truthfulness of the researcher (Daniel, 2016). The supervisors helped in validating interview schedule instruments. To improve the credibility of findings, triangulation was applied; both qualitative and quantitative data collection instruments were used.

### **3.7 Data Collection Procedure**

The researcher requested an introductory letter from Egerton University board of Postgraduate Studies which acted as an introductory letter to the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) to obtain a research permit. The researcher visited Uasin Gishu county government to get the list of citizens who engaged in public participation during the construction of Kaprobu dam project. The researcher conducted simple random sampling to select 155 participants. From the 155 participants, purposive sampling was used to select 15 participants engaged in a Focus Group Discussion. All the 155 participants were given a questionnaire to fill out. The citizens were assured of confidentiality before participating in the study. A total of 15 participants (2 FGDs) participated in FGD (Seven and eight from Kaprobu and Kapchunga villages respectively), and five key informants participated in Key Informant Interview (5 KIIs). They included; the ward administrator, chief, assistant chief and two village elders. The language used during FGDs was Kalenjin and later translated to English while the languages used during KIIs were English, Kiswahili and Kalenjin which were later all translated to English.

### 3.8 Data Analysis

The relevant data collected during the research was keyed into SPSS and QDA miner lite softwares. SPSS software was used to analyze quantitative data from the survey; measures of central frequency (percentages and frequency), linear regression and Pearson correlation coefficient. The influence was tested using simple linear regression, multiple linear regression and Pearson correlation coefficient. The hypothesis was tested at  $\alpha=0.05$  level of significance (Field, 2018). To avoid misunderstanding when reporting correlation coefficients and naming their strengths, Table 2 shows interpretations of the r values (Akoglu, 2018).

**Table 2**

*Interpretation of the Pearson's correlation coefficients.*

Correlation coefficient	Interpretation
0	Zero correlation
0.1 - 0.3	Weak correlation
0.4 - 0.6	Moderate correlation
0.7 - 0.9	Strong correlation
1	Perfect correlation

The qualitative data collected through the interview schedule (FGD and KII) was analyzed through content analysis using QDA miner lite software. The following six steps were followed; first, the data was transcribed, second, categories of themes and sub-themes were identified, third coding was done, fourth collating was done, fifth extracts of each data item were recorded, and finally, the final report was produced (Stranges et al., 2014). Table 3 presents a summary of data analysis techniques.



**Table 3***Summary of data analysis*

Hypotheses	Independent Variable	Dependent Variable	Statistical Procedures and Tests
There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on legislative process in Uasin Gishu county	Public participation	Legislative process	Frequencies, percentages, simple linear regression, Pearson correlation coefficient and Content analysis
There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on budgetary process in Uasin Gishu county	Public participation	Budgetary process	Frequencies, percentages, simple linear regression, Pearson correlation coefficient and Content analysis
There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on tendering process in Uasin Gishu county	Public participation	Tendering process	Frequencies, percentages, simple linear regression, Pearson correlation coefficient and Content analysis
There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on implementation of projects in Uasin Gishu county	Public participation	Implementation of projects	Frequencies, percentages, multiple linear regression, Pearson correlation coefficient and Content analysis

**3.9 Ethical Consideration**

After getting permission from NACOSTI, the researcher informed the county department of budgeting of the intention of the research. Gatekeepers (chief, assistant chief and village elders) assisted the researcher in gaining access to the study sites. The confidentiality of the information given by the participants was maintained to the highest standards and promised to be used academically only. The researcher maintained integrity from the beginning to the end of the research to maintain the core objective of the study and

not cause any bias whatsoever. The researcher also respected the participant' s; time, decisions, religion, gender, culture and other differences in the participants sites (Creswell, 2014). The researcher abided by all Covid-19 protocols from the Department of Health of Kenya. After publishing the research findings, the researcher will give feedback on the findings to the County government of Uasin Gishu.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter deals with the presentation of the results of the data collected through the questionnaires, interviews and Focused Group Discussions [FGD] and Key Informant Interviews [KII]) and further discusses the findings. Analyses of the influence of public participation on the implementation of projects are presented. The study employed descriptive statistical analyses, inferential statistics and qualitative analyses. Three key indicators (legislative, budgetary, and tendering processes) were used to measure public participation policy. The influence of public participation policy on the implementation of projects was tested using Pearson' s Correlation Coefficient (r). Hypotheses were tested at  $\alpha = 0.05$  level of significance. The objectives informed data analysis and, therefore, findings of the study. The study applied a contiguous approach to integration where the presentation of the study' s findings is within a single report, but the quantitative and qualitative results are reported in different sections and later interpretation merged (Fetters et al., 2013).

#### 4.2 Participants Response Rate

The study had a sample size of one hundred and fifty-nine participants. Most of the participants are farmers, and during data collection, most were not busy with their farming activities as it was not a farming season. Thus, the response rate was expected to be high. Table 4 presents participants response rate.

**Table 4**

*Participants Response Rate*

Response Rate	Frequency	Percentage
Response	149	96.1
Non-Response	6	3.9
Total	155	100

KII and FGD were conducted among 5 and 15 participants, respectively, while questionnaire was administered to 155 participants. Out of the anticipated 155 participants, a total of hundred and forty-nine (149) questionnaire were given back. Mugenda and Mugenda (2008)

postulate that a response rate of 50 per cent is adequate for data analysis and reporting; a rate of 60 per cent is good, and a response rate of 70 per cent and over is excellent. Results from Table 3 show that the non-response rate was only 3.9%, while turn out rate was 96.1% hence deemed an excellent. The study was therefore suitable for data analysis and reporting. The high response rate was attributed to the researchers' rigorous explanations to the participants on the importance of the study (Fincham, 2008). The six (6) participants were not present at the time of the study thus not able to participate in the study.

#### 4.2.1 Distribution of the Participants by Gender

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 requires that 2/3 gender rule be applied in every crucial societal decision making (Nekesa, 2019). The study sought to establish if there is the inclusivity of both men and women in making critical societal decisions. Participants were asked to indicate their gender. There were only two categories of gender that are male and female. Table 5 shows participant' s distribution by gender.

**Table 5**

*Distribution of Participants by Gender*

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	84	56.8
Female	64	43.2
Total	148	100

The results of Table 5 show that males (84) formed 56.8% of the total number of participants, whilst females (64) formed 43.2% of the total number of participants. Findings of the study show that the 2/3 gender rule was fulfilled; thus, the study was deemed fit for analysis and report writing. Findings also indicates a slightly higher male response rate than their female counterparts in the study. The higher number of males than females was attributed to higher male turnout during public participation than females. Simple random sampling was used to select participants from the list of those who attended public participation meetings. The slightly low turnout of females during public participation meetings was attributed to higher home chores for females than males. The promotion of gender equality in decision-making has positive economic consequences. Efficiency advantages occur in the workplace when women are more highly qualified, accountable, and less corrupt than men (Profeta, 2017).

However, from the look of the responses, there is a good gender balance ratio between females and males.

**Table 6**

*Influence of Gender on Implementation of Projects*

Gender of the participant	R Square	Adjusted R Square
Male	.004	-.008
Female	.065	.050

Table 6 displays the adjusted R-squared for men and women as -0.008 and +0.050, respectively. This means -0.8% and 5% of the variance in the implementation of projects is explained by views given by men and women, respectively. This means women (5%) had more influence on implementation of projects than men (-0.8%).

**Table 7**

*Regression Coefficients for the Effects of Implementation of Projects on Gender*

Gender of the participant		Unstandardized Coefficients	
		B	Std. Error
Male	(Constant)	2.274	.711
	Implementation of projects	-.103	.170
Female	(Constant)	.200	.877
	Implementation of projects	.426	.205

The results show that the regression models for men and women are  $Y=2.274-0.103$  and  $Y=0.200+0.426$ , respectively. From the regression model, every unit change in the views given by men and women, implementation of projects changes by -0.103 and 0.426, respectively.

**4. 2.2 Distribution of the Participants by Age**

To find out the age bracket of participants, they were asked to state their age in years. The researcher then formed three age brackets comprising of youths, middle aged and elderly.

Table 8 show the distribution of participants by age. The participants range between the ages of 18 and above which is the basic requirement for one to qualify as a voter.

**Table 8**

*Distribution of Participants by Age*

Age	Frequency	Percentage
18-34	49	33.1
35-49	62	41.9
50 and above	37	25
Total	148	100

The findings in Table 8 indicate that; 33.1% of the participants were between 18-34 years, 41.9% were between 35-49 years, and 25% were 50 years and above. The study concluded that the majority of the participants (41.9%) were between 35 and 49 years old. This indicates representation of all age bracket thus the study deemed fit for analysis and report writing. The findings show that the majority of the participants are middle-aged. They are energetic and able to attend public participation meetings when called upon. It also means that the future of the society is bright as the middle-aged citizens are actively participating in crucial societal decision making (UNDP, 2012).

**Table 9**

*Influence of Age on Implementation of Projects*

Age of the participant	R Square	Adjusted R Square
18-34	0.001	-0.02
35-49	0.004	-0.013
50 and above	0.104	0.078

Table 9 displays adjusted R-squared for youths, middle-aged and the elderly as -0.020, -0.013 and +0.078, respectively. This means -2%, -1.3% and 7.8% of the variance in the implementation of projects is explained by views given by youths, middle-aged and the elderly, respectively. This elderly (7.8%) had more influence on implementation of projects than youth (-2%) and middle-aged (-1.3%).

**Table 10***Regression Coefficients for the Effects of Implementation of Projects on Age*

Age of the participant		Unstandardized	
		Coefficients	
		B	Std. Error
18-34	(Constant)	1.493	.607
	Implementation of projects	-.035	.146
35-49	(Constant)	1.140	.683
	Implementation of projects	.078	.162
50 and above	(Constant)	.309	.590
	Implementation of projects	.278	.138

The results show that regression models for youths, middle-aged and the elderly are given as  $Y=1.493-0.35$ ,  $Y=1.140+0.078$  and  $Y=0.309+0.278$ , respectively. From the regression model, every unit change in the views given by youths, middle-aged and elderly, implementation of projects changes by -0.035, 0.078 and 0.278, respectively.

#### 4.2.3 Distribution of the Participants by Educational Background

The study sought to establish the participants highest level of education. Table 11 show the distribution of participants by education background. The education levels considered are no formal schooling, primary school, secondary school, and post-secondary school.

