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DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDIES

Community participation in projects planning and implementation: An Appraisal of Plan International's water, sanitation and hygiene projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi District.

BY PRAIZE MAKAVIRE

R111692E

A dissertation submitted to the Midlands State University to the Department of Local Governance Studies in partial fulfilment of the Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Local Governance Studies

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SUBMITTED BY: PRAIZE MAKAVIRE (R111692E) in partial fulfilment of the requirements of a Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Local Governance Studies

SUPERVISOR DATE

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CHAIRPERSON DATE

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Dedication
I dedicate this work to my family and friends, I love you all. Thank you for the support encouragement that you gave me throughout the years and during this research. You have been my pillars of strength, God bless you all.
ABSTRACT

This research aimed at assessing the contribution of community participation in projects planning and implementation: An Appraisal of Plan international’s water, sanitation and hygiene projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi District. The background of the study focused on the key aspects that led the researcher to be prompted to carry out the research. The research elaborated on the statement of the problem which is the failure of many projects in meeting most of their intended goals due to the top down nature used in the projects. Thus community participation as a strategy in project planning and management and was applied on by donor agencies and the governments in different projects. The study seek to appraise the application of bottom up approach (community participation) in projects implementation focusing on PLAN UNICEF’s water and sanitation projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi District. The research objectives was to identify the types of water and sanitation projects which are being implemented by Plan International’s in ward 5 of Mwenezi District, to assess the nature of community contribution in Plan International’s WASH projects, to explore the complications that hinders community participation, To recommend means of improving bottom up approach in WASH projects. Research questions set to answer the research problems. The research highlighted the significance of the study, justification, limitations and the delimitations of the research. Related literature was reviewed in chapter two to get a greater understanding of the advantages brought by community participation, Complexities to Community Involvement in Project Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation of Community Participation as well as analyzing the levels of participation using Arnstein 1969’s participation larder. The researcher used different respondents which comprised of the, councilor ward 5, DA, Rural District council officials and community members in ward 5. Different sampling techniques were used during the collection of data. A combination of purposive or judgmental sampling and stratified sampling techniques were used to draw data from the field. The findings of the research revealed that community participation has contributed to the success of Plan International’s water and sanitation projects and the community contributed about 30% towards the success of the projects. The levels of community participation has raised from informing where external people (those with power) decide and do things to and for the people, according to their own plans and purpose to partnership where the community will be working hand in glove with the implementing agents and also people in communities initiate action and have ownership, power and control over decision making processes.
Acknowledgement
My greatest gratitude goes to the Almighty God for His guidance, love and strength throughout all the days of my life. Secondly I wish to express my utmost gratitude to my supervisor Mrs. N. Rajah for tirelessly working with me in carrying out this research. His inspiration went a long way in making this project a great success. I also remain indebted to all my Local Governance lecturers for their contribution in making this work a success. My family will not go unmentioned for their financial, morale and spiritual support. My gratitude is also forwarded to the respondents in Mwenezi District the councilor ward 5, DA, Rural District council officials; Water and Sanitation Supply Committee and Plan International officials for making this research a success. I would also like to give special mention to my friends Tendai, Heryneth, Dulys, Reginald and the LGS class as a whole for their support that sustained me throughout the writing of this dissertation.
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<tr>
<td>BVIP</td>
<td>Blair Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAS</td>
<td>Community Approaches to Sanitation</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBM</td>
<td>community Based Management</td>
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<td>CBR</td>
<td>Community Based Rehabilitation model</td>
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<td>IAPP</td>
<td>International Association for Public Participation</td>
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<td>CHC</td>
<td>Community Health Clubs</td>
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<td>DWSSC</td>
<td>District Water Supply and Sanitation Sub-Committee</td>
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<td>ESAP</td>
<td>Economic Structural Adjustment Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>UBVIP</td>
<td>Upgradable Blair Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non Governmental Organizations</td>
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

Community participation in the intact project that is from project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation is a characteristic which regularly lack in many development projects and plays a role to project failure. This Chapter seeks to cover up the background of study and it focuses on the input of the community in the project cycle. The research is going to present an overview of internationally, nationally, regionally and the exact area of the study. Chapter 1 will give the statement of the problem, the objectives of this study, the significance of the study and conclusion.

1.1 Background of the study

Previously, project implementation and supervision have a propensity to bring about a top-down approach whereby the local people did not have any part to play or a say in any development initiatives (Giordano et al., 2007). Ostrom et al. (2007) defined top-down nature as an approach that is inevitable for upper level influential leaders to portrait and articulate the organisation. This method to development kick off is what Ostrom (2000), portrayed as the threat of self-evident truths. Nonetheless, it was highlighted as a technique which neglects the poor, least powerful, invisible and unvoiced people who are the projected recipients of development projects as a result several projects implemented in this nature basically failed to congregate their goals. This was witnessed in the case of USAID, Bangladesh community were, after understanding the outbreak of hygiene and sanitation related diseases as a result of defecation in rice fields practiced by the local community which as result could pollute the water sources through erosion.

The USAID agents consequently saw the requirement to build toilets to avoid such disastrous practice in the community. Nevertheless given that the agents failed to consult the local
community’s insight on the project, the project produced unpleasant results to the community since the move was opposing their cultural principles thus they used their fields for toilets as a way of rising production and as a result their reaction was to destroy the toilets (Chiome and Gambaya, 2000). This clarifies that the importance of bottom up approaches to countryside.

An overview of the National Water Policy and the Sanitation and Hygiene Strategy launched at the 2013 water world day celebration in Victoria Falls spelt out the demand for water supply and sanitation services by rural communities will be created through generating desire by rural communities to address their basic own sanitation needs.

Top down approach is appropriate since bottom-up failed to integrate the community’s socio-economic and cultural principles leading to project collapse. More so, in Binga, the Blair toilet project was because the community was not involved in the project planning and implementation as a result the project was a failure. This was because people in Binga believed that its inappropriate to for men and women to share a single toiled as a result, one squat hole toilets that were built for each and every households in Binga were used by neither women nor men instead the latrines were used as granaries to store cereals (Zimbabwe capacity building work shop, 2010). Thus without community participation any type of projects will be of in vain.

So it appeared that community partaking does not only to be an add on but should be considered at all stages of the plan from designing, planning as well as implementation remaining to the failure of yielding better results of projects under top down approach. As a result of project failure, facts were congregated and this created the foundation of decision formulating process finding resolution to problems linked to projects results. Thus the development approaches brought in the mid-1970s become the core components although with variety of levels of
achievement, in numerous rural developmental projects. These methods recognised that the rural community on their own are the chief agents of transformation for the development of rural areas. The community people were recognized as the missing part in the development efforts (World Bank 1998).

Freire (1972) cited in Crook and Morten (1991) is one amongst the first educationalists who saw the requirement of change from taking people as substance of development approaches to seeing and considering them as subjects of their development. This was clarified through his effort on the idea of analysis and conscientisation of the hierarchical stumbling blocks to the development of Latin American peasantry that stressed out the discussion approach to project work (Winder, 1981) and the above made the issue of community involvement to be taken as a requirement to project success.

Furthermore, assessment about community involvement has hanged about at ideological and idealistic ranks since it has brought about participation of particular categories of people in governments as well as different amongst institutions. For instance in the third world nations, participation lacked analytical instruments, adequate hypothetical framework, practical methods (Manzungu, 2002). Governments were unsuccessful in coming up with clear indication of how participation come about and its outcomes on participants and in the society. As a result of the approach adopted, participatory approaches largely fail; this could be the result of limited community inclusion in development projects where the local community were highly considered to be taking part in the implementation level of the project (Gukurume et al, 2010).

This was further authenticated by FAO (1990)’s argument that inadequate success of numerous development initiatives was attributed to \deal with people in the plan and implementation of
projects. For instance WHO in 1978 certified a Community Based Rehabilitation model (CBR) that was encouraged initially as a local people's initiative to cover up the gaps between an rising yoke of social exclusion in the developing nations and the shortage of financial and professional resources. As a result of the above, larger range of projects was put in place in Africa, South East Asia and India. The aim of WHO’s innovative CBR model was effective delivery of low-technological rehabilitation services. Unluckily, the outcomes of this attempt were frequently top-down scheme that rarely included community in CBR preparation and it solely marginally included them in the programme implementation (FAO, 1990). This clarifies a wrong answer to rural problems given that the approach might exclude the targeted recipients of help in the identification, planning, management and implementation of the projects planned to bring advantage them as well as the community. In this case there is sense of ownership of the projects initiated for the community as a result could be short of the desire to contribute in the project implementation.

Kishlon (1972) insisted that though the governments were asserting to be participatory in their given development initiatives they turn overlook the concern that, provision of the benefits to the community was a silent feature top down character, which upshot in development efforts of so many nations yielding development which was unnecessarily concurrent to other development objectives and could occur inequalities in social and economic benefits. For instance in rural areas of the third world nations, due to patriarchal beliefs and customs, water resources, land as well as other possessions have become more and more determined in the hands of men, in so doing deprive women real chance to administer it (Lipton, 1993).

Nonetheless, in the 1990s, the stress of community participation basing in rural development stared to move and centre on sustainable development. It must also be noted that efforts were
made by means of try and error method. It was discovered that sustainable development of the programmes and projects can be attained through the contribution of all stakeholders equally in all project stages in the project cycle.

Nonetheless, currently the national economic problems due to embracing of the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme (ESAP) have frequently strained governments of developing many countries to decrease their commitment from rural development plans and however they have allowed NGOs to work in rural areas so as improve the welfare of the rural community (Makumbe, 1996). For instance in Zimbabwe the government desires to improve the living communal people, joined and dedicated to accomplish the United Nations General Assembly’s declaration known as Drinking Water, Sanitation and hygiene Decade 1981-90 brought out the supply driven an increase in borehole drilling and deep wells sinking programmes in communal areas. According to (Practical Action, 2009), maintenance and repairs almost stopped as the government was unsuccessful to finance to these activities and the donors turned away from the country.

