

**FACTORS INFLUENCING THE PERFORMANCE OF DONKEY WELFARE
PROJECTS: THE CASE OF HESHIMU PUNDA PROJECT IN MWEA WEST
SUB-COUNTY, KIRINYAGA COUNTY, KENYA**

BY

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**A Research Project Report Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
the Award of Master of Arts Degree in Project Planning and Management of the
University of Nairobi**

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DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has never been submitted in any University or College for examination.



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This research project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the University supervisor.

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DEDICATION

The success of this research report is dedicated to my father Julius, mother Rhoda, siblings Eunice, Lawrence and Jerries and girlfriend Winfred for their encouragement throughout my study. God bless you.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ANAW	Africa Network for Animal Welfare
EU	European Union
FAWC	Farm Animal Welfare Council
HP	Heshimu Punda (Respect the donkey)
KENDAT	Kenya Network for Dissemination of Agricultural Technologies
KSPCA	Kenya Society for the Protection and Care of Animals
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Services
NGOs	Non -Governmental Organizations
OIE	The World Organization for Animal Health
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
WSPA	World Society for the Protection of Animals
WTO	World Trade Organization

ABSTRACT

Animal welfare, refers to the ability of an animal to cope with its current living conditions. An animal is in a good state of welfare if it is comfortable, safe, healthy, and well nourished. Such an animal is free from distress, pain, and fear, and can express innate behavior. Consequently, good animal