**Table 11***Distribution of the Participants by Educational Background*

Education	Frequency	Percent
No Formal Schooling	5	3.4
Primary	60	40.5
Secondary	57	38.5
Post-Secondary	26	17.6
Total	148	100

The results of Table 11 indicate that 5 participants (3.4%) had no formal schooling, 60 participants (40.5%) completed primary school level, 57 participants (38.5%) completed secondary school level whilst 26 participants (17.6%) completed post-secondary school level.

From the study, it shows most of the participants fall under primary (40.5%) and secondary (38.5%) educational levels. This implies that having the basic education and having participated in public participation meetings and shared their opinions, they therefore understood the subject matter and were in a position to give relevant information (Campbell, 2006). The study therefore, deemed fit for analysis and report writing.

**Table 12**  
*Influence of Educational Background on Implementation of Projects*

Qualifications of the participant	R Square	Adjusted R Square
No formal schooling	.000	-.017
Primary	.000	-.018
Secondary	.086	.038
Post secondary	.234	-.021

Table 12 displays adjusted R-squared for no formal schooling, primary, secondary and post-secondary educational levels as -0.017, -0.018, +0.038 and -0.021, respectively. This means -1.7%, -18%, 3.8% and -2.1% of the variance in the implementation of projects is explained by views given by no formal schooling, primary, secondary and post-secondary education levels, respectively. This means participants whose highest educational level was secondary level had the highest influence (3.8%) on implementation of projects than their counterparts.



**Table 13**

*Regression Coefficients for the Effect of Implementation of Projects on Qualifications of the Participants*

Qualifications of the participant		Unstandardized	
		Coefficients	
		B	Std. Error
No formal schooling	(Constant)	1.447	.652
	Implementation of projects	.008	.151
Primary	(Constant)	1.465	.644
	Implementation of projects	-.011	.154
Secondary	(Constant)	-.308	1.338
	Implementation of projects	.420	.314
Post secondary	(Constant)	-.448	1.731
	Implementation of projects	.392	.409

The results show that regression models for no formal schooling, primary, secondary, and post-secondary educational levels are given as  $Y=1.447+0.008X$ ,  $Y=1.465-0.011X$ ,  $Y=-0.308+0.420X$  and  $Y=-0.448+0.392X$ , respectively. From the regression model, every unit change in the views given by no formal schooling, primary, secondary and post-secondary education levels, and implementation of projects changes by 0.008, -0.011, 0.420 and 0.392, respectively.

### **4.3.0 Correlations Analysis**

#### **4.3.1 Relationship between Public Participation and Legislative Process**

To understand the relationship between public participation and the legislative process, participants were asked to rank public participation in the legislative process according to their knowledge on a scale of one to five, one being strongly disagree and five being strongly agree. The data were analysed using simple linear regression. Table 14 presents the analysis of the correlation between public participation and the legislative process.

**Table 14***Correlation of Public Participation with Legislative Process*

Scale	Legislative Process	
Public Participation	Pearson Correlation	
	coefficient	.450**
	p-value	.001
	N	148

The results of Table 14 show a statistically significant correlation between public participation and legislative process, where the Pearson correlation coefficient was .450 (moderate positive correlation) with a P-value of .00, which is less than .05. P-values indicate whether relationships are statistically significant. It helps investigate that the relationships you can observe in your sample also exist in the larger population (Filho et al., 2013). If the p-value is less than the significance level, your sample data provide sufficient evidence to conclude that your regression model fits the data well (Field, 2018).

The coefficient (r) was a moderate positive correlation which means that an increase in public participation in Moiben Sub County leads to enhanced legislative process as citizens views are incorporated when making public policies. This implies that, public participation should be conducted on regular basis as it increases the legislative process.

The findings are in line with the observation by Imbo (2018) in his study on “ Effects of public participation on legislation by the Kenya national assembly” . The study found that, there was a minimal influence of public participation on the legislation of projects. It was found that citizens form interest groups to articulate their interests and strike for them to be included during policy making. The citizens also used the press and other media to express their views.

The findings agree with the findings by Strasbourg (2016) in his study on “ Training needs analysis and national training strategies; how to ensure the right training at the right time to the right people?” . The study outlined that community members are in control of decisions making; thus, their views should be incorporated during the legislation of projects.

The result confirms similar findings by G.o.K (2013) in a study on “ Kenya population situation analysis; fertility and family planning” who confirmed that public views concerning family planning were collected and implemented. The results were tremendous as the fertility rate in Kenya reduced to 5 children in the 1990s from 8 children 1960s. The study

attributed the project's success to applying public views given by the community members and health workers during the project's decision making. The community members were involved both directly and indirectly.

The findings are contrary to the study by Hassan (2019) in his study on “ A comparative evaluation of the implementation of public participation guidelines in Kenyan county governments” . In Homa Bay and Kajiado counties showed little or no influence of public participation on the legislative process. The findings showed that public views are collected, but policies being used to run projects are not the ones suggested by the citizens. However, in Makeni county, the findings showed that policies used to run county projects are shaped by public participation views, where 36% of the participants agreed, and 46% strongly agreed.

#### 4.3.2 Relationship between Public Participation and Budgetary Process

To understand the relationship between public participation and the budgetary process, participants were asked to rank public participation in the budgetary process according to their knowledge on a scale of one to five, one being strongly disagree and five being strongly agree. The data were analysed using simple linear regression. Table 15 presents the analysis of the correlation between public participation and the budgetary process.

**Table 15**

*Correlation of Public Participation with Budgetary Process.*

Scale	Budgetary Process	
Public Participation	Pearson Correlation	.215**
	p-value	0.009
	N	148

The results in Table 15 show a statistically significant correlation between public participation and budgetary process, where the Pearson correlation coefficient was .215 (weak positive correlation) with a P-value of .009, which is less than .05. The coefficient (r) was a weak positive correlation which means that an increase in public participation in Moiben Sub-County leads to enhanced budgetary process as citizens views are incorporated when distributing public resources. This implies that, public participation should be conducted on regular basis as it increases the budgetary process.

The study concurs with the study's findings by Hassan (2019), in his study on “ A Comparative evaluation of the implementation of public participation guidelines in Kenyan county governments” . Kajiado County's financial procedure was superior to other counties since it included public participation and citizen input. Decisions were taken concerning budget after committee, consisting mostly of residents representing all sub-counties involved. However, this was not the case in Homa Bay County, where there was only a little public input into the budgeting process for the county. The county government informed the residents of the meeting on short notice, limiting the citizens' contribution.

The study findings also concur with those Keshine (2018) findings in her study on “ The role of public participation in enhancing budget making process: The case of Laikipia county” . Public barazas' and occasional meetings were utilized in budget making. About 87.3 per cent of the participants felt that budget-making resulted from public consultation. The county officials believed public barazas' to be the best as it involves the citizens directly.

The results confirm similar findings by IEA (2015) in their study on “ Review of status of public participation, and county information dissemination frameworks: A Case Study of Isiolo Kisumu Makueni and Turkana Counties” . They noted that the county government of Isiolo did public participation in the FY2013/14 and their views were taken into consideration. They also had a chance to give feedback concerning the proposed project and even budget allocations. The study found there was a challenge in the previous projects as there was no clear indication of how the public views were incorporated when coming up with budget priorities.

The study findings agree with Karanja and Muturi (2019) in their study on “ Joint Case Study Watershed Partnership & Health Systems Advocacy Partnership in Kajiado, Kenya” . they noted that the citizens of Kajiado used local media to air out their views which were later incorporated into policy during budget-making. Some citizens used a local radio station to air their views on the Ngong dumpsite in Kajiado, which had a bad smell. They based their arguments on the health hazards of the dumpsite to the citizens of Kajiado county. The issue was resolved within a short time. The County Executive in charge of Water, Irrigation and Environment heard the issue and resources were allocated for action. Study participants lamented that public participation helps incorporate public views into the government budget.

The study findings also confirm similarity with the findings by Carlitz (2013) in her study on “ Improving transparency and accountability in the budget process: An assessment of recent initiatives” . She alluded that empowerment, budget making and budget

implementation are interlinked. Empowering the populace to participate in budget making helps uphold the principle of legitimacy, transparency, political support and inclusivity.

The results were inconsistent with Siala (2015) in his study on “ Factors influencing public participation in budget formulation: The case of Nairobi county” . The study asserted that study participants did not agree that public participation influenced the budgetary process. About 94.74% of participants argued they are usually included in budget formulation, but their views do not inform the final decision. They argue that decentralization has not helped.

### 4.3.3 Relationship Between Public Participation and Tendering Process

To understand the relationship between public participation and the tendering process, participants were asked to rank public participation in the tendering process according to their knowledge on a scale of one to five, one being strongly disagree and five being strongly agree. The data were analysed using simple linear regression. Table 16 presents the analysis of the correlation between public participation and the tendering process.

**Table 16**

*Correlation of Public Participation with Tendering Process.*

Scale	Tendering Process	
Public Participation	Pearson Correlation	.169
	p-value	.040
	N	148

The results from Table 16 show a statistically significant correlation between public participation and tendering process, where the Pearson correlation coefficient was .169 (weak positive correlation) with a p-value of .040, which is less than .05. The coefficient (r) was a weak positive correlation which means that an increase in public participation in the Moiben Sub-county leads to enhanced tendering process as citizens views are incorporated when using public resources. This implies that, public participation should be conducted on regular basis as it increases the tendering process.

The study's findings affirm Muthoni (2017) in her study on “ Effects of management practices on implementation of selected programmes in Murang’ a county”. The study revealed that 44% of the use of public resources is explained by the effect of public

participation. The study also found that projects were being completed on time as public resources were being used as required.

The study finding is in line with those Muigua (2014) in his study on “Towards Meaningful Public Participation in Natural Resource Management in Kenya”. The study affirmed that public participation influenced issuing of solid and waste management tender in Kisumu county. Tenders were given out to the county government of Kisumu without involving the populace. A petition was filed in court, and the contract award was later terminated as it was termed unconstitutional and legally indefensible. The court concluded that the county government of Kisumu should have followed the public views before awarding the contract.

The study findings affirm the findings by Adili (2014) in her study on “Budget Making in Kenya: What the law says, all you need to know about the budget making process in Kenya?” confirmed that using suggestions citizens give during the public hearing to award government tenders saves the government approximately 25% of its expenditure. The study added that 11% of the GDP is accounted for by public procurement. The study added that, if the government uses public views, it can reduce corruption scandals.