It must be noted that as a result of the above, NGOs adopted more efficient approaches in organizing the rural population to partake in development initiative projects which will result in poverty reduction as well as reducing ignorance in poor nations (Makumbe, 1996). As a result, NGOs has thus been scrutinised as an effective tool of empowerment of the disadvantaged people developing nations, facilitation in popular right of possation to the basic human needs which includes health education.

Both home-grown and distant NGOs which includes Plan International, Christian Care, Practical Action as well as Red Cross pivotal role in organising rural people to partake various
development projects which includes natural resources preservation schemes, cattle feeding schemes, market gardening and WASH services. Plan International mainly focus on improving water, sanitation and hygiene circumstances in Mwenezi district under Masvingo Province and this can be accomplished through its WASH projects. This research seeks to assess linking to community contribution project operation.

1.2 Statement of the problem
Numerous projects were failing to meet up most of their intended goals as a result of the top down nature used in the project. As a result of community participation (bottom up approach) in projects management and was take on by donor agencies and the governments. The study seek out to appraise the bottom up approach (community participation) in projects implementation focussing on PLAN UNICEF’s water and sanitation projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi District.

1.3 Research objectives
1. To identify types of projects water and sanitation projects which are being implemented by Plan International’s WASH projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi District.

2. To evaluate the nature of community contribution in Plan International’s WASH projects.

3. To explore the problems that hinders community participation in project planning and implementation.

4. To recommend means of improving bottom up approach in WASH projects.

1.4 Research questions
1. What are the types of project implemented by plan international in ward 5 of Mwenezi District
2. At what level of community participation is Plan International carrying out its projects

3. What can be done to improve community participation in project implementation

4. What are the problems associated with community involvement in project implementation

1.5 Significance of the study

The research seek out to measure the contribution of the community contribution in projects implementation aiming to inform effective ways of participation, capacity building as well as empowerment of the community. The research as a result seeks to measure the nature of community partaking in Plan International’s water and sanitation project in ward 5 of Mwenezi district to investigate whether the technique is helpful to community involvement and give suggestion of some theoretical actions that enable the community, Zimbabwean government, the academia donor agencies to offer the synthesis of analytical participatory current thinking and approaches to development initiatives.

1.5.1 Government

The research is going to assist the government to launch successful development planning in participatory methods to rural development as way of ascertaining the under privileged, as well the poorest.

1.5.2 Community

The research is a present need to highlight the nature and types of community contribution in project operation in ward 5 of Mwenezi District unveiling and exploring whether the method is, voluntary, effective, abusive direct or indirect. This study will be supportive in enlightening community to efficiently and effectively work hand in hand with development agents towards the welfare of the community.
More so, the research is going to assist the community to certify that the strategies used in projects operation are socially and culturally suitable and ensure continuous humanity endurance in the community.

1.5.3 Donor agencies

The study searches for the indication that in spite of the fact that the community is provided with the opportunity to take part in the projects their involvement in project implementation is being affected by a number of the levels of society participation in project management as well as implementation. So this research of community involvement in the project implementation will come out as an answer to problems that overwhelmed the methods nature of community contribution in projects operation and implementation in community based projects.

1.6 Limitations of the study

- Lack of teamwork community members as well as council officials will affect the research study. A number of respondents might be refusing to give appropriate data and the other respondents will hesitant to divulge the data to the researcher. To prevail over these problems, the researcher will guarantee the respondents that the given information is going to be used solely for academic purposes.

- The researcher is also going to face postponement and delays in data collection due to hierarchical structures in different organisations, however, the researcher is going to be patient and follow the procedures needed for her to get information.

- It is also going be hard for the researcher to access council documents that will possess current and previous projects carried out in the entire district as this need approval the
organisational leaders nevertheless the researcher is going to follow the procedures required.

- The researcher can be given false information but she is going to critically analyse the data.

1.7 Delimitation of the study

The research is going to be limited to ward 5 of Mwenezi District. The area was been chosen basing on its accessibility as well as its ability to supply true information. The area of study is situated along Masvingo –Beitbridge highway in Zimbabwe. The area is located in Masvingo Province; it is 115 km from Masvingo town. Mwenezi district lie in the agro-ecological region (v) that is categorized by low rainfall (+/- 450mm) as well as high temperatures varies from 25-35 degrees and salty waters. The Central Statistical Office (2012) recorded Mwenezi district as having a population of 19852.

The types of soil in ward 5 are mainly sandy, loam soils and red clay and the most ordinary vegetation is characterised by savannah vegetation cover for instance, Mopani and thorn trees. The people in ward 5 usually get water from two small dams and boreholes which they use for irrigating their gardens as well as domestic purposes.

1.8 Definition of terms

Definition of the terms is going to be given in line with the way these definitions were used in the research project.

Community participation: In this study means voluntary and unpaid community members working with development organizations through voluntary donations of their possessions to
protect a common interest and challenge the structures that keep them in poverty and under development conditions.

**Sanitation**: In this research refer to the principle and practises in line with removal collection and disposal of individual refuse, excreta, storm/water as well as liquid wastes as they crash upon operators, users as well as the surroundings (Ministry of Water Resources Development and Management, 2012)

**Hygiene**: In this work was used to refer to the exercise of maintaining oneself and one’s environment dirt-free as well as free from infection risk. It includes collection of practices observed by the community people to deal with the conservations of good and health living (Ministry of Water Resources Development and Management, 2012)

**Water and sanitation committee**: This committee is composed of technocrats who discuss the issue of provision of water in the district and also the issue of sanitation. The committee is chaired by the district administrator.

**Project Planning**: Systematic identification of strategies of carrying a certain project at lower levels that help contribute to macro priority areas, goals and objectives.

1.9 Summary

The above chapter gave details of the background of Community participation globally and regionally clarifying its contribution to the project success. The statement of the problem, objectives of the research, significance of the research as well as research enquiries were explained and given in the earlier chapter. The following chapter is going give the literature which was given by different scholars on community participation in project planning and implementation.
CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

The period of 1990s become the decade during which participation development turn out to be typical with an sudden increase in participatory theories though out the nations as well as adoption of the policies on partaking of all stages by donors agencies and government both on countryside development projects and ahead of greater issues of governance and policy. This chapter’s main purpose is to provide a wide impression on the important theories which have been set forward as a way of perceiving and assess the participation practices and structures. The exertion presents a theoretical understanding of participation, matters of monitoring and assessment of participation as well analysing the complications to successful participation. The chapter is prepared to provide a theoretical contact containing appropriateness of diverse levels and types of community participation in project planning and implementation. This is going to be summarised using Arnstein 1969’s participation ladder, in acknowledgment that such an environment make things easier to understand complex reality, however summing up of its difficulties are then explored.

2.1 Conceptualising participation

Definitions s well as concepts of participation in the development process has changed over time. Their heredity can be drawn back to the community as well as popular participation promoted basically by non- governmental organisations (NG0s) in the period of 1950s and 1960s. The International Association for Public Participation (IAPP) defined public participation as a means to involve those who are affected by a decision made in a decision making process. Shrimpton
(1989) acknowledged that community participation in the plan and management of a project contributes the highest degree to the likelihood of project success due to improved goodness of fit and increased sustainability. This has been taken as the most popular and widely adopted strategy for ensuring project success in local communities. UNRISP in its Popular Participation Programmes in the 1980s gave a definition of participation as the planned effort to enlarge control over regulation of institutions and governments in a specified social state of affairs on the part of movements or groups hitherto disqualified from such control (Rudqvist and Woodford-Derger 1996: 11). This entail that, since social, economic and educational situations differs from one nation to another, the degree and form of participation in the development initiatives differs. This lead to difficulties in defining participation correctly, nonetheless the definition can be understood on conditions of activities exercised by various stakeholders in the development programmes and projects. There is no conformity among planners and professionals concerning the involvement of community participation to improving in project success, particularly the poor and disadvantaged. Some totally disqualify its value altogether, whilst others consider that it is the ‘magic bullet’, that will guarantee improvements particularly in the context of poverty mitigation. In spite of this lack of conformity, community participation has continued to be promoted as a key to development. Although promotion for participation waxes and wanes, today, it is once again seen by many governments, (NGOs)non-governmental organizations, and the United Nations agencies as critical to project planning and poverty alleviation (World Bank, 1996).

More so, an emphasis on community empowerment has been broadly upheld by the donor agencies as well as the government (Marsden and Oakley, 1984). The idea of participation as an
empowerment is perceived in different ways. Some of the development partners perceive it as a method of recognizing human efforts as well as enlargement of potential and talents (FAO, 1990). It has moreover been related to good governance, democratisation, human rights and also equity (FAO, 1990). Therefore it is regarded as popular participation is be able to be interpreted in line with three wide lines (Oakley, 1991)

✓ Participation as a contribution that is voluntarily offered or other types of participation by the rural community to predetermine the projects and the programmes.

✓ Participation as an organisation, either conceived externally or rising due to the issue of participation process.

✓ contribution as an empowerment, facilitating the community to expand their capabilities and skills to be more self-sufficient on top of essential practices to their capability to be more self-reliant, and to take actions essential to their development.

In another ways, partaking in development projects is broadly perceived as a means at the same time an end. Whilst development organizations give genuine value to both, some of them stress on one or the other feature of involvement (Rudqvist and Woodford-Derger 1996). Hence the differences between these notions are neither mutually exclusive nor clear-cut. They symbolize different approaches and purposes to the promotion of participatory development. For example, Burkey (1993) examined that until recently the notion of participation as means basically dominated development exercise. Although he admitted that some other economic developments were achieved by means of this policy, he also argued that very few development projects managed to achieve meaningful participation along with benefits through this means. In this view, this given strategy has not yield meaningful participation on the side of the marginalized.
Nelson and Wright (1995) believed that the degree of achievement and empowerment of the local community is highly restricted in participation as means as compared to being participation as an end.