The results ascertain similarity with a study by Adili (2015) in their study on “Corruption and land governance in Kenya”. They lamented that a program called *'Uwajibikaji Pamoja'* in Lodwar town, Turkana County, was started where citizens could air their views via either filling paper forms, a toll-free SMS line or using website portal. This has led to positive service delivery as there are few malpractices in Turkana County awarding contracts.

The study findings are in line with the findings by Ayoti' s (2012) study on factors influencing effectiveness in tendering process in public sector, the case of Nyeri county, Kenya”. The study revealed that 77% of the participants agreed that they are usually involved during the tendering process. The study also found that 69% of the participants felt that their views were being incorporated during the tendering process. This, therefore, implies public participation influenced the tendering process.

The study confirms findings by Mutai (2018) in his study on public participation and the fiscal implementation of devolved Government in Kenya: A case of Bomet county. The findings were that majority (75.9%) of the respondents were of the view that there is sufficient involvement of the public in fiscal planning implementation. Community members' views were collected during public participation, and their views shaped the tenders awarded to various contractors.

The results are inconsistent with the study by Kanyinga (2014) in his study on “ Democracy and political participation” who alluded that in Kwale County, citizens' views were not used in awarding a contract to construct a community hall and fire station. The facility was later handed over to the son of a former politician under unclear procedures. The public resources have been used, yet the community members are not benefiting. The study added that failure to use public views when awarding contracts leads to the misappropriation of public resources.

#### **4.3.4 Relationship between Public Participation and Implementation of Kaprobu Dam Project**

To understand the relationship between public participation and the implementation of projects, participants were asked to rank public participation in the implementation of projects according to their knowledge on a scale of one to five, one being strongly disagree and five being strongly agree. The data were analysed using multiple linear regression. Table 17 presents the analysis of the correlation between public participation and the implementation of projects.

**Table 17**

*Correlation of Public Participation with Implementation of Projects*

Scale		Public Participation	Implementation of Projects
Public Participation	Pearson correction	1	.322*
	p-value		.001
	N	148	148

\* Correlation is significant at the .05 level

In the general analysis, the results in Table 17 show that, pearson's correlation coefficient (r) of the two variables, i.e. public participation and implementation of projects, is .322 and a P-value of .000, which is less than .05. This means that there is a statistically significant influence of public participation on the implementation of projects in Moiben Sub-County. The coefficient (r) was a weak positive correlation which means that as public participation is being practised, there is enhanced implementation of projects in Moiben Sub-County as citizens views are incorporated in decision making. This implies that, public

participation should be conducted on regular basis as it increases the implementation of projects.

The findings of the study concur with the findings by Omar and Moi (2020) in their study on “ Determinants of public participation in implementation of development projects in Kenya: A case study of Wajir county government water projects” found that in Wajir County, public participation has little influence on the implementation of water projects. Only 47(16%) strongly agreed, and 57(19%) agreed that public opinion influences the implementation of projects in Wajir County. The findings imply that public participation is crucial to the implementation of water projects in Wajir County.

The result is consistent with Linkoy (2021) in his study on “ Participatory communication and sustainability of water projects; A case of Elangata, Kajiado county” confirmed that, the County government of Kajiado uses public views to implement water projects in the county. Under county water policy, citizens are allowed to air their views on water (borehole and water infrastructure) and pollution. It also deals with deforestation issues, and they argue that the primary water source is trees; thus, conservation of forests is mandatory.

The result agrees with the findings by Mionki (2019) in her study on “ Effects of public participation on policy implementation: Case of Elgeyo Marakwet County, Kenya” asserted that most participants agreed that citizens' opinions are included in policy implementation. The participants argued that public participation helps articulate stakeholders' interests and even special interest groups' needs.

The findings concur with Hager’ s (2020) study on “ Special interest groups and growth: A meta-analysis of Mancur Olsons theory”, found that public participation was key to easing policy implementation. The study added that the broader public participation is done, the more the implementation becomes. A study by Nthiga and Moi (2021) on found that 18% strongly agreed, while 53% agreed that the populace was involved in executing county projects in Makueni County. (19.6%) of the participants felt that they are sometimes invited to oversee county projects. They added that public participation shapes the implementation of a project when public views are considered.

These results are in conjunction with the study by Papa (2016) in his study on “ Factors influencing public participation in project development in busia county kenya” found that exemplary project implementation depends on implementing public views during public participation. They added that involving public views helps to minimize corruption. The views of the vulnerable and the minority group will be considered.



The findings differ from those of Papa (2016) in his study on “ Factors influencing public participation in project development in busia county kenya” found that public participation in Busia County did not influence project implementation. Most citizens in Busia County, 81 (21.1%) strongly disagreed, and 145 (37.7%) disagreed that the implementation of projects resulted from public participation. The findings suggested that the county government of Busia makes decisions not based on public views.

#### 4.4 Regression Analysis

##### 4.4.1 Null Hypothesis HO<sub>1</sub>: There is no statistically significant Influence of Public Participation on the Legislative Process

A simple regression analysis was conducted to establish the influence of public participation on legislative process. The participants were asked to indicate whether or not public participation had some influence on legislative process. Table 18 show how public participation influence legislative process.

**Table 18**

*Influence of Public Participation on Legislative Process*

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
.450	.202	.197	.34377

The Table 18 displays ‘ R’ as + 0.202 and adjusted R-squared as +0.197, which is very low; 19.7% of the variance in the legislative process is explained by the variance in public participation. Adjusted R-squared is used as this refers to sampled data. Adjusted R-squared, a modified version of R-squared, adds precision and reliability by considering the impact of additional independent variables that tend to skew the results of R-squared measurements (Algina et al., 2007). This implies that more emphasis must be put in place to ensure that public policies (legislative process) are as per citizens' suggestions during public participation meetings.

**Table 19***ANOVA Results for the Regression model of Public Participation and Legislative Process*

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	f-ratio	p-value
Regression	4.37	1	4.37	36.977	.000
Residual	17.253	146	0.118		
Total	21.623	147			

The ANOVA Table 19 show that the regression model between public participation and the legislative process was significant (it indicates the goodness of fit for the regression model established between dependent and independent variables). F statistic of 36.977 indicated that the overall model was significant as this was further supported by a probability value of .000, which is less than .05.

**Table 20***Regression Coefficients for the Effect of Public Participation on Legislative Process*

Scale	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t-value	p-value
Constant	2.432	0.365		6.669	.000
Legislative Process	0.463	0.076	0.45	6.081	.000

The regression results suggest a positive and significant relationship between public participation and the legislative process. The model is given as  $Y=2.432+.463X$ . From the regression model, for every unit change in Public Participation, the legislative process changes by .463. This shows that an increase in public participation leads to an increase in the making of public policies. An F statistic of at least 3.95 is needed to reject the null hypothesis at an alpha level of .05. At this level, you stand a 5% chance of being wrong (Andren, 2007). Therefore, the null Hypothesis  $H_{01}$  (There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on the legislative process of the Kaprobu dam project) was rejected.

#### 4.4.2 Null Hypothesis HO<sub>2</sub>: There is no Statistically Significant Influence of Public Participation on the Budgetary Process

A simple regression analysis was conducted to establish the influence of participation on budgetary process. The participants were asked to indicate whether or not public participation had some influence on budgetary process. Table 21 shows how public participation influence budgetary process.

**Table 21**

*Influence of Public Participation on Budgetary Process.*

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
.215	0.046	0.04	0.37582

The Table 21 displays ‘ R’ as .046 and adjusted R-squared as .004, which is very low; 4% of the variance in the budgetary process is explained by the variance in public participation. This implies that more emphasis must be put in place to ensure that distribution of public resources (budgetary process) are as per citizens' suggestions during public participation meetings.

**Table 22**

*ANOVA Results for the Regression Model of Public Participation on Budgetary Process*

Scale	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	f-ratio	p-value
Regression	1.002	1	1.002	7.095	.009
Residual	20.621	146	0.141		
Total	21.623	147			

The ANOVA Table 22 shows that the regression model between public participation and the budgetary process was significant (it indicates the goodness of fit for the regression model established between the dependent and independent variables). F statistic of 7.095 indicated

that the overall model was significant as this was further supported by a probability value of .009 which is less than .05.

**Table 23**

*Regression Coefficients for the Effect of Public Participation on Budgetary Process*

Scale	Unstandardized		Standardized		
	Coefficients		Beta	t-value	p-value
	B	Std. Error			
Constant	4.252	0.15		28.318	.000
Budgetary Process	0.107	0.04	0.215	2.664	.009

The regression results suggest a positive and significant relationship between public participation and the budgetary process. The model is given as  $Y=4.252+.107X$ . From the regression model every unit change in Public Participation, the budgetary process changes by .107. This shows that an increase in public participation leads to an increased allocation of public resources. Therefore, the null Hypothesis Ho2 (There is no statistically significant influence of public participation on the budgetary process of the Kaprobu dam project) was rejected.

**4.4.3 Null Hypothesis HO<sub>3</sub>: There is no Statistically Significant Influence of Public Participation on the Tendering Process**

A simple regression analysis was conducted to establish the relationship between public participation and tendering process. The participants were asked to indicate whether or not public participation had some influence on tendering process. Table 24 shows how public participation influence tendering process.

**Table 24**

*Influence of Public Participation on Tendering Process*

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
.169	.029	.022	.37928

The Table 24 displays ‘ R<sup>2</sup>’ as .029 and adjusted R-squared as 0.022, which is very low; 2.2% of the variance in the tendering process is explained by the variance in public participation. This implies that more emphasis must be put in place to ensure that use of public resources (tendering process) are as per citizens' suggestions during public participation meetings.

**Table 25**

*ANOVA Results for the Regression Model of Public Participation on Tendering Process*

Scale	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	f-ratio	p-value
Regression	0.62	1	0.62	4.313	.040
Residual	21.003	146	0.144		
Total	21.623	147			

The ANOVA Table 25 shows that the regression model between public participation and the tendering process was significant (it indicates the goodness of fit for the regression model established between dependent and independent variables). F statistic of 4.313 indicated that the overall model was significant as this was further supported by a probability value of .040, which is less than .05

**Table 26**

*Regression Coefficients for the Effect of Public Participation on Tendering Process*

Scale	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t-value	p-value
Constant	4.287	0.174		24.61	.000
Tendering Process	0.085	0.041	0.169	2.077	.040

The regression results suggest a positive and significant relationship between public participation and tendering process. The model is given as  $Y=4.287+.085X$ . From the regression model, for every unit change in Public Participation, tendering process changes by

.085. This shows that an increase in public participation leads to increased use of public resources. Therefore, the null Hypothesis  $HO_3$  which states that there is no statistically significant influence of public participation on the tendering process was rejected.

#### 4.4.4 Null Hypothesis $HO_4$ : There is no statistically significant influence of Public Participation on the Implementation of Project

A multiple linear regression analysis was conducted to establish the relationship between public participation and implementation of projects. The participants were asked to indicate whether or not public participation had some influence on implementation of projects. Table 27 shows how public participation influence implementation of projects.

**Table 27**

*Influence of Public Participation on Implementation of Projects*

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
.322	.104	.098	.36435

Table 27 displays ‘ R ’ as + 0.104 and adjusted R-squared as +0.098, which is very low; 9.8% of implementation of projects in Moiben sub-county is explained by public participation. This implies that more emphasis must be put in place to ensure that implementation of projects is as per citizens' suggestions during public participation meetings.

**Table 28**

*ANOVA Results for the Regression Model of Public Participation on Implementation of Projects*

Scale	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	f-ratio	p-value
Regression	2.242	1	2.242	16.885	.000
Residual	19.382	146	0.133		
Total	21.623	147			

The ANOVA Table 28 shows that the regression model between public participation and implementation of projects was significant (it indicates the goodness of fit for the regression model established between dependent and independent variables). F statistic of

16.885 indicated that the overall model was significant as this was further supported by a probability value of .001, which is less than .05.

**Table 29**

*Regression Coefficients for the Effect of Public Participation on Implementation of Projects*

Scale	Unstandardized		Standardized		
	Coefficients		Coefficients		
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t-value	p-value
Constant	3.559	0.265		13.407	.001
Implementation of Projects	0.258	0.063	0.322	4.109	.001

The regression results suggest a positive and significant relationship between public participation and the implementation of projects in the Moiben sub-county. The model is given as  $Y=3.559+.258X$ . From the regression model, every unit change in Public Participation and implementation of projects in the Moiben sub-county changes by .258. This shows that an increase in public participation leads to increased implementation of projects. Therefore, the main null hypothesis  $H_{04}$  (There is no statistical influence of public participation on implementation of projects in Moiben sub-county) was rejected.

#### **4.5.0 Qualitative Analysis of Focused Group Discussion (FGD) with Community Members through Content Analysis Approach**

In order to better understand the community members' views regarding the influence of public participation on the implementation of projects in the Moiben sub-county, two focus group discussions were conducted in Kaprobu and Kapchunga villages. Each focus group discussion participant (Seven and eight from Kaprobu and Kapchunga villages respectively) comprised of a community whom the two village elders provided with the help of the oversight committee in charge of the Kaprobu dam. Participants were guaranteed confidentiality, and thus they were given numbers for identification during analysis. Participants gave their numbers before responding to a question. The focus group discussions lasted between 30 minutes to 1 hour. The language used was Kalenjin and later interpreted as English. The discussions were recorded and transcribed for analysis (Content Analysis approach).

#### **4.5.1 Determining Whether Public Participation had an influence on Making Policies**

The participants were asked to give their views on whether public participation influenced making public policies during the construction of the Kaprobu dam. They said that before the Kaprobu dam was re-constructed, it belonged to the white settler. The community members identified the dam and requested the county government of Uasin Gishu during public participation to construct the dam. The county government of Uasin Gishu later constructed the dam as they had all the machinery required. During the construction of the dam, many community members were employed. At peak, they used to range between 150 to 200 community members employed daily. The following statements illustrate this;

*P1- okay, we sat down, this dam existed when we first bought this land, it was for the white settler, it was 8 acres, we had tried writing proposals for it to be constructed, but it reached a point it was approved, and they agreed they are going to construct this dam of ours. County came with their machinery and employed some local people, and the work began.*

FGD\_2\_P1\_M

*P2- ...they were very many, and every village was represented*

FGD\_1\_P2\_F

The water from the dam has been of great importance to community members around Kaprobu dam as community members use it to irrigate their crops during drought and low rainfalls. Some crops irrigated so far are tomatoes, cabbages and passion fruits. The water is also being used for domestic use, animal consumption and rearing fish, as suggested during public participation. The following statements support this;

*P2- They usually come with tractors to take the water during a drought.*

Is it is what had been agreed.

*Yes, it is.*

FGD\_1\_P2\_M

*P7- ...tomatoes, cabbage and passion fruits have been planted*

FGD\_1\_P7\_M

The county government of Uasin Gishu usually gives feedback to village elders and committees on the construction of the dam. Then they will inform community members during public participation meetings held on Wednesdays every two weeks. The following statement supports this;

*P2- they usually tell the village elders and committee, then they will inform us ...*

FGD\_2\_P2\_F



Citizens' views were followed during the construction of the Kaprobu dam, as the policies they proposed were the ones used to run the dam's construction. The dam size and depth also are what they wanted; it even exceeded their expectations. Despite that, there were challenges of late payment of workers, delay in the 2nd phase of the bridge's construction, and water overflow beginning. The following statements illustrate this;

P1- *to me, they were following because we were telling the county what we wanted, and they would teach us the best way it could be constructed, and we came into an agreement. There was nothing we disagreed.*

FGD\_2\_P1\_M

P7- *the work was done once until the dam was completed, the second phase is what you are seeing; water overflow and bridge construction. So there was a delay as the second phase was not done at the time we had agreed.*

FGD\_2\_P7\_M.

The study participants proposed the following recommendations to the county government of Uasin Gishu; the county government of Uasin Gishu should continue conducting public participation meetings. After community members and the county government have agreed, the county should follow the citizens' suggestions. The county government should not also hesitate on resource distribution. The following statements illustrate this;

P4- *...county government and the community members should collaborate to discuss how they can develop the policies.*

FGD\_1\_P4\_F.

#### **4.5.2 Determining whether Public Participation influenced Budgetary Process**

The participants were asked to give their views on whether public participation influences the distribution of public resources during the construction of the Kaprobu dam. They said that the construction of the Kaprobu dam has not been completed as stipulated during public participation. The 1st phase took six months instead of 3 months as earlier agreed. The 2nd phase was the construction of water overflow and bridge construction which was still ongoing. The trees which will aid in water conservation had not also been planted. Lastly, the repair of dam borders had not also been done. The following statements illustrate this;

P5- *construction of the dam itself took six months, then the other work of building the bridge and constructing overflow is still going on.*

Is it was completed as stipulated during public participation?

*Nodding”, they had said three months.*

FGD\_1\_P5\_M

*P2- the borders have not yet been completed. Currently, we are not safe as the neighbouring families in the dam as we don't know what will happen if heavy rains come.*

FGD\_2\_P2\_F

Community members were unaware of the amount of resources allocated to the Kaprobu dam. Thus, they could not tell if the resources were adequate or not. Despite that, they believe that the resources were used accountably as there was no day that the work stopped. Community members requested 62 million from World Bank to aid in water distribution (building water tanks and buying pipes). The following statements support this; P1- *the challenge is we were not told how much was allocated to this dam, so we cannot know now if the money was adequate.*

FGD\_1\_P1\_M

P4- Was there any additional money?

*The World Bank gave us around 62 million, which will be used to distribute water and fence the dam.*

FGD\_1\_P4\_F

Citizens were updated on the dam's progress through a committee that would tell the community members during public participation meetings every bi-weekly Wednesday. The following statement supports this;

P7- What were the frequency of updates?

*The meetings were after every two weeks; then we changed to be weekly (every Wednesday)*

FGD\_2\_P7\_M

The study participants gave some recommendations; Public participation is called for citizens to choose committees of their own choice. The committee's primary role is to oversee and ensure that the work progresses well. The oversight committee should also be informed of every activity that is taking place on the site. The study participants also recommended that the distribution of resources be done depending on the citizens' needs. This is because some places have got low population but are still more underdeveloped. County officials should also be trustworthy and ensure they inform community members how every project resource is being spent. The following statements illustrate this;

P5- *they have to form a committee to have representatives from every area or location. We will be able to have transparency. The people should be called because they are the ones to choose the committee; they cannot just choose anyone without the people's consent.*

FGD\_1\_P5\_M

P4- *to me, they should distribute resources according to demands/needs; for example, Kimumu ward are well developed compared to us, they have water, electricity, and so forth, but they are many.*

FGD\_2\_P4\_M.

#### **4.5.3 Determining whether Public Participation Influenced Tendering Process**

The participants were asked to give their views on whether public participation influenced the use of public resources during the construction of the Kaprobu dam. They said that the county government of Uasin Gishu usually advertise for available tenders. The construction of the Kaprobu dam was not advertised because the county government of Uasin Gishu had all the required machinery. Construction of water overflow and the bridge was advertised, and the best contractor was awarded the tender. Citizens around the Kaprobu dam were not given the tender due to a lack of registered companies. The following statement supports this;

**P7- Was Kaprobu dam project advertised.** *Construction of water overflow and the bridge was advertised, but we did not have registered companies. So the big challenge is the lack of already registered companies within our locality.*

FGD\_2\_P7\_M

Before the Kaprobu dam was constructed, community members created a committee. Among the committee, 12 members were community members. The committee were in charge of dam construction. The dam's size and depth were what the citizens had suggested during public participation, and they even exceeded the target. The following statements illustrate this;

**P1- Were there some community members included in the committee.** *Yeah, there were there like Peter, Maritim, John and others*

FGD\_1\_P1\_M

**P3- as we told you earlier, they exceeded our expectations because it is very big in terms of width and depth...**

FGD\_2\_P3\_F

The work progressed as it did not stop except on some days when it was raining, but a few challenges were experienced. The payment agreement was not respected by the county government as, in some instances, there were payment delays, and at times the payments also fluctuated. The following statements illustrate this;

*P6- ...fluctuation of payment was a challenge today they are paying this amount tomorrow, they are paying a different amount from what we agreed*

FGD\_2\_P6\_M

Study participants had the following recommendations; before a project is started, community members should be called for public participation. The citizens will be given a chance to choose the committee members they want. The work of the committee chosen will be mainly oversight. The contractor should always be transparent and accountable by giving citizens a breakdown of the resources used. The following statements support this;

*P2- When a certain amount of money is allocated, we should be told the exact amount that has been allocated. When the work progresses, we should be told how the cash is used.*

FGD\_2\_P2\_F

*P4- formation of a committee and ensure that they involve the people in everything they do so that their work can be transparent...*

FGD\_1\_P4\_F

#### **4.6 Qualitative Analysis of Interviews Conducted with Key Informants through Content Analysis Approach**

Five Key Informant interviews were conducted with ward administrator Sergoit ward, chief Sergoit location, assistant chief Chepkoilel sub location, and village elders (Kaprobu and Kapchungu villages). Participants were guaranteed confidentiality. The interviews lasted between 20 to 40 minutes. The languages used were Kalenjin, Kiswahili and English, it was later interpreted to English. The interviews were recorded and transcribed for analysis (Content Analysis approach).