As a means participation is a course in which individuals and communities cooperate in different development projects and also programmes (Clayton et al, 1998). In this light, participation supported by an external organization, is a means to support the course of a project and a means to promote successful outcome of activities.

The phrase ‘participatory development’ is normally used to portray this approach (Clayton et al, 1998). Participation is also seen as a way to assist and guarantee sustainable development (Rudqvist and Woodford- Berger, 1996)

As an end participation is seen as the empowerment of communities and individuals on the issue obtaining, knowledge skills experience and skills leading to better self-reliance (Clayton et al, 1998). In this way, participation is observed a tool to destroy poor people’s exclusion and absence of access over possessions required to empower people to take additional control over their livelihood (Clayton et al, 1998). The World Bank’s educational Group in Participatory Development described participation as a course through which stakeholders, beneficiaries and partners’ control and influence over the development initiatives processes and decisions, resources that affect them (World Bank, 1996: 11)

2.2.1 The Role community participation plays towards project achievement

Cahn and Camper (1968) suggested three rationales for community participation they suggested one’s participation can offer sufficient and dignity self the within the individual. Due to this, the community members will be offering support in the direction of the project’s success.
Stone (1989) argues that community participation in development projects may help bring effective societal change rather than inflict an external culture on a society. In the same way, referring to the experience of rural development projects, Shrimpton (1989) states that community participation in the design and management of a project greatly enhances the likelihood of project success due to improved goodness of fit and increased sustainability.

Mohammad (2010) has this to say in post-independent; almost all the development projects ever taken at grass-root level have been initiated and implemented under the management of the implementing agencies. But the living of poor villagers, the actual victim or beneficiary of development initiatives has not been considerably enhanced. Thus it is this exclusion of the community which led to failure of the projects.

The past several decades of development funding (e.g., World Bank in Africa) has demonstrated the failures of top-down approaches to development, most projects suffer from a lack of sustainability and possible reason for these failures is attributed to the lack of local participation. Since the 1980s the new development slogan has been “participatory or community-led development”. Such community-based approaches to development “are among the fastest growing mechanisms for channeling development assistance, The World Bank (2004)

Nazneen (2004) found that participation of the general community in rural development projects has increased significantly and this prevented some touts and intermediaries from enjoying more access to those projects and grasping its fruits since this was a common problem in project in the previous decades. There is a general hypothesis that the concern of the poor and the underprivileged cannot be protected in the exploitive social configuration unless it is protected
by legislation. In this context, the study revealed that regardless of the oversupply of legislations to protect the rights of the underprivileged, community participation consolidate their strong repressive influence on local development projects. Legal coverage, therefore, cannot provide meaningful role in integrating the community into development project cycle but can only be achieved through participation of the community.

It must also be noted that community participation enhances an aspect of ownership and it defines the substantial ownership of an asset in terms of ongoing control rights over the asset this also include less tangible assets such as the decisions undertaken in a given development project. Thus the greater the community participates in decision making concerning the project, the more likely it is give support to this project.

While admittedly the classification community offers non technical decisions for the previous and technical decisions for the latter is basic, it does offer a reasonable alternative for making this difference. Moreover, it is based on self-determining and reasonable priors. For example, it is probable that in choosing what project to assemble (i.e., what to require is foremost), deciding how to use and handle the project e. The community’s responsibility will be important, in other words these decisions are likely to involve less technical/engineering input and a greater knowledge of the community. In contrast, decisions such as selecting the particular site for the project, its scale and design are likely to require expert technical knowledge and, given the context of our study area, that is, relatively marginalized and small rural communities, perhaps better provided by the implementing agency.
Stone (1989) argues that people's participation in development projects may help bring effective social change rather than impose an external culture on a society. Similarly, referring to the experience of rural development programs, Shrimpton (1989) states that community participation in the design and management of a project greatly enhances the likelihood of project success due to improved goodness of fit and increased sustainability. The most popular and widely adopted strategy for ensuring people’s participation in project design and implementation development is identified as participatory development which will be involving the community in every stage of the project.

2.2.2 Levels of participation

Participation can be viewed in many forms authors and development agents distinguish different ranks of participation in development programmes and projects which individuals can participate. Participation is perceived as a hierarchy or continuum with different ranks as illustrated below by Arnstein’s participation ladder.

2.3 Participation ladder (Arnstein’s, 1969)

As a development approach for participatory development projects, Arnstein (1969) discovered eight ranks in community participation. The steps starts with the lowest rank of participation which is manipulation then go up to the maximum level of participation which is citizen control. Matching these levels with the participation as means and also as end, the initial 5 levels of the hierarchy can be understood as ‘participation as means’ while the final three levels of participation goes under ‘participation as an end’. Some scholars asserted that they must be seen as forms of non-participation (Pretty, 1993).
Betty (2003) asserted that conceptualising the levels of participation on conditions of strong and weak population. Basing on the above views, weary participation includes consulting and informing was as strong participation involves control and partnership. He pointed out that, basically management of difficult projects is difficult to progress from the ‘weak end’ of the ladder and assume that the targeted beneficiaries are going to be asked during planning so as to consider their aspirations and needs.

Nevertheless, the difficulties associated with ranks of participation are that, they entail coherence while most development agents function simultaneously in diversity methods of participation (Messo, 1996). Each rank of the hierarchy are not actually significant than the others as diverse levels are suitable at different contexts times to meet up the interests and expectations of diverse participants. Oakley (1991) cited an investigation of the Danish sponsored countryside water provision project in Tanzania; he observed that participation in that project ranged from manipulation and non-participation to a higher degree of delegation of power and partnership. According to Dulani (2003), another research was carried out in Malawi focusing on Malawi Social Action Fund (MASAF) projects and he brought conclusion that, the ranks of community involvement was restricted to being told what was already agreed by other chief players that implied reflexive participation through consultation.

2.3.1 Manipulation

In this level external people (those with power), these people are the ones who decide to do things for society people, as per their own purpose and plans (Arnstein, 1969). This given nature of community participation can exclude the requirements of the majority population and associate the course of marginalizing participation of the community people during the formation of public plans and also development projects because these projects can produce a harmful
outcome on their livelihood and survival. This means that the process of this stage lacks community inclusion in the projects cycle is very dangerous because it can obstruct development of a feeling of ownership of the project by community, which may drive to the feeling of isolation and looked down apron hence ignore to support the project. Makumbe (1996) notes that in project cycle. ‘self-reliant development’ need that authority be distributed in considering the needs of community than the implementing agent.

Minloe (2004) clarified that in post-independent, almost all the development projects were ever taken at grass-root level have been initiated and implemented under the planning and management of the implementing agencies only. But the living of poor villagers, the actual victim or beneficiary of development initiatives has not been considerably enhanced. Thus at this level, it is the exclusion and non participation of the community which led to failure of the projects. Hence this stage of participation highlight the top down nature, that abuses community participation. This is also known as the stage of “non-participation” (Arnstein, 1969).

2.3.2 Informing
At this stage of participation, values the right of the community to participate and consider it the right of all citizens as well as a fundamental part of the successful development projects. The implementing agents should give enough and correct information about the project the information should include benefits of the project to community, the expenses of implementation, and the probability for financing and also possibilities of outbreak of risk. World Bank (1996) seconded this by implying that, the project designers and managers sharing information concerning the project beneficiaries. The project agents must offer sufficient time for the individuals to discuss as well as reading the data provided and also listening to the perception proposed by different individuals’ on their problems and issues. Lack of project
transparency often build misunderstanding and mistrust among local community project agents (UNERP.1996).

However, the disappointing part with the level is that, little or no response is required or potential for negotiating. Local people are provided with information about the project because the information is shared with them after decisions have been made. Therefore this can result a bribery of community needs.

2.3.3 Consultation

Consultation deals with invitation of people’s perception on proposed actions and dialogue with them (World Bank, 2004). It is also a two way communication intended to obtain community report back about information on rationale, proposals alternatives to notify decision making (Arnstein, 1969). Consultation deals with education, information sharing, and also negotiation for a better decision making protocol through consulting the local people by the implementing agent (Becker, 1997:155).

This level allows neglected people to hear and have a voice in future undertakings depending on the project (Arnstein, 1969). Various methods are used during consultation such as public hearing meetings, general public information meetings, informal small group meetings, public displays, field trips, site visits, letter requests for comments, material for mass media, and response to public inquiries. In this case the knowledge and understanding of local people should be recognised and they should be enrolled as experts in designing development projects. Participants should be encouraged to articulate their ideas and design of the project should be based on such ideas.
This level of participation is important in that, it can reveal where coping mechanisms have already been developed, where they have not, and how different vulnerabilities are evolving for various groups.

Consulting the local people in the planning stage of the project work is also vital in that, it facilitate project design. Community participation also has an influence on the decision for instance greater community participation makes it less likely that the resolution is driven by the implementing agency this assumption shows that it is indeed true higher community participation in a decision implies a lower likelihood that the external organization rather than the society is recognized as the chief decision maker. As a result the project will get support from the community since they will be the ones who decided for themselves leading to project success. Khwaja (2003). This also happens when the needs of beneficiaries goes a long way to ensure that the project is designed to meet such needs, meets the expected standards of beneficiaries (World Bank, 2004).