##### **4.6.1 Determining whether Public Participation had an Influence on Legislative Process**

The participants were asked to give their views on whether public participation influenced making public policies during the construction of the Kaprobu dam. They said that the community members identified the Kaprobu dam through public participation during the

2013-2017 County Integrated Development Projects (CIDP). Citizens were then called for public participation, they gave their opinions, and the committee came up with by-laws which the county executive committee later approved. The following statement illustrates this;

*The county executive came up with the policies. **Was there community members involvement.** Yeah, they held several barazas (meetings) and the community members raised their concerns. Their concerns were forwarded by the committee to the county assemble then the executive came up with the policies.*

KII\_5\_M.

The county government of Uasin Gishu exceeded citizens' expectations as over 200 people were employed per day during the dam's construction. The water from the dam is being used for domestic use, fish rearing and irrigation of horticultural crops like French beans, passion fruits and vegetables, as had been suggested during public participation. The following statement illustrates this;

*They are using for irrigation e.g. to plant French beans. **Is it what had been suggested.** Yeah, it is the community themselves who wanted to be like that.*

KII\_3\_M.

The county government provided feedback on the dam's progress at an interval of between 2 weeks and one month through committee and public participation. There were not many challenges during the dam construction as the size and depth of the dam were what the citizens wanted. There were a few challenges to the design as it could not accommodate more water as expected, and the land was small, thus forcing the county to displace a few people. The following statement illustrates this;

*The way it was designed it was not good, it was supposed to be flat, so that it can accommodate more water.*

KII\_4\_M.

The participants proposed the following recommendations to the county government of Uasin Gishu; they should ensure they involve all stakeholders, employ five youths to guard the dam, and follow County Integrated Development Projects (CIDP) guidelines. The following statement illustrates this;

*They should follow the guidelines on County Integrated Development Projects (CIDP), if they follow, there would be no any challenge...*

KI\_5\_M.

#### 4.6.2 Determining whether Public Participation had an influence on Budgetary Process

The participants were asked to give their views on whether public participation influences the distribution of public resources during the construction of the Kaprobu dam. They said that the county government of Uasin Gishu launched the construction of the Kaprobu dam in November 2017; by March 2018, 95% of the work had been completed as fencing, water overflow, and watering points to be used by cows to drink water only had not been completed. Due to dam expansion, the dam was not completed on time as suggested during public participation. The following statements illustrate this;

*It has not been fully completed, there are still some few things which has not been completed e.g. water overflow and watering point where cows can drink water...*

KII\_3\_M.

*...1 year and something. Was it the stipulated time? No, the work was too huge as the dam was extended to be bigger*

KII\_2\_M

Citizens were updated regularly (after every two weeks to one month) on the dam's progress, suggesting transparency and accountability on the use of the resources. The amount of money allocated was only enough for the construction of the dam. Community members had to request funds from World Bank to be used for water distribution. The following statement illustrates this;

*I think they were enough and if no, maybe slightly less. Were there any additional resources. We only requested World Bank to assist in distribution of water.*

KII\_2\_M

Study participants proposed the following recommendations; for resources to be distributed effectively, there should be proper communication. The county government can use local leaders, e.g. village elders, to pass information about the meetings. Public participation meetings should be held at the local level, and if not possible, those who attend public participation meetings be reimbursed. When dividing county resources, they should do so per sub-location, not per ward and divide according to needs. The following statement illustrates this;

*They should divide money as per sub-location, not per ward, and then sub-location will divide as per villages. The meetings will also be near, and they can be able to attend, and they can air out what they want. For now, money is being divided per ward, and the meetings are usually being held in chepkanga. From here up to chepkanga is an*

*average of 100ksh when going for public participation. Therefore, not everyone can attend; only those in need will attend. Citizens will say there is no need to waste cash, yet it' s for the public good.*

KII\_1\_F.

#### **4.6.3 Determining whether Public Participation had an Influence on Tendering Process**

The participants were asked to give their views on whether public participation influenced the use of public resources during the construction of the Kaprobu dam. They said that Uasin Gishu county usually advertises for available tenders through radio and posters. However, the Kaprobu dam was not advertised because the county government was constructing it; they had all the required machinery. What was advertised was the construction of the water overflow and the bridge. During public participation, the dam constructed is what the citizens had suggested (in terms of size and depth). The work progressed well despite the challenge of delayed payment. The following statements illustrate this;

*Yeah, they usually advertise. Was Kaprobu dam was advertised. This one was not actually advertised because it was done by the county. What was advertised and a contractor was given the tender was the construction of the water overflow and the bridge.*

KII\_5\_M

*I did not see but sometimes the delay in paying the workers...*

KII\_1\_F

Study participants had the following recommendations; public conduct is conducted, and an oversight committee is chosen who are people of high integrity and, if possible, experts. Before the contractor begins the work, he/she should give the oversight committee a Bill of Quality (BQ), which they will follow daily while ongoing. After the work has been completed, an audit should be done, and the citizens are informed. The following statements illustrate this;

*They should look for experts who will know how to budget the cash. They should also look for an auditor after the work is completed; this will help other coming projects.*

KII\_1\_F

*Based on the Bill of Quality (BQ), what it says, is the answer. The oversight committee should also be available in sight...*

KII\_5\_M.

#### **4.7.0 Interpretation of Research Findings**

This section discusses the interpretation of research findings; primary quantitative & qualitative research findings and secondary data research findings. Integrated analysis of the legislative, budgetary, tendering, and implementation of projects shows almost similar findings. Most secondary research findings show a positive influence across different qualities, while other studies show a negative influence. Most secondary studies focused on the involvement of people in public participation. However, few studies focused on determining whether the views that citizens gave during public participation meetings were incorporated into policy, as that was the focus of this study.

#### **4.7.1 Public Participation and Legislative process**

The quantitative findings of this study show a statistically significant correlation between public participation and legislative process, where the Pearson correlation coefficient was .450 (moderate positive correlation) with a P-value of .00, which is less than .05. Regression analysis displays ‘ R’ as + 0.202 and adjusted R-squared as +0.197, which is very low. This means that 19.7% of the variance in the legislative process is explained by the variance in public participation. The findings imply that public participation had a medium influence on the legislative process thus more emphasis must be put in place to ensure that policies (legislative process) are as per citizens' suggestions. The findings are in agreement with qualitative data in that the community members are the ones who identified the dam to be constructed. The water from the dam is used as citizens had suggested. The policies the citizens had suggested were used to run the dam's construction. The challenge was that; the county government was not following the County Integrated Development Projects (CIDP) guidelines.

These findings affirm the study by Hassan (2019) in his study on “ A Comparative evaluation of the implementation of public participation guidelines in Kenyan county governments”, he found that Makueni county incorporated citizens' views when formulating policies; thus, citizens owned the policies. The citizens come up with various project ideas and plans for their sub-counties and wards. The community members are the ones who also chose the oversight committee, and they chose people who were knowledgeable in specific fields and also qualified to help them in making decisions. This ensured that community members prioritized well their needs and that projects were well implemented. Mionki (2019) in his study on “ Effects of public participation on policy implementation: case of Elgeyo



Marakwet county, Kenya” found that participants strongly agreed that the views they gave during public participation were accepted and included in policy decisions.

The findings align with the observation by DFID (2001) in their study on “ Making government work for poor people building state capability” , who argued that involving community members in public participation will mandate transparent, efficient, accountable and responsive governance. The study argues that, in doing so, the citizens will benefit as informed.

The study results also concur with Cerna (2013) in their study on “ The Nature of Policy Change and Implementation: A Review of Different Theoretical Approaches” , who asserted that community members determine how the county projects should be run. The study findings add that citizens were fully involved in policy-making, incorporating their views during the legislative process.

#### **4.7.2 Public Participation and Budgetary process**

The quantitative findings of this study show a statistically significant correlation between public participation and budgetary process, where the Pearson correlation coefficient was .215 (weak positive correlation) with a P-value of .009, which is less than .05. Regression analysis displays ‘ R’ as + 0.046 and adjusted R-squared as +0.004, which is very low. This implies that 4% of the variance in the budgetary process is explained by the variance in public participation. The findings imply that public participation had a slight influence on the budgetary process thus more emphasis must be put in place to ensure that distribution of public resources (budgetary process) are as per citizens' suggestions. This is in confirmation with qualitative findings where community members were given bi-weekly updates on the dam's construction. Some of the community members were unaware of the amount of resources allocated for the dam's construction, but they believed it was adequate as the work never stopped. The dam was completed as stipulated during public participation, with a few sections not completed, e.g. water overflow and the bridge construction.

The study concurs with those Hassan (2019) in his study on “ A Comparative evaluation of the implementation of public participation guidelines in Kenyan county governments “ , found that in Kajiado county, public participation influenced the budgetary process. All the sub-counties and wards in Kajiado county had committees; the majority were community members and contributed to and helped in decision making in the budgeting processes. A study by Mutai (2018) in his study on “ Public participation and the fiscal implementation of devolved government in kenya: a case of bomet county” also found that

most participants (75.9%) agreed that there was sufficient involvement of community members in the budgetary process, and their views were implemented. The county government ensured that the community members we encouraged had a say in budgetary matters. The study also found that most respondents (50%) agreed that public awareness increases participation in the budget-making process in Bomet county. This implied that public participation led to an increased oversight in Bomet county to a very great extent.

A study by Keshine (2018) in her study on “ The role of public participation in enhancing budget making process: the case of Laikipia county” also found that public barazas were primarily used in the budgetary process to ensure community members were involved. The study found that public participation had a slight influence on budget-making as community members were not fully involved in other methods of budgetary process other than public barazas. Public participation played a role in the budget-making process across the four wards in Laikipia county; Mukogodo, Segera, Thingithu and Igwamiti wards.

The study is consistent with the results by DFID (2001) in their study on “ Making government work for poor people building state capability” , argues that engaging citizens in county matters enables them to champion their priorities. The study added that in counties where citizens are engaged, more was found to be less sceptical about the county government. Implementing community views during the distribution of public resources will ease the smooth running of the county government.

The study's findings align with the findings by OECD (2017), which posits that budget summary documents and public hearings were used during the budgetary process. Even though other survey methods were not implemented, they influenced the use of public resources. The study added that public participation helps enlighten constituents, build trust, appreciate community members and give backing for budget proposals.

The findings agree with Keshine (2018) in her study on “ The role of public participation in enhancing budget making process: the case of Laikipia county” who opined that community members were empowered and engaged in implementing budgets. The citizens participated in the facility committee, bursary committee, and cooperative committee, among other committees. Involving community members in these committees helps in implementing the views they gave during public participation.

#### **4.7.3 Public Participation and Tendering process**

The findings of this study show a statistically significant correlation between public participation and tendering process, where the Pearson correlation coefficient was .169 (weak

positive correlation) with a P-value of .04. Regression analysis displays ‘ R’ as + 0.029 and adjusted R-squared as +0.022, which is very low. This implies that 2.2% of the variance in the tendering process is explained by the variance in public participation. The findings show that public participation slightly influenced the tendering process thus more emphasis must be put in place to ensure that use of public resources (tendering process) are as per citizens' suggestions. This agrees with qualitative findings where citizens supported that the county government of Uasin Gishu usually advertises available tenders, using various mediums. The construction of the bridge and water overflow was not given to the community members as they did not have registered companies as the policy stipulated. Twelve community members were included in the oversight committee as agreed during public participation. The challenge the citizens gave was that most oversight committees were not experts and did not receive a Bill of Quality (BQ) from the contractor.

The findings affirm the study by Muthoni (2017) in her study on “ Effects of management practices on implementation of selected programmes in Murang’ a county”, found that public participation was essential in using public resources. Most (60.6%) of the study participants agreed that proper use of project resources was due to public participation. This meant that the more the community members participated in community projects, the more the project resources were used well, leading to the timely completion of projects. This was also in line with the findings by Carreira et al. (2016) in their study on “ Engaging Citizen Participation; A Result of Trusting Governmental Institutions and Politicians in the Portuguese Democracy” who conducted a case study of Portugal's democratic system to describe citizens' opinions and use of public resources. The study showed that public involvement is an investment to get a substantial return. Through public participation, public resources are well utilized.

The study affirms the results by OECD (2016) in their study on “ Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate Gender Budgeting in OECD countries” found that 1200 citizens presented their complaints on contract award issues to the procurement ombudsman Between May 2008 and March 2011. This led to solving contractual issues, thus promoting fairness and credibility during the tendering process.

The findings concur with the findings by C.o.G (2016), noted that public views concerning tendering process could be collected through a survey and Focused Group Discussion. The views collected will ensure the public voice is represented and they receive their desired needs.

#### **4.7.4 Public Participation and Implementation of Projects**

This study's findings show that, Pearson's correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) of the two variables, i.e. public participation and implementation of projects, is .322 (weak positive correlation) and a P-value of .000, which is less than .05. Regression analysis displays 'R' as + 0.104 and adjusted R-squared as +0.098, which is very low. This implies that 9.8% of implementation of projects in Moiben sub-county is explained by public participation. The findings show that public participation slightly influenced the implementation of projects thus more emphasis must be put in place to ensure that implementation of projects is as per citizens' suggestions. This agrees with qualitative findings that many community members were employed during the dam construction; it even exceeded what they had agreed during public participation. The challenge was that dam borders had not been constructed, and also trees that would aid water conservation had not been done as agreed during public participation.

These findings affirm the study by Mionki (2019) in his study on “ Effects of public participation on policy implementation: case of Elgeyo Marakwet county, Kenya” found that the study participants agreed that their contributions are reflected in the final implementation of projects. Overall results showed that stakeholders are well represented, and their views are well-considered during implementation.

The results also confirm similar findings by Signe (2017) on “ Policy Implementation – A synthesis of the Study of Policy Implementation and the Causes of Policy Failure” confirmed that public participation increases the possibilities for a project to be implemented successfully. They also add that the broader public participation is done, the easier its implementation will become. Hutter et al. (2013) also found that interaction between community members and implementing agency (county government) improves policy implementation and relationships.

The results were contrary to the findings by Mwangi (2020) in his study on “ participatory communication and policy formulation in Kenya a study of Nairobi county public finance bill 2019”, found that public participation in projects in Nairobi county did not shape the implementation of projects and thus had no influence on project implementation.

The findings affirm the observation by Nyabera (2015) in his study on “ Influence of stakeholder participation on implementation of projects in Kenya: a case of compassion international assisted projects in Mwingi sub-county”, noted that involving stakeholders helped implement health facilities. They added that monitoring and evaluation of projects

shape project implementation. Adequate allocation of resources is achieved by involving the populace during public participation.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the study summary and conclusions. It also presents policy recommendations as well as suggestions for further research.

#### **5.2 Summary of the Findings**

The following was a study summary set to investigate the influence of public participation on implementing the Kaprobu dam project in Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu county.

- i. There was a statistically significant relationship between public participation and legislative process of the Kaprobu dam project in the Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu county.
- ii. There was a statistically significant relationship between public participation and budgetary process of the Kaprobu dam project in the Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu county.
- iii. There was a statistically significant relationship between public participation and tendering process of the Kaprobu dam project in the Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu county.
- iv. There was a statistically significant relationship between public participation and implementation of the Kaprobu dam project in the Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu county.

#### **5.3 Conclusions of the Study**

Based on the findings of this study, the following conclusions were arrived at in line with the study objectives:

- i. The coefficient ( $r$ ) between public participation and legislative process was a moderate positive correlation which means that an increase in public participation in Moiben Sub County leads to an average increase in making public policies.
- ii. The coefficient ( $r$ ) between public participation and the budgetary process was a weak positive correlation which means that an increase in public participation in Moiben Sub-County leads to a slight increase in the allocation of public resources.
- iii. The coefficient ( $r$ ) between public participation and tendering process was a weak positive correlation which means that an increase in public participation in the Moiben Sub-county leads to a slight increase in the use of public resources.

iv. The coefficient ( $r$ ) between public participation and implementation of projects was a weak positive correlation which means that an increase in public participation in Moiben Sub-County leads to an average increase in the uptake of people's views when implementing projects.

#### **5.4 Policy Recommendations**

This section presents the study's policy recommendations to the county government. These recommendations include:

- i. The quantitative study's findings showed a medium positive correlation between public participation and the legislative process, while the qualitative study's findings showed that the by-laws used during the construction of the dam included community members' suggestions. Therefore, the study recommends that the county governments continue conducting public participation meetings to capture the people's desired way of running projects. This will help in solving actual citizens' challenges.
- ii. The quantitative study's findings showed a weak positive correlation between public participation and the budgetary process, while the qualitative study's findings showed that funds allocated for the dam were slightly less, making community members request additional finances from the World Bank. The study, therefore, recommends that the county governments should not hesitate to distribute resources that the public has budgeted for various projects to ensure the completion of projects.
- iii. The quantitative study's findings showed a weak positive correlation between public participation and the tendering process, while the qualitative study's findings showed that there were delays in payments and also the amount of money they were paying casual workers fluctuated. The study, therefore, recommends that county officials should be transparent on how they use county resources and account for every shilling they use on county projects. This will help in winning the trust of the citizens.
- iv. The quantitative study's findings showed a weak positive correlation between public participation and implementation of projects, while the qualitative study's findings showed that the county government of Uasin Gishu was not fully following suggestions given by citizens during public participation. Therefore, the study recommends that the county governments follow suggestions given by citizens during public participation meetings. County officials should not draft their opinions on behalf of the people but instead follow public participation suggestions.

- v. According to the findings, increasing the amount of public participation in projects significantly increases the likelihood that those projects will be completed. As a result, getting input from the general public before implementing a project is essential.

### **5.5 Suggestions for Further Research**

This study was not exhaustive and recommended further research on:

- i. There is a need for research on acutely affected projects in Uasin Gishu and other counties.
- ii. There is a need for research on why citizens do not attend public participation meetings because this study only focused on citizens who attended public participation meetings.



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## APPENDICES

### Appendix I: Questionnaire for Community Members

Dear Participant,

I am Henry Kiptoo Komen, a student at Egerton University pursuing a Master of Research and Public Policy. I am researching “ influence of public participation on implementation of Kaprobu dam project in Moiben sub-county, Uasin Gishu County.” I am conducting this study as part of a post-graduate student dissertation. You were selected as a possible participant randomly from the total number of citizens from your ward who participated in public participation for the construction of the Kaprobu dam project. There will be no dangers when you partake in this study. You will not pay anything to participate in this study. Your feedback will help the researcher come up with suggestions on how we can develop better policies in Uasin Gishu county. Filling this questionnaire will only consume around 10 minutes of your precious time. This study will help get more public benefits.

This questionnaire is secret. You should not write your name anywhere in this questionnaire. Your answers will not be known. The post-graduate Board may examine these records. When this study is published, personal information will not be revealed.

Your participation is voluntary. By filling out this survey, you have willingly agreed to participate in this study. Please fill this survey the best you know. Your feedback will be guarded with the highest confidence and will be purely used academically. You can leave any question you don’ t want to answer for any reason. You can also withdraw at any stage of the study.

In case of any question or clarification, please contact

Henry Kiptoo Komen

+254-722-220-815

Thank you

#### Section A: Bio Data

Please tick (√) next to the appropriate answer or supply the required information.

1. How old are you? ..... Years.
2. What is your gender? Male [ ] Female [ ]
3. Which is your highest level of education? No formal schooling [ ]  
Primary school [ ] Secondary school [ ] Post-secondary [ ]  
TVET [ ] Others (specify) .....

**Section B: Public Participation**

Using a scale of 1 to 5, one being strongly disagree and five being strongly agree, please tick (√) the most appropriate answer.

#		Five	Four	Three	Two	One
1.	People were aware of the meetings for the construction of Kaprobu dam					
2.	Time for the meetings for the construction of Kaprobu dam allowed many people to attend					
3.	Meetings for the construction of Kaprobu dam were conducted in a central place accessible to most citizens					
4.	Duration for the meetings for the construction of Kaprobu dam was adequate					
5.	The number of meetings conducted during the construction of Kaprobu dam were adequate					
6.	Men were given equal chances during Kaprobu dam construction meetings					
7.	Women were given equal chances during Kaprobu dam construction meetings					
8.	Youths were given equal chances during Kaprobu dam construction meetings					
9.	Physically challenged citizens were given equal chances during Kaprobu dam construction meetings					
10.	I feel that attending public participation meetings makes the County projects better					

**Section C: Public Participation and Legislative Process**

Using a scale of 1 to 5, one being strongly disagree and five being strongly agree, please tick (√) the most appropriate answer.