Therefore if the local people are excluded in the decision making phase, the project will probably to produce poor results and also could led community resistant thus wastage of resources. For instance, in India, a relocation area was given 125 km from the Upper Indrāvati Hydroelectric Project Site. The relocated people rejected the projected site for the reason that it provided poor access to natural resources and also that it was off-farm employment and because they wanted to stay close to their relatives and villages (World Bank, 2004). Furthermore consultation in project operation helps assist in coming up with approaches considering previously experienced projects that failed to produce better results. Nonetheless, the weakness with the consultation level is that the local community are asked to give their own suggestions, opinions and perspectives but not included in decision making process or implementation of the projects  it must be noted that
there is no assurance that their perceptions will influence the projects. Projects that are implemented in such cases are likely to produce poor results and also can had an effect on the future community partaking in projects as the local community will feel undermined and looked down upon.

2.3.4 Placation

Placation is basically a higher level tokenism since it allows the ground rules, it allows the community to have an input to the advice, but retains for the power holders which is the community the continual right to decide.

2.3.5 Partnership

Partnership deals with the practice of acting deciding together towards a general goal. The responsibility for plans, choice making, outcomes, capital and risks are evenly shared and negotiated jointly. Partnership in rural development projects give opportunity to the community to work and also resolve problems with people who are often viewed in joint investigation with the project planners. Naturally this leads to joint objectives and goal setting. The community can control project planning decisions there by permitting stakeholders to have authority on the structure and implementation of a project (Arnstein, 1969).

2.3.6 Designation of power

The local people are given control and power over in decision making. The community people may prefer to partner, consult or manipulate inform others (Arnstein, 1969). For example in the case of Plan International’s water and sanitation projects, the community members can ask the appropriate types of projects to be carried out in their community. The community can partner
with Plan international through provision of labour s well as also informing the implementing partner about the forms of help they need be it borehole drilling or toilet building.

2.3.7 Citizen Control

This generally known as self-management, this is where by people in communities initiate action and have ownership, control and power over decision making processes. Mathbor (1990) argued that participation plays a vital role in community’s management of their own affairs. Ownership as well as control of resources have a weighty impact on participation in community development projects (Mathbor 1990). Ferrer (1988) emphasized that four areas to be concerned with in a participatory resource supervision program includes social and economic equality, improved access to services for all, greater community participation in decision making process and deeper community participation in the organizing course resulting from the empowerment the community.

2.4 Importance of the participation ladder

The participation larder has been seen as an efficient model for participatory development. In this context, choice among alternatives is seen as a means of access to power, where people are expected to be responsible for themselves and should, therefore, be active in public service decision-making (Arnstein, 1969). This essentially treats community participation as a marketing exercise, in which the desired end result is to the community.

The concept of the ladder of participation allows project implementers and planners to determine the forms of participation of that are appropriate varied stakeholders.
2.4.1 Limitations in Arnstein (1996)’s participation ladder

The limitations of Arnstein’s participation ladder includes that each of the levels represents a very wider category where probably there are a variety of experiences (Atkinson, 1997). For instance, the level of informing could be comprised of major differences in the quality and type of the data being conveyed. The levels of community participation are probably to reflecting further complicated continuum than a general series of steps.

Although Arnstein’s work provides helpful overview into the extent of understanding associated with community involvement. By their nature, however, it represents simplifications of a more complex reality. He overlooks the view that, increased control may not always be desired by the community and increased control without the necessary support result in failure.

2.5 Monitoring and evaluation of community participation

Monitoring as well as evaluation of community participation is needed in development projects so as to reduce the gap between participation in guiding principle and also participation as a practice at the level of project implementation (Rudqvist and Woodford, 1996). Basically there is acknowledgment that if participation is one term the other an objective of community development projects, It must be monitored and also evaluated (Clayton et al, 1998).

Khwaja, (2003) clarified that development projects in a given community are undertaken to uphold the livelihood of the community. Effective and efficient management of development projects primarily depends on proper community involvement in project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. As a result of the above, norms, values, social belief and perspectives of the local people which are affected either directly or indirectly by development interventions will be considered for the sustainability of development projects and success of the project.
2.6 Potentials of community participation in project implementation

Community contribution in project cycle especially implementation is very important in many ways. One of the most crucial part of its importance is on the effectiveness of development efforts (World Bank, 1996). The people in the community can greatly manipulate the intended success and outcomes of a project depending on their inclusion in various levels of the project cycle. For instance, involving the community members during the planning stage can really influence the development of an efficient and effective project approach. The World Bank (1996) insisted that participation facilitate resolve or as well as manage conflict, improve project design, generate social learning and support local institutions. The world Bank views the potential benefits of the community’s participation as:

➢ Superior relevance and suitability of the project products and processes
➢ Involving the community people in the project planning can possibly increase their commitment to the project.
➢ An improved match linking to physical capital and human capabilities investment.
➢ Recognition of the hidden items that might not be obvious in the planning stage.
➢ Identifying the conflicting and opposed points so as to avoid problems during implementation process.
➢ Increased stakeholder ownership as well as commitment towards the projects needs.
➢ Increased equity through involvement of the most disadvantaged in development efforts
➢ Community people have a greater amount of insight and knowledge of what must be done and what must not be done and why because they are the ones who have a better knowledge about.

➢ It brings into social learning for both beneficiaries and implementing agents.

➢ Increase of resources the availability the resources needed for the project success.

More so, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification viewed participation as a route to offer local communities a chance to present a valuable knowledge understanding its own environment. An apparent aspect highlighted in these benefits is the role of community participation as a means of providing and accessing information. When a community take part, it both provides information about its preferences, and gains information that may induce its optimal choice both types of information are likely to lead to increased the welfare for the community and gains information that may induce its optimal choice both types of information are likely to lead to increased welfare for the community in this case success of the project.

2.7 Complexities to community involvement in project implementation

Numerous organisations articulate support of community support by promising participation but acquiring effective community participation is not simple due to diverse constrains to community inclusion in project implementation process. A numerous of factors have been recognized as blockade to effective community contribution in development programmes. Oakley (1991) discussed the three major complications to community contribution which are administrative, social constraints and structural. This given state according to Oakley (1990) is regularly typified by a top down approach where development agents relate to bureaucratic procedures functioned by a set of guiding principles and adopted a blue print approach, giving little opportunity for local members to contribute their control perception of their development process. The social
complexities include mentality of dependence, authority of local elite, culture of silence, gender disparities, social exclusion as well as different levels of education

Foundation (1994) asserted that many attempts at community participation fail because organizations promoting involvement are unclear about the level of participation on offer. Limited consultation, with few real options, which is presented as an opportunity for active participation is likely to produce disillusionment

Ali et al (1983) pointed out hierarchical dominance as block to community participation. He clarified that, community participation is the essential tool for attainment national goals in community project development. To implement a successful project in right perspectives, the communities which are the real beneficiaries are to be involved at all stages of project intervention. But as a result of bureaucratic prevalence and distrust, people’s contribution in a large scale in local development projects remained away from the reach of the general community.

More so, Mohammad (2010) also insisted that there is inadequate scope of participation for general people in decision making, organization and supervision of implementing partner development projects. Since independence of the country, thousands of development projects have been implemented by popularly elected implementing, partners but these have failed to produce desired outcome. The rural marginalised still lived in misery and deprivation; their basic human needs were not satisfied. Their standards of living were not improved as much as it was expected to be. The participatory custom has not yet been cultivated properly
Hossain et al. (1978) examines that people’s participation in planning and implementation of development projects has been very limited. Siddiquee (1995) observes the same findings in his study. His study also reveals that community people largely excluded from the project cycle. Committees in the project are mostly dominated by the members of the implementing agents. In totting up, project committees have been largely used as mechanisms of support distribution. Development projects have been a way for the community representatives to construct a future for themselves. He further clarified that existing economic, social and political contexts act as significant deterrents to grassroots’ contribution in the development process.

Asaduzzaman (2008) found that community’s participation in development projects is an unmoving ‘elusive golden deer’ that nation required persistently but fails to find during the last three decades or more. His study nevertheless, emphasized that clientelism which is a genuine undeviating product of the undemocratic political culture is a chief threat to people’s participation in development projects/programs. In adding up, the research also identifies political hesitate and bureaucrat resistance as key challenge to community’s participation in development projects.

Afsar (1999) in her research shows that community people’s involvement in local development activities is inadequate; community participation in the decision-making procedures has been very minimal. For the reason that the over-class bias and common bias and corruption there has been seriously neglect of the poor and the disadvantaged in the decision-making process. Khan (2009) identifies bureaucratic control in the local councils, lack of familiarity, and lack of
expertise in technical matters is the main causes for non-participation. Local elites form involvement with local administration for their own benefit and go around the needs of the mass. So the very little participation that exists is restricted only to the rich and participation of the rural poor is minimal there by leading to project failure as a result of lack of support of the mass which are the poor.

2.8 Summary

The above chapter has provided a wide impression on the important theories which have been put forward as a way of perceiving and assessing the participation practices and structures. The exertion presents a theoretical understanding of participation, matters of monitoring and assessment of participation as well analysing the complications to successful participation. The chapter has also provided a theoretical contact containing appropriateness of diverse levels and types of community participation in project planning and implementation. This is has been summarised using Arnstein 1969’s participation ladder. The following chapter is going to discussion and deal with information analysis of the findings. It will be prepared on themes, based on questions and research objectives that were used to direct the assessment.
CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

The major components covered within this chapter are as follows research design, data collection procedures, research instruments, data presentation and analysis, ethical considerations and limitations. The researcher employed both qualitative and quantitative methods so as to administer to the large population of ward 5 of Mwenezi District.

3.1 Research design

Research design provides the framework for the collection and analysis of data. The choice of a research design reflects decisions about priorities relating to a range of dimensions of the research process (Bryman, 2001). In a similar vein, Mouton (1996) highlighted that research design are a collection of guidelines that are to be followed when addressing research problem. Therefore it lends a hand to make right decision within the research process.

The researcher also used a quasi-experimental design as means to collect information in various consequences of community involvement in project implementation in the midst of particular attention to Plan International water, and hygiene sanitation projects (WASH) in ward 10 of Mwenezi District. This enhanced the researcher to give recommendation towards implementing partner and others who are also involved in local based development performance in Zimbabwe.

3.2 Population

According to Peterson (1982), population refers to a group of study bits and pieces about which research needs to make conjecture and from which research wishes to gather data. Punch (2003) moreover identifies population the same as the total target group which would, in the model
world be real subject of the research and whom one will be trying to utter something. Parahoo (1997) also identify population as the sum of number of unites from where information can be gathered. For instance according to the (Central statistical Office, 2012) the total average population in Masvingo Province is 12, 973, and 808 and in Mwenezi district is (19852), in ward 5 is (4840). The total number of households in ward 5 is 306, (Mwenezi Rural District Council). The research get involved 50 (fifty) households who represented a highest percentage of the target population.

3.3 Sampling technique

Chaudan (1996) in his research defined sampling the same as a regular way of deciding on a number of persons in a way that the huge population will definitely be be represented. Kumar et al (2003) insisted that generally researchers are restricted to a certain sample and/or subgroup of the given total population appropriate to the research enquiry rather than census of the whole population. Sampling methods are divided into two types which are as follows the non-probability method and the probability method. According to Kotler (2002), probability sampling method refers to the system whereby every one population member contains a known opportunity of being included in the given sample. In this case, probability sampling has been used and it included simple random sampling, judgemental sampling, stratified random sampling and also systematic random sampling technique among others. In this work the researcher used stratified random sampling method to make sure that the greater number of community households covering the entire area of projects operation with particular focus on Plan International’s water, sanitation and hygiene projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi District are included in the study.
The theory of stratified random sampling technique is based on division of a population into diverse groups known as strata, so with the aim of making each element of the population to belong to single and only one stratum (Bless and Higson-Smith, 1995). Within a single stratum random sampling is carried out using simply or interval sampling technique (Bless and Higson-Smith, 1995). Therefore, the researcher grouped community households into groups of those who just volunteered to involve themselves in Plan International’s water, sanitation and hygiene projects and those who have chosen not to. In view of the fact that the proportion of different strata within the sample have to be the same as for the population, the size of each and every strata is supposed to be the same as for the population; the size of each and every stratum will be calculated proportionate to the entire population by the formula.

\[ F = \frac{n}{N} \]

Where

\( F \) = ratio of the sample

\( n \) = size of the sample

\( N \) = size of population

Each group of the given population is going to be multiplied by this fraction so as obtain the matching category of non-participants and participants in projects operation in Plan International’s water, sanitation and hygiene that had a number totalling to 50.

3.3.1 Sample

Dirwai (2003) defines a research population as a huge collection of persons or objects which is the major focus of a scientific inquiry. Selecting sample is not merely time consuming as well as
expensive to examine every individual who is in the population, but it also impractical as a result sampling techniques should be employed. Bless and Hughson-Smith (1995) as this to say, the process of selection of a component from population is called random when each element/component of the population has the equal opportunity, or probability of being selected for the sample. For that reason, the researcher engaged the simple random technique, mainly the Table of Random Numbers technique to select the respondents from each and every stratum. Individual households in the ward were grouped into non-participants and participants in the implementation of Plan International’s water and sanitation projects and also assigned serial numbers. After the individual households were assigned sequential numbers and therefore the researcher then started the random selection process. The method allowed an opportunity to determine on the results of the selection procedure.

3.4 Research instruments
Research instruments are a term used to refer to the equipment for collecting information needed to acquire solutions to the problem in one’s study (Leedy, 1993). The research tools were selected in line with research design so as to collect relevant, valid and reliable. The research tools that were employed in this study are focus groups interviews, interviews and direct observations.

3.4.1 Questionnaires
The word questionnaire refers document with a collection of questions given out be it through the mail or hand posted for them to be responded to (Leedy, 1993). An example of a good questionnaire is expected to meet the chief objectives in the project as important needs to be taken as crucial when designing questionnaire. In this study, the researcher distributed the questionnaires by hand because it was the cheapest, reliable and easy method. Leedy (1993:187)
highlighted that, a questionnaire is an important instrument that can be used for observing research information away from the physical reach of the researcher. In this study, questionnaires were spread to individual households under a given selected sample in the ward. This research tool was used for the following: identify types of water, sanitation and hygiene projects carried out by Plan International in Mwenezi District’s ward 5 and measure the extent of the local participation through gauging nature of participation engaged by Plan International in implementation of its projects to project’s sustainability, success and other associated issues in light of the community’s development.

Through the use of questionnaires, the researcher was able to gather round the overall number of households who were in the chosen sample therefore a broader coverage of information was attained in a short period and this allowed the researcher to carefully analyse the researched information before the expiry of the study’s life span. More so, the issue that respondents were working on the similar collection of question clarity that data which was produced in this study is valid and reliable.

The use of self-administered questionnaire method by the researcher facilitated the researcher to do away with the restrictions that were probably going to be shambling in blocks data gathering using questionnaires. For instance the majority of population in ward 5 are illiterate, so the researcher translated the questions to participants’ appreciated language which in most cases is (Shona) and had to fill in the questionnaire on behalf of the citizens.

3.4.2 Interviews

According to Neumaen (2002), the word interview refers to a direct way of obtaining data through from a given person on face to face. The utilization of interviews is connected to the
expectation that in the course of semi-structured interviews, the interviewed people are likely to articulate their opinion spontaneously in an openly designed interviews circumstances. More so in this issue, Dirwai (2003) noted that interviews are conservation within which the interviewee is questioned by the interviewer in order to get the information needed in the research. Questions which are asked in the interviews will be already set before the interview and this enables and this allow similar questions to be given to all respondents. It also involves interviewing public who have got the understanding of the theme, as a result great value are being supplemented to the search. Great flexibility is needed to motivate despondence to reveal reliable and more information. Another advantage of using interviews include that the researcher can gather more information on verbal communication and non verbal community used by these respondent. More so, the interviews also had a benefit of ensuring that all questions asked are answered and there is inclusion of face to face communication between the one who is interviewing and the researcher therefore the researcher can repeated the question when the answer indicates misunderstanding of the respondent. The researcher documented the data she got from the interviews on her own as a means of minimizing mistakes. Due to financial constrains no tape records were used instead due to financial limitations and some pictures were taken from the community members who were rehabilitant the borehole in ward 5. Dirwai (2003) states that the respondents mighty think that they are intimidated by the weight of the questions and this will possibly lead to gathering of prejudiced data. To minimize these challenges, the researcher created an enabling environment of confidence by clarifying discussing the purpose as well as objectives of the research. The researcher also assured respondents that the data obtained is solely for educational purposes only.
3.4.3 Focus group discussions

In various ways focus cluster discussions played a significant part in the qualitative study approach. In this targeted study, the researcher use focus group discussion as an instrument based on one of the prominent advantages of it, thus focus group interviews expose how the cluster participated and viewed issues with which they are confronted. The researcher carried out group discussions together with other targeted key informant that were, the WASH Committee, trained village Pump minders, trained toilet builders as well as local leaders (the ward Councillor, the Chief and Headsman). Two formats were used in carrying out group discussions that are, group and individual discussions. The group was composed project team members while other key information for in this study instrument were to be approached individually.

The group sample was made small (varying from six and notes exceeding twenty) intentionally so that researcher will be able to guarantee control over debates and discussions, in view of the fact that the project committee was comprised of a larger number of members who were about 33.

Firstly the researcher consulted Plan International staff members as well as the ward councillor in order to facilitate her in the selection of an appropriate focus group before selected the group.

3.4.4 Direct observation

Grey (2004) defined observation the same as a scientific instrument which provide a formulated study purpose which is designed, systematically documentation and is related to the general set of attractive issues. Dirwai (2003) and also Mudhefi (2010) defined observation technique as a strategy which is used for capturing respondents’ behaviour in their general setting included before as well as after Plan International’s water and sanitation projects. According to Dirwai
(2003) there are two kinds of observation these are structured observation and participant observation. One can observe a cluster with unknowing that someone is observing their behaviour. This is important in that it assist to do away with subjectivity by the experiential group. More so, one can observe group’s actions after explaining to them that she actually wants to examine them. The benefit of this method is that it offers an opportunity for the researcher to seek explanation and clarification concerning unclear situations. The researcher was moving around households to identify chief features that shoe the improvements of water and sanitation in the ward. More so, for the rationale of this research, direct field observations were carried to determine the project site and what actually happened at project stage thus Plan International’s water and sanitation projects were to be identified as well as analysed based on their physical impact. Hence comprehensive information about project was collected.

3.5 Ethical considerations

- Several ethical codes observed and hold on to during the research which are as follows:
  - Requesting for clearance and permission from the relevant authorities
  - Seeking of the informants’ approval in taking part in the study.
  - Guarantying privacy and anonymity.
  - Guarantying the informants that there is no personal remuneration in taking part in the study
  - Contributors were informed about the objectives and purpose of the research to enable the researcher to get access to the informants without many challenges.
  - The researcher clarified to the informants that they are autonomous from participating as well as that they are liberated to stop at any phase from taking part in the research if they wish to.
3.6 Data presentation and analysis procedures

Cohen and Manion (1991) have this to say, information analysis is the procedure of simplify data so that it become comprehensive the study. The researcher used graphs, pie charts, plates and tables for each and every variable of concern in data analysis.

Information was evaluated taking into account themes created in the objectives as a means of putting in place a common thread which runs right through the entire project presentation. The perceptions and responses lifted up by the respondents were attended to the way they relate to the study topic. Tables used permitted the appearance of many variables as well as making any analysis, simple logical and clear. Plates played a vital role in the presentation of openly experienced water and sanitation services there by making all subsequent analysis reasonable and clear.