#		Five	Four	Three	Two	One
1.	Identification of Kaprobu dam was done during public participation					
2.	Water in Kaprobu dam is being used for irrigation as had been suggested					
3.	Water in Kaprobu dam is being used for animal consumption as had been suggested					
4.	At least 30% of local citizens agreed during public participation were employed during the construction of Kaprobu dam					
5.	The way dam was constructed is as per our suggestions during public participation					
6.	I feel that guidelines used during the construction of Kaprobu dam project was a result of citizens views during public participation					

#### Section D: Public Participation and Budgetary Process

Using a scale of 1 to 5, one being strongly disagree and five being strongly agree, please tick (√) the most appropriate answer.

#		Five	Four	Three	Two	One
1.	I feel that the amount of money allocated for the construction of Kaprobu dam was adequate					
2.	The construction of the dam was completed on time as agreed during public participation					
3.	In my opinion, county budget for the construction of Kaprobu dam was published					

4.	The money allocated for the construction of Kaprobu dam project was transparently used					
5.	The money allocated for the construction of Kaprobu dam project was accountably used					
6.	The contractor provided progress report on the construction of Kaprobu dam					
7.	During public hearings, we were given a chance to contribute on budget proposal					
8.	I feel that public participation improves distribution of public resources					

### Section E: Public Participation and Tendering Process

Using a scale of 1 to 5, one being strongly disagree and five being strongly agree, please tick (√) the most appropriate answer.

#		Five	Four	Three	Two	One
1.	I feel that County government placed an advertisement for the construction of Kaprobu dam					
2.	At some point you were given progress report concerning the construction of the dam					
3.	In my opinion, the dam constructed is same as the one agreed during public participation e.g. size, depth					
4.	Among the oversight committee for the construction of Kaprobu dam were community members					
5.	Contract supervision was done as agreed during public participation					
6.	In my opinion, the contractor used the resources as required					
7.	I feel that public participation improves use of public resources					

**Section F: Suggested Solutions**

1. In your own opinion, how can public participation suggestions be used to improve on policies/guidelines used to run projects Uasin Gishu county?

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2. In your own opinion, how can public participation suggestions be used to improve distribution of public resources in Uasin Gishu county?

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3. In your own opinion, how can public participation suggestions be used to improve on the use of public resources in Uasin Gishu County?

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**Thank you very much for participating in my research, may Almighty God bless you abundantly**

## **Appendix II: Focused Group Discussion Guide for Community Members**

### **Section A: Building Rapport**

#### **1. Appreciation and introduction:**

Thank you so much for participating in this discussion. Thanks for sacrificing your precious time and engage in this discussion. Before beginning the discussion, allow me to let you know the purpose of the study and type of questions to expect.

#### **2. Overview of purpose and goals:**

This study aims to learn more about public participation in Uasin Gishu and, more specifically, the influence of public participation on the implementation of the Kaprobu dam project. I will examine your experiences and views about various issues during this discussion. There are no right or wrong answers. This research is fascinated in knowing about your perspectives.

#### **3. Confidentiality:**

What you tell me might be quoted, but I won't use your real name; Instead, I will give you numbers, e.g. 1,2,3....for identification during the analysis. You will be required to give your number before responding to a question. You have a right not to answer some of the questions you wish not to answer for any reason. You can also ask for clarity of any questions or help me better my questions.

#### **4. Recording:**

To concentrate fully on the discussion, I will only make short notes. If you will allow I will request you to allow, me to record our discussion for it to be transcribed. You can ask for a copy later if you need one.

### **Section B: Public Participation and Legislative Process**

1. We are aware that the county government of Uasin Gishu initiates some projects, please can you mention them? Probe on identification
2. We are aware that policies were guiding the construction of the dam, how did the county government come up with the policies? Probe on citizen involvement
3. There were some community members employed during the dam's construction, approximately how many were they? Probe the number agreed during public participation
4. The water from the dam is being used for which purposes? Probe, if it is what had been agreed.



5. Did the county government of Uasin Gishu provide feedback on the progress of the dam's construction? If yes, how?
6. In your view, is the dam constructed the same as suggested during public participation? In terms of depth, size and so forth?
7. In your opinion, were the suggestions given during public participation on policies to guide the construction of the dam considered?
8. Were there any challenges faced during the construction of the dam? If any explain
9. In your opinion, how can the county government of Uasin Gishu use public participation suggestions to improve on the implementation of projects?

### **Section C: Public Participation and Budgetary Process**

1. As we know of the dam construction, has it been completed as agreed? Elaborate
2. In your opinion, was the amount of money allocated for the dam's construction adequate? Probe in case of any additional money
3. How long did the construction of the dam take? Probe if it was completed as stipulated during public participation.
4. In your opinion, how was the money allocated for the dam's construction used? Probe for transparency and accountability.
5. Were you updated on the progress of the construction? Probe, frequency of updates
6. In your own opinion, what can be done to ensure resources are well allocated for projects?

### **Section D: Public Participation and Tendering Process**

1. We are aware that county governments should be advertising for available tenders, do the county government of Uasin Gishu usually advertise for available tenders? Probe if the Kaprobu dam project was advertised.
2. Was there any oversight committee during the construction of the dam? Probe if there were some community members included in the committee.
3. At some point, were you given a progress report by the contractor concerning the dam's construction? Probe on means
4. In your opinion, is the dam constructed the the same as what had been suggested during public participation? In terms of size, depth etc.
5. In your opinion, were any challenges faced in the using public resources? Explain
6. In your opinion, what can be done to improve the use of public resources in Uasin Gishu County?

**Thank you very much for participating in my research**

## **Appendix III: Interview Schedule for Ward Administrator**

### **Section A: Building Rapport**

#### **1. Appreciation and introduction:**

Thank you so much for agreeing to participate in this discussion. Thanks for sacrificing your precious time and engaging in this discussion. Before beginning the discussion, allow me to let you know the purpose of the study and type of questions to expect.

#### **2. Overview of purpose and goals:**

This study aims to learn more about public participation in Uasin Gishu and, more specifically, the influence of public participation on the implementation of the Kaprobu dam project. I will examine your experiences and views about various issues during this discussion. There are no right or wrong answers. This research is fascinated in knowing about your perspectives.

#### **3. Confidentiality:**

I will use a codename when writing about what you will tell me. What you tell me might be quoted, but I won't use your real name. You have a right not to answer some of the questions you wish not to answer for any reason. You can ask for clarity of any questions or help me better my questions.

#### **4. Recording:**

To concentrate fully on the discussion, I will only make short notes. If you will allow I will request you to allow, me to record our discussion for it to be transcribed. You can ask for a copy later if you need one.

### **Section B: Public Participation Legislative Process**

1. How was Kaprobu dam identified? Probe on community involvement
2. We know that policies were guiding the construction of the dam, how did your organization come up with the policies? Probe, in case of community members were involved.
3. There were some community members employed during the construction of the dam? Approximately how many were they? Probe if is it the agreed percentage.
4. The water from the dam is being used for which purposes? Probe if it is what had been suggested.
5. Did your organization provide feedback on the progress of the dam's construction? If yes, means?

6. In your view, is the dam constructed the same as suggested during public participation? In terms of depth, size and so forth?
7. Were any challenges faced on policies/guidelines during the dam's construction? If any explain
8. In your opinion, how can your organization improve policies/guidelines on project construction?

### **Section C: Public Participation and Budgetary Process**

1. How long did the construction of the dam take? Probe, if it was completed as stipulated during public participation.
2. Was there any delay in resource allocation? If yes, what might be the cause?
3. Was the amount of money allocated for the construction of the dam adequate? Probe, if there were any supplementary budget.
4. How was the money allocated for the construction of the dam used? Probe for transparency and accountability.
5. Were you updating community members on the progress of the construction? Probe, frequency of updates
6. In your opinion, where are resources distribution challenges by the county government?
7. In your own opinion, what can be done to ensure resources are well allocated for projects?

### **Section D: Public Participation and Tendering Process**

1. You are aware that county governments should be advertising for available tenders, do your organization usually advertise for available tenders? Probe if the Kaprobu dam project was advertised.
2. Was there any oversight committee during the construction of the dam? Probe, if there were some community members included in the committee.
3. Are you aware of periodic updates from the contractor as stipulated in Public Procurement and Disposal Act? Probe on means and frequency
4. In your opinion, is the dam constructed the same as suggested during public participation? In terms of size, depth etc.
5. Did your organization do an audit concerning the project? Probe on proper utilization of resources

6. In your opinion, were there any challenges experienced in the use of public resources?  
Explain
7. In your opinion, what can be done to improve the use of public resources in Uasin  
Gishu County?

**Thank you very much for participating in my research, may Almighty God bless you  
abundantly**

## **Appendix IV: Interview Schedule for Chief, Assistant Chief and Village Elders**

### **Section A: Building Rapport**

#### **1. Appreciation and introduction:**

Thank you so much for participating in this discussion. Thanks for sacrificing your precious time and engaging in this discussion. Before beginning the discussion, allow me to let you know the purpose of the study and type of questions to expect.

#### **2. Overview of purpose and goals:**

This study aims to learn more about public participation in Uasin Gishu and, more specifically, the influence of public participation on the implementation of the Kaprobu dam project. I will examine your experiences and views about various issues during this discussion. There are no right or wrong answers. This research is fascinated in knowing about your perspectives.

#### **3. Confidentiality:**

I will use a codename when writing about what you will tell me. What you tell me might be quoted, but I won't use your real name. You have a right not to answer some of the questions you wish not to answer for any reason. You can ask for clarity of any questions or help me better my questions.

#### **4. Recording:**

To concentrate fully on the discussion, I will only make short notes. If you allow, I will request you to allow me to record our discussion for it to be transcribed. You can ask for a copy later if you need one.

### **Section B: Public Participation in Legislative Process**

1. How was Kaprobu dam identified? Probe on community involvement
2. We know that policies were guiding the construction of the dam, how did the county government come up with the policies? Probe on community involvement
3. There were some community members employed during the dam's construction, approximately how many were they? Probe if it is the number agreed.
4. The water from the dam is being used for which purposes? Probe if it is how it had been suggested.
5. Did the county government of Uasin Gishu provide feedback on the progress of the dam's construction? If yes, means?
6. In your view, is the dam constructed the same as suggested during public

participation? In terms of depth, size and so forth?