3.7 Summary

Chapter three provided the foundation on the way the research is to be conducted. The tools to be used in the study were examined as well as the idea of reliability and suitability of research tools employed in the research were discussed in depth. More so, the chapter explained data collection processes on conditions of sampling technique, collection of questionnaire, distribution of questionnaires as well as the weaknesses and strength of research tools as realistic approaches to information collection. Information analysis as well as presentation measures were also clarified in the chapter. The following chapter will be linked to this. The research design is going to be used throughout data gathering. The survey plan proved practical in unfolding the attitudes feelings and views of the given population. Chapter four is going focus on data presentation as well as interpretation.
CHAPTER IV

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter is going to present the analysis of data and discussion of the research findings. More so, chapter is organised in themes based on research questions and objectives used to guide in the assessment. Information was gathered using questionnaires, focus group interviews, interviews and direct observations. Graphs, pie charts tables and plates were used in presentation of data. The research linked the nature of community involvement and community contribution to sustainability of water and sanitation project at the same time as community development.

4.1 Demographic information of respondents

Figure 4.1 distributions of respondents by age

Source: Field Survey. (2014)
From Figure 4.1 the majority population of ward 5 of Mwenezi district is composed of the economically active age group. As a result this entails that, they are capable of to taking part in the implementation programme and give decisions designed to improve their wellbeing.

Table 4.1: Distribution of respondents by sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEX</th>
<th>FREQUENCY</th>
<th>PERCENTAGES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey. (2014)

From table 4.1 the majority of the respondents in the research were females. The irregular split across sexual category is not unanticipated since Mbugwa et al (1993) highlighted that, in Zimbabwe hygiene is generally considered to be ‘a women’s territory’ as a result men are not likely to offer their time responding to questions on questions which has something to do with hygiene.
Considering the data shown on figure 4.2, majority of respondents were uneducated. This entail that these people lack confident and educational skills to eagerly participate.

4.2 The types of wash projects implemented by plan international in ward 5 of Mwenezi District

The information obtained from interviews with Plan International officials, 66% of the officials revealed that, Plan international was dealing with a broad variety of activities beyond the narrow meaning of WASH. It has got many areas of activities which include borehole construction, hygiene and sanitation education, borehole rehabilitation, construction of improved pit latrine to vulnerable households and also construction of Upgradeable Blair Ventilated Improved Pit (UBVIP). Data from the interviews clarified that 20% of the community members now owned (UBVIPS), 70% owned blair toilets and 5% owned pit latrines and 5% did not have toilets
Figure 4.3 Water services after and before Plan International intervention

![Graph showing water services before and after Plan International intervention](image)

Source: Field Survey. (2014)

Figure 4.3 exemplify that borehole in Ward 5 of Mwenezi district has increased from 40 to 65 after Plan International’s intervention while other sources which include well, tap and dam did not increase in their numbers. Considering information from the interviews with 3 Plan International members, 70% of the information revealed that Plan International was involved in borehole construction and rehabilitation, training of village pump minders as well as provision education for the reliable operation and preservation of the water sources as well as provision hygiene training in relation to water utilization, storage, transportation and cleanliness. It must also be noted that through the training of village pump minders, boreholes which breakdown ware quickly attended to.

From the data gathered, 75% of the Rural District Council officials show that before Plan International’s water and sanitation projects in Ward 5 of Mwenezi district 75% of the previously constructed boreholes were non-functional due to pump breakages and the community was unable to repair (replace) instead they just maintained them as a result of lack of technical awareness. Hence people were suffering from water shortages as a result of the above.
In addition, 85% of the community members had to walk for very long distances of about over a kilometre to fetch water for domestic use from other villages in which the boreholes were still functional. For example, instances Gudo village as well as those from Chigara village had to travel to Tavagwisa village to fetch water from a borehole in Tavagwisa village which is about 2km and 3km away respectively. Due to unbearable long distances travelled, a lot of time was spent fetching water; as a result, it must be noted that, this is the time that might have been dedicated to some other activities as a way of improving the livelihood of the community. The councillor of ward 5 also stated that as a result of the issue water shortages, household were no longer able to work nutrition gardens and these gardens have collapsed in many villages and the community was left with no option to supplement their diets and their finance.

Plate 4.1: Water strains in ward 5 of Mwenezi before Plan International’s intervention.

*Source: Field Survey. (2014)*
Plate 4.5 Shows Community members from Gudo, Tavagwisa and Chigara villages queuing for water

This clarify the issue that it takes a lot of time for the community members to get water. According to the information which was revealed by the councillor ward 5, in trying to curb water problems in ward 5 of Mwenezi District, Plan International introduced a Community Based Management method to construct and develop water projects. Therefore 19 members in the ward were trained as pump minders were trained and a total 28 boreholes were rehabilitated and 16 boreholes were constructed.

Figure 4.2 Ward 5 village Pump Minders repairing a borehole on their own upon completion of their training.

Source: Field Survey (2014)

In the above case the community members were empowered with technological skills to be accountable of their welfare through borehole rehabilitation. Ward 5 village pump minders testified that Plan International has assisted them to do away with water problems in the in the ward on their own and they went on saying that they are pleased to deal with such organisations which equip them with expertise to take care of their welfare when the project had come to an end.
From the information gathered, 100% of Plan International agents explore that the general construction of boreholes was completed by the external contractors and also that UNICEF was responsible for all the funds to facilitate the projects. Plan International is the one which was responsible for purchasing borehole parts such as hand pumps, cylinders, cement and also safety clothes during borehole construction. In the process, the community was also included and the community of ward 5 was responsible for provision of labour during construction.

**Figure 4.4 Forms of community voluntary contributions**

![Pie chart showing forms of community voluntary contributions]

Source: Field Survey. (2014)

Figure 4.6 above indicates that the majority population of respondents willingly contributed both in labour and cash. (Clayton et al, 1998) argued that generally there is acknowledgment that if participation is one term the other an objective of community development projects, It must be monitored and also evaluated. Considering those who decided not to contribute, the reasons for that were given as: being poor as a reason was that unable to contribute in cash and others gave reasons of being so were unable to provide labour.

Using information gathered from interviews with the councillor, 70% of the information shows that labour, contributions was included the fencing of a water point, removal of excavated
material, provision of locally accessible resources which includes sand and stone, fetching water for construction as well as provision of catering for the construction team. The community also provided labour in land clearance using hoes, axes, and excavating using digging tools, shovels and picks. According to the interview information from the councillor ward 5 of Mwenezi District, the community the work was hard and tiresome but the community committed themselves up until the completion of borehole construction because they knew that they are the ones who were going to benefit from the project. The councillor also clarified in the interview that from the way the community was participating, it was clear that they were taking the project as theirs not the donor’s project he emphasised that there was high level of community cooperation and commitment.

In terms of cash donations the research noted that, the payment differed from village to village mainly because the population of residents in different villages differs. For instance Chigara village is comprised of the highest number of people in the ward hence chances are high that its residents possibly contribute less amount of money in contrast to other villages, Giving example each household in these villages contributed US$1 for the construction cost while in other village as Chigara, Tavagwisa, Mativenga and Chirimigwa contributed US$2 per household.

Money which was contributed was used for buying food to cater for the project contractors as well as rehabilitators. Commodities such as mealie-meal, relish and soap for washing hands after work has been bought. Entirety the community members contributed 35% of the project’s costs.

Using data from the interviews with the Mwenezi Rural District officials, 70% of the information revealed that accessibility and availability of water in Ward 5 of Mwenezi District had improved after Plan International’s intervention. Also Members who were interviewed witnessed that the
community is no longer facing water problems as before and they are now travelling bearable
distances for water because non-functional boreholes were repaired and some new boreholes
were constructed. The construction and rehabilitation of boreholes was based on the view that
that each and every borehole was going to supply at least 250 to 350 people on an average 300 to
400 metres.

4.3 Provision of Hygiene Education Relating to Water Transportation, Use Storage as
well as Cleanliness of the containers

Considering information from the community, 80% of the respondents acknowledged that they
get, hygiene education in relation to water use, transportation, storage and cleanliness of
containers, 75% of the Rural District officials highlighted that a person was regarded to have
chance to improved water, hygiene and sanitation services if she/he has got access to:-

- To a container which can be closed which will be used for transportation and storage of
  water
- A water extraction instrument which is non-corrosive (in case of protected wells)
- The Cleaning of the extraction container before fetching water from the source

4.4 Sanitation Projects in Ward 5 before and After Plan International’s intervention
Figure 4.5 show sanitation projects before and after Plan International’s intervention

(Clayton et al, 1998) observed participation as a tool to destroy poor people’s exclusion and absence of access over possessions required to empower people to take additional control over their livelihood. It must be noted that the training of latrine builders and pump minders means the community can now maintain their water and sanitation status in the district.

From figure 4.7, latrines increased in number subsequent to Plan International’s intervention. Furthermore, Plan International also introduced new hygiene projects in the ward which include training of toilet builders as well as hygiene education in the district.

Using the data which was gathered by the researcher 34% of the Plan International officials disclosed that, 248 toilet Builders were trained 24 of them are from to ward 5. It must be noted that this improved the sanitation status in the ward since 33 UBVIP latrines were constructed. The latrine constructors were paid by Plan international for a 1 month contract. The councillor
ward 5 emphasized that despite the fact that the contract came to an end, the latrine builders has benefited the skills which they will continue using in the future to develop their society.

Mohammad (2003) also asserted that in this case, an effective, efficient management and development project primarily depends on proper community involvement in project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. As a result of the above, norms, values, social belief and perspectives of the local people which are affected either directly or indirectly by development interventions will be considered for the sustainability, development projects and success of the project. Thus the above achievements were made possible through community participation.