7. Were any challenges faced in terms of guidelines/policies during the dam's construction? If any explain
8. In your opinion, how can the county government of Uasin Gishu improve on policies/guidelines on project construction?

### **Section C: Public Participation and Budgetary Process**

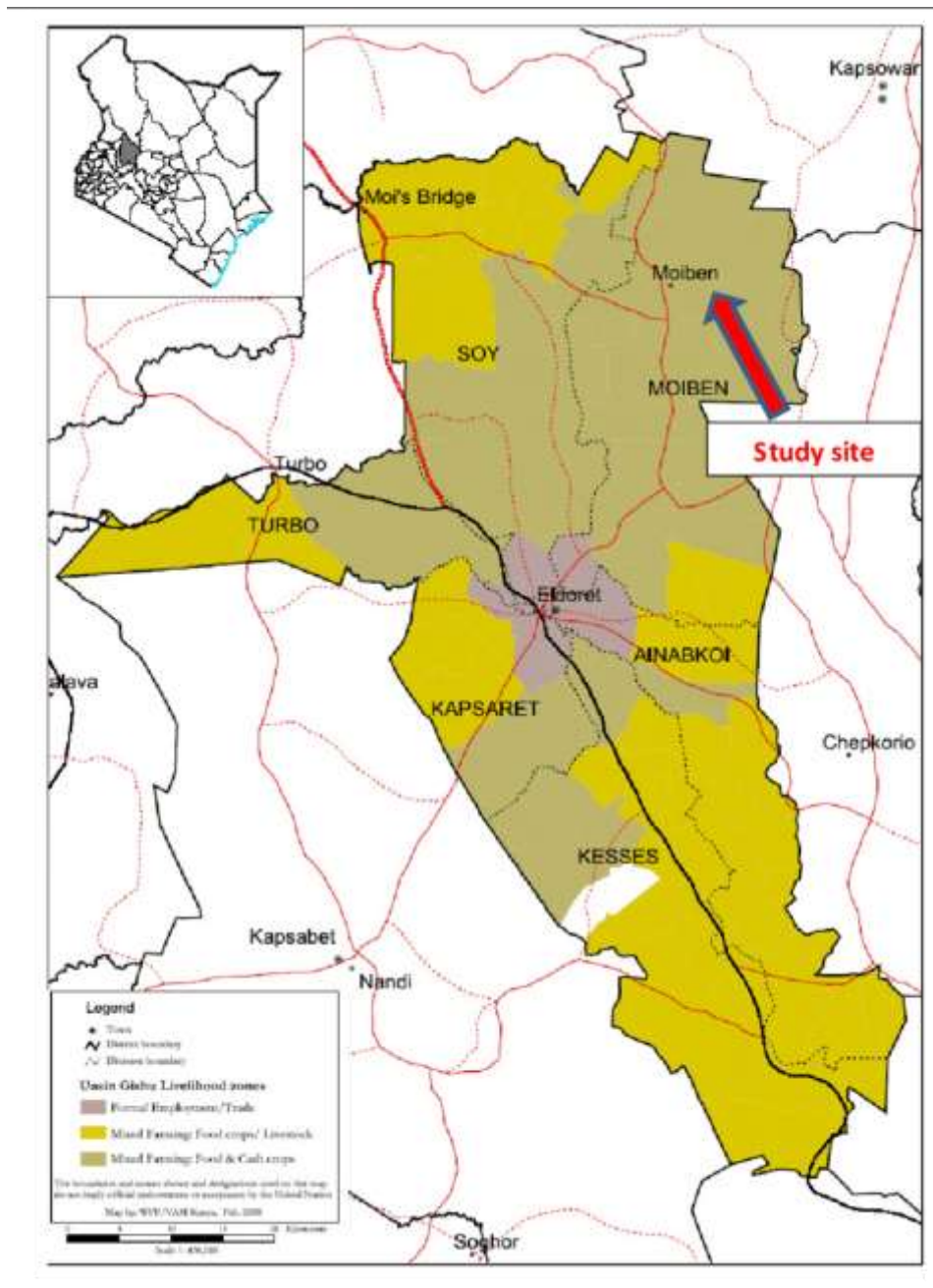
1. As we know of the dam construction, has it been completed as suggested? Elaborate
2. In your opinion, was the amount of money allocated for the dam's construction adequate? Probe, if there were any other additional resources.
3. How long did the construction of the dam take? Probe, if it was completed as stipulated during public participation.
4. In your opinion, how was the money allocated for the dam's construction used? Probe for transparency and accountability.
5. Were you updated on the progress of the construction? Probe, frequency of updates
6. In your opinion, what can be done to ensure public resources are well allocated to projects in Uasin Gishu county?

### **Section D: Public Participation and Tendering Process**

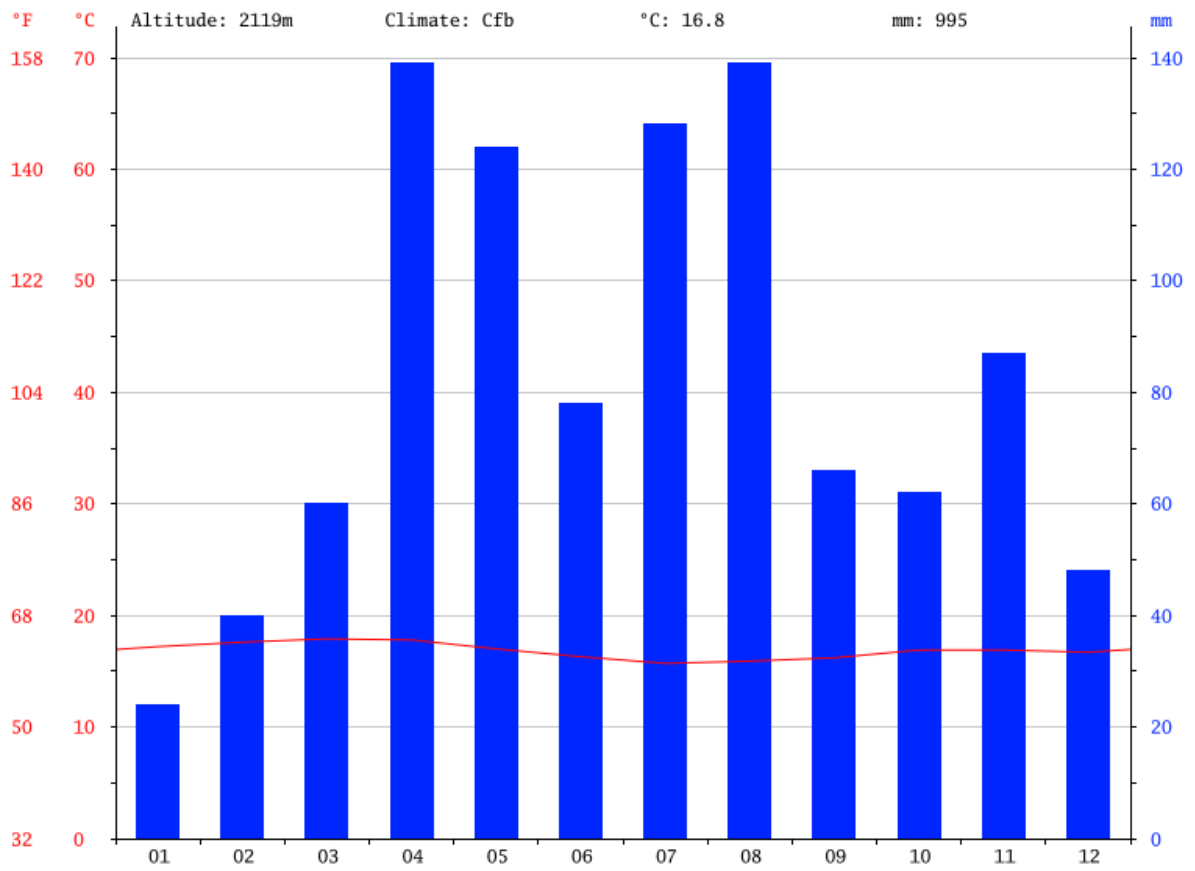
1. We are aware that county governments should be advertising for available tenders, do the county government of Uasin Gishu usually advertise for available tenders? Probe if Kaprobu dam project was advertised.
2. Was there any oversight committee during the construction of the dam? Probe, if there were some community members included in the committee.
3. At some point, were you given a progress report concerning the dam's construction? Probe on means
4. In your opinion, is the dam constructed the the same as what had been suggested during public participation? In terms of size, depth etc.
5. Did the county government inform you about the project's progress? Elaborate?
6. In your own opinion, were there any challenges faced in the use of public resources during the construction of the dam? Explain
7. In your opinion, what can be done to ensure public resources allocated to projects are well utilized in Uasin Gishu County?

**Thank you very much for participating in my research, may Almighty God bless you abundantly.**

## Appendix V: Location of the Study Area



## Appendix VI: Climatic Condition of Study Area





**Appendix VII: Research Authorization Document**

  
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**INFLUENCE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON LEGISLATIVE PROCESS OF KAPROBU DAM PROJECT, MOIBEN SUB-COUNTY UASIN GISHU COUNTY, KENYA**

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**ABSTRACT**

Public participation is a method of engagement in governance. People engage together for discussion and joint action within various interests, including constituents in governance processes. In 2013, The Constitution of Kenya 2010 was implemented, and Article 174 highlights public participation as a crucial process in ensuring citizens' views are considered during the legislative process. However, since the implementation of the constitution, public participation has been conducted on various projects, but there have been public complaints that their views are not being considered. Therefore, it created a need to determine whether public participation influenced the legislative process, particularly the Kaprobu Dam project. The study was conducted within the framework of participatory democratic theory. The study used concurrent mixed methods research design (QUANT + qual). Quantitative data was analysed using descriptive statistics (percentages and frequencies) and inferential statistics (simple linear regression & Pearson correlation coefficient), while qualitative data was analysed using content analysis. The regression analysis found a positive and significant relationship between public participation and the legislative process. The regression model for public participation and legislative process was  $Y=2.432+.463$ . The study findings imply that there was a significant influence of public participation on the legislative process. This also implies that the public participation policy is working in Moiben sub-county though it needs improvement. The findings from this study inform the County Government of Uasin Gishu of the need to increase the uptake of public views given during public participation as an excellent measure to meet constituents' desires and uphold public participation.

**Keywords:** Public participation, legislative process, citizen participation, public meetings, public opinion, citizens views

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