**Plate 4.4 is a temporary hand washing facility introduced by Plan International in ward 5 of Mwenezi district.**

Source: Field Survey (2014)

Plate 4.2 is a ward 4 committee member washing hands after using the toilet. Using data from the interviews with the implementing partner officials, one of the officials had been quoted saying: we have discovered that construction of toilets without inclusion of hand washing facilities will be in vain so hand washing facilities were also to be constructed to fully implement the essence of hygiene.
4.4.1 Hygiene Education

Using information from the community, 80% of the community members acknowledged that they got awareness campaigns from Plan International concerning environmental safety education, personal hygiene, as well as kitchen hygiene. The community of ward 5 was also taught to maintain grass around their homes short, to have refused free environment, to drain stagnant water, to be personally smart and clean, to keep the food covered using a clean cloth or plate if it is not ready for eating. In addition, the community was taught to have rubbish pits located correctly, to clean their latrines every day as well as washing of hands using soap of ashes soon after using the latrine. Community Health Clubs (CHC) were formed at village levels to maintain hygiene in the village.

Information acquired from interviews with focus groups, 75% of the groups show that hygiene and sanitation conditions had greatly improved in ward 5 after Plan International’s water and sanitation projects. Many members from these group discussions testified that their ways of living have now been improves as they now know the way they should keep their houses and surrounding area clean to raise the standard of their hygiene.

4.5 Nature of community participation

In establishing the connection stuck between the nature of local participation and the sustainability of sanitation, water and hygiene projects and as well as societal development. The study observed project planning procedures, management and implementation strategies put in place by Plan International in its water hygiene projects and sanitation projects in ward 5 of
Mwenezi District. This specifically has to do with examining methods used by Plan International for community participation issues in WASH projects.

4.5.1 Community involvement in Planning as well as Decision Making

Figure 4.6 Community involvement in Planning as well as Decision Making

![Pie chart showing community involvement](image)

Figure 4.9 Show that the community was consulted before the projects were implemented in the ward. Using researched information, the researcher found out that the majority despondences have been included in the planning and decision making process.

Data from the interviews with 3 Plan International officials highlight that, 80% of the community members were included during decision making process through public meetings, the community was involved in decision making process in terms of project designing for instance selection of a suitable place for construction of a borehole, the type technology to be applied and choosing the type of technology.
4.5.2 Types of Community Participation in Planning and Decision Making

4.5.3 Selecting the construction place

According to the World Bank (2004) the communities are the ones who know their environment most excellent than anybody else and can recognize the potential ground water areas. Data from the interviews with the implementing partner reveals that, the community in ward 5 were given power above selecting the construction places for water projects. For instance borehole contractors were assigned to construct a borehole after the community had chosen a construction place for them instead of seeking technological support which will be used for operation of topographic surveys as it was examined that many water sources which were constructed earlier than Plan International’s projects in ward 5 were dying during the summer seasons.

It must also be noted that the issue of including the community in selection of a suitable place for construction of a borehole was to try and make sure that the borehole will be accessible to a greater population of the community.

It must also be noted that consulting the community concerning the issue of construction place is very important since some places in the community will be reserved for cultural sites. This is supported by an incident which the councillor ward 0f ward 5 has given that an engineer employed by Practical Action encountered a problem for not consulting the local community in selecting the suitable place for construction of a borehole and his team constructed on an area which was traditionally sate aside for graves. This was resource wastage thus the above tells us how important to it is to involve the community in these projects.

4.5.4 Selection of the type of technology
According to the ward councillor ward 5, the community members were asked their priority in choosing the type of technology among them were hand dug well, dip well, taped water and boreholes. Each and every type of technology was charged and the community members would then select the suitable technology based on the ability to pay 3% - 7% of the construction charges of the project, the disadvantages advantages of each technology were also considered.

### 4.5.1.4 Figure 4.7: community Priority on the type of technology.

![Pie chart showing community priority on the type of technology]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technology</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borehole</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep Well</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shallow Well</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand Dug Well</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From figure 4.8 above shows that the majority of the respondents preferred borehole technology. The main reason was that a borehole produces the most portable water though it is costly considering the issue of construction and maintenance. According to (Arnstein, 1969), local people are given control and power over in decision making. The community people may prefer to partner, consult or manipulate inform. For example in the case of Plan International’s water and sanitation projects, the community members can ask the appropriate types of projects to be carried out in their community. According to the ward councillor ward 5, the implementing partner which is Plan
International considered the community’s priority of type of technology to be employed which is borehole construction and rehabilitation.

4.5.5 Community Involvement in the project implementation process.

Data from the interview with the ward councillor show that 80% of the community was consulted on how they were going to plan the work during the project implementation. The councillor also highlighted that there was partnership between the community and the implementing partner in planning how the work was going to be done for them to achieve a common goal of provision of water sanitation and hygiene to the entire community.

Basing on the results from interviews with the implementing partner, 70% of the information show that shows that the community voluntary contribution was 3% of the project’s cost based on viability of the project. The local people also made voluntary contributions in both labour and cash. There was a cordial relationship between the community and the implementing partner.

The community also formed a 90% of the group of facilitators to manage the project work as well as coordinating the community to make contributions in monitory forms were there was need. This group is called the Ward Water Supply and Sanitation Committee (WWSSC). Each of the 18 villages which the ward is made up of had a representative in the (WWSSC) and the councillor of the ward is the chair person of the committee. These water and sanitation committee members are also responsible for taking care of the water points and made sure that the water point is maintained when it break down.
4.5.6 WASH Committee

WASH Committee as used in this research refers to a combined community, water, hygiene and sanitation services related to water, sanitation and hygiene projects implementers who will be, taking care of the project in a given catchment area of the project implementation.

4.5.7 WASH Committee duties

According to interviews with the implementing partner, WASH Committee is mainly concerned with community based management (CBM). A training workshop was done by Plan International for the entire district. The overall objectives of the workshop were to disseminate experience and knowledge in the maintenance and implementation of WASH projects. The workshop was a seven day workshop which took place at Maranda High School.

Upon the finishing point of the workshop, all WASH Committee members were expected be having a general understanding and knowledge responsibilities and roles which were generally cited as:

- To assist the development of the water and sanitation projects
- To act as link between the community and Plan International official
- Mobilisation of resources and coordination of people to facilitate development of the project
- To supervise and support the maintenance and operation of project.
- To educate as well as supporting hygiene education
- To ensure that a cordial relationship among the community members for the achievement of the project implementation by resolving the conflicts as well as misunderstandings.
Data from the interview with the WASH Committee indicated that Plan International officials taught the community members about the value of having regulations and on the issue to do with taking care of water points and water supply services. Following this, rules and regulations were put in place as a way to preserving and taking good care of the water source.

- No bathing or washing should be done at the water point
- No one should vandalise materials which will be used for protecting the water point.
- Duties should be put in place for cleaning the water point enforcement measures should be for hindrance in payment of cash contributions.

The penalty could result in one paying a goat or a hen to the respective village heads in these villages. The penults which goods were paid to the committee were sold and the cash channelled to the project construction. Thus this clarified that the project viability was being attained through local monitoring and management.

4.5.8 Practice of Local participation meetings

Using data gathered through the interviews with the implementing partner, WASH Committee held meetings to introduce issues relating to the development requirements of the projects. The meetings were done twice per month.

4.5.9 Community feedback methods

Using data gathered through the interviews with the councillor, a numerous community feedback devices were used by the water and sanitation Committee. These include village report back gathering by respective committee associates, report back meetings were also done by the village
heads that will in turn hold village report centred meetings with the community members as well as report back gathering by the ward councillor in the entire ward.

4.5.10 WASH Committee Information organizational and management Systems

Using data gathered through the interviews with the WASH Committee, records minutes were taken for every meeting held by the WASH committees be it at ward or village levels. More so, the records of the number of people who were attending these meetings were recorded. However, the proceedings of the meeting were hand-written since the community does not have the suitable equipment provisions to produce more professional documents. It must also be noted that there were no tactical plans pointing how each and every projects was prioritised as well as the implementation plan which include the funding methods as well as resource contribution. The data management which included record keeping scheme was said to be poor, this was witnessed by the ward WASH Committee Secretary of war 5 who lost the minutes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEEDBACK STRATEGY</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community represented gatherings</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review of the community’s grievance</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community contentment on reviews</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the table 4.2 above, community report back was not inefficient since the numerous respondents reported to be not pleased by review of their grievances. Bopi village, headman it was witnessed that they do not obtain any feedback concerning the use of their contributions towards the projects’ development and this might cause conflicts amongst community members.
and also others can end up reluctant to contribute. Thus the delegate participation hampers effective community participation.

4.6 Community Participation during Project Implementation

Figure 4.9 illustrates that, the community were to a larger extent participating in the project implementation procedures, given that the bigger number of respondents which comprised 90% of the sample respondents thought that they were considered in the implementation course.

From the dialogue with WASH Committee, the local participation in project implementation of Plan International’s WASH projects presented supply of unskilled labour during construction of boreholes, contribution in cash to pay for the project needs, participation in numerous training programmes as well as actual implementation of projects activities as recipients of Plan International’s WASH projects. This form of participation is considered a prototype of participation as “contribution” or useful participation (Pretty, 1995). Dale (2004) also gave an idea that participation during this stage is mostly used as” a means” to attain project objectives effectively and economically.
The above Fig 4.1 illustrates that, the popular of respondents who make up 90% of the sample respondents were not in the management course. The main cause was that, the managerial responsibilities were reserved for the WASH Committee, the project agents and other local leaders who include headsman and the chiefs. This clarifies that the community control in the course of projects rest in the hands of few. Therefore this stage is where community involvement can generally be identified to be imperfect to the lower levels of the participation ladder contributing to ‘passive participation’ since the majority of local communities fail to play in ‘active role’ in such a stage. This entail that Plan’s International’s project management scheme could not offer enough opportunity for ward 5 citizens to play an active role in management stage.
4.7 Summary

This chapter has presented data analysis and discussion of the research findings. The chapter was organised in themes based on research questions and objectives which were used to guide in the assessment. Information which was gathered from questionnaires, focus group interviews, interviews and direct observations has been presented in this chapter. An analysis of the findings was objectively made in relation to the views of other scholars presented in the second chapter. The researcher also incorporated her own views on the findings arrived at. Graphs, pie charts tables and plates were used in data presentation. The research linked the nature of community involvement and community contribution to sustainability of water and sanitation project as well as community development. The next chapter is going to give a summary of highlighting the major parts of all chapters. It also gives the conclusion as well as recommendations.
CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter is a closing chapter to the study; it is going to give a summary of the research highlighting the major parts of all chapters. It also going to give the conclusion as well as broad outline of recommendations based on the findings of the study.

5.1 Summary

The major thrust of this study was mainly to assess the community’s participation in projects planning and implementation giving particular attention to Plan International’s water and sanitation projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi District. The research recognized the fact that bottom up approach is a prerequisite towards projects success hence thus announcing top down nature a stumbling block to project success.

In chapter 1, the researcher introduced the stages which were going to be followed during the research process. This Chapter 1 cover up the background of study and it focused on the input of the community in the project cycle. The first chapter presented an overview of internationally, nationally, regionally and the exact area of the study. It also highlighted the statement of the problem, the objectives of this study, the significance of the study and conclusion. The aim of the study included the identification of the types of projects water and sanitation projects which are being implemented by Plan International’s, evaluate the nature of community contribution in Plan International’s WASH projects as well as exploring the problems that hinders community participation in project planning and implementation.

The second chapter of chapter of the project provided a wide impression on the important theories which have been put forward as a way of perceiving and assess the participation practices and structures. It also
presented a theoretical understanding of participation, matters of monitoring and evaluation of participation as well analysing the complications to successful participation. The chapter is prepared to provide a theoretical contact containing appropriateness of diverse levels and types of community participation in project planning and implementation. The issue of participation was summarised using Arnstein 1969’s participation ladder the lader has got stages of participation that is from manipulation where the implementing agents will be having power to dictate over community up to partnership where the community work hand in clove with the implementing agents towards project success.

The major components covered in the third chapter of the research include research design, data collection procedures, research instruments, data presentation and analysis, ethical considerations as well as limitations. The researcher employed both qualitative and quantitative methods so as to administer to the large population of ward 5 of Mwenezi District. A sample size of 52 has been used in the study. Major stakeholders in these water and sanitation projects have been asked to prove the researcher with information pertaining to these projects. All the respondents are from Mwenezi District and included the DA, local authority members, Plan International members, the councillor ward 5 as well as the community members in ward 5.

Chapter 4 dealt with data presentation and analysis of the research findings. The chapter is organised in themes based on research questions and objectives used to guide in the assessment. Information in this chapter was gathered using questionnaires, focus group interviews, interviews and direct observations. Graphs, pie charts tables and plates were used in presentation of data. The research linked the nature of community involvement and community contribution to sustainability of water and sanitation project at the same time as community development.

The study acknowledged the types of water and sanitation projects implemented by Plan International in ward 5 of Mwenezi District and discovered that Plan International was employed with a wide range of activities outside the narrow meaning of WASH. This chapter has shown
Plan International has got multiple regions of activates some of them were completely new in the district these included hygiene and sanitation education as well as training of latrine builders village pump minders. It also dealt with rehabilitation of the already existing non-functional boreholes. The project also raised standards of water and sanitation in the district through borehole drilling as well as construction of the upgradeable Blair Ventilated Improved Pit (UBVIP) vulnerable households.

The research also weighs up the nature of local participation embarked on by Plan International in carrying out of its WASH projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi district. The study identified a high level of community participation in the intact project meaning from project decision making and project planning as well as maintenance and operation, attributes which often lacks in numerous development projects.

5.2 Conclusion

Plan International has improved community participation in the project cycle, the level of community participation has raised from informing where the implementers just inform the community that a certain project is going to be carried up to partnership where the implementing agent will be working hand in glove with the community during decision making as well as in the implementation process. There is still need to improve community participation in the project cycle especially during the planning stage. There are also some community members who are reluctant to participative in water and sanitation projects and these members has contributed neither cash nor labour during project implementation yet there are among the beneficiaries. The
fact that these people will be benefiting at the expense of others discourages other community members to contribute.

In addition problems have risen in different water and sanitation committees which were formed in the ward. WASH Committee community report back techniques seemed to be ineffective this is mainly due to high rate of illiteracy among the committee members. Research findings show that some VWSSC members are unable to read and write. In addition many water point committees have been destroyed by conflicts caused by lack of accountability among group members.

Plan International’s strategies of addressing water, sanitation and hygiene in the district are very effective. The introduction of UBVIP which is affordable to construct made it easy for many households to have latrines. In addition, Plan International has guarantee the availability of water, sanitation and hygiene in the district by giving the community members expertise through training of latrine builders, village pump minders, formation of community health clubs, hygiene campaigns as well as formation of water point committees. Plan International has raised the status of water and sanitation in the district by 40% in Mwenezi District. Research findings show that there is still need to improve water and sanitation in the district since about 5% of the community members in ward 5 are having no toilets. This can lead to spread of diseases even to those who have the toilets. Also, 15% of the community are still travelling more than 2km to get water.

The researcher’s findings indicated that Plan International’s WASH projects has partake a pivotal role in provision of community development, improved, sanitation, hygiene and water services. The community also get expertise of toilet building, borehole maintenance as well as
good hygiene practices. The community was made self-sufficient since they now had skills they were now enabled to continue take responsibility care their welfare.

Plan International’s projects implementation approach was suitable to local needs and capable of mobilising local resources to hold up the poor so that by empowering them and including them in participation, they will be free from deprivation predicament that they were once in.

The research also weighs up the nature of local participation embarked on by Plan International in carrying out of its WASH projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi district. The study identified a high level of community participation in the intact project meaning from project decision making and project planning as well as maintenance and operation, attributes which often lacks in numerous development projects.

5.3 Recommendations

The researcher recommended that to ensure success of project goals, outcomes, outputs as well as long term viability of the project, there should be a positive impact on effective community participation towards the project.

In an attempt to upgrade the quality of improved project management scheme such that the society highly support the project, the implementing partner must involve the entire beneficiaries in the project management system so that they believe that they have full control of their community and possession of the projects.
Any Organisations functioning within the structure of bottom up approach in countryside development plan must hold up the society through provision of essential office corresponding and consumable techniques on the significance of essential administrative management practices.

Plan International in its new projects must hold up community consciousness on the significance of effective community report back and feedback strategies.

There is need for all community members to effectively participate in their voluntary contributions towards the project cost there won’t be delays in the rehabilitation of boreholes. More so measures must be put in place to ensure that all community members have participated towards the betterment of the project so all community will work in harmony without complaining for suffering on behalf of others.

Society project facilitators require to have improved educational standards as well as leadership skills to guarantee effective negotiations among project initiators and also able to provide successful project feedback to the entire community.
LIST OF REFERENCES


Wekwete (1990)


APPENDIX III

Interview guide for Councillor Ward 5

Good morning/afternoon Sir/Madam. My name is Praize Makavire, a final year student at Midlands State University and doing my Honours Degree in BSc Local Governance Studies. I am carrying out a research and the research topic reads, Community participation in project planning and implementation: an appraisal of Plan International’s water, sanitation and hygiene projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi District. This interview therefore seeks to find your views on the subject. Information given herein will be treated as confidential. This research is solemnly for academic purposes.

1. What type of water and sanitation projects are being implemented by Plan International in your ward?

2. What part are you taking in the project as a ward representative?

3. How do you select beneficiaries for UBVL?

4. Is community participation beneficial to the success of the project?

5. What are the complexities to community participation?

6. As the Ward Water and Sanitation Committee Chair, what problems have you come across that hinders effective community participation in water and sanitation projects?

7. What improvements had been brought as a result of Plan International’s water and sanitation projects in ward 5?
APPENDIX IV

Interview guide for The District Administrator

Good morning/afternoon Madam my name is Praize Makavire, I’m currently doing Local Governance Studies at Midlands State University. I am doing a research project titled: Community participation in project planning and implementation. An appraisal of Plan International’s water, sanitation and hygiene projects in Mwenezi districts’ ward 10. This interview therefore seeks to find your views on the subject. Information given herein will be treated as confidential. This research is solemnly for academic purposes.

1. To what extent is the community participating in water and sanitation project in Mwenezi districts?

2. What types of water and sanitation projects are being implemented by Plan International in the district?

3. As the District Water and Sanitation Committee Chair, what problems have you come across that hinders effective community participation in water and sanitation projects?
4. What can be done to solve those problems?

3. As the District Water and Sanitation Committee Chair, how do you choose beneficiaries (wards) for water and sanitation projects?

5. To what extent are the projects contributing to the improvement of water and sanitation in the district?

APPENDIX V

Interview guide for the local authority (Mwenezi District Council officials)

Good morning/afternoon Sir/Madam. My name is Praize Makavire, a final year student at Midlands State University and doing my Honours Degree in BSc Local Governance Studies. I am carrying out a research and the research topic reads, Community participation in project planning and implementation: an appraisal of Plan International’s water, sanitation and hygiene projects in ward 5 of Mwenezi District. This interview therefore seeks to find your views on the subject. Information given herein will be treated as confidential. This research is solemnly for academic purposes.

1. As Plan International’s patner in water and sanitation projects, what part are you taking in implementation of water and sanitation projects?

2. How do you select beneficiaries for the water and sanitation projects?

3. How do you involve the community in water and sanitation projects?

4. As a local authority what problems have you come across that hinders effective community participation in water and sanitation projects?

5. What form of education are you providing to the community as part of the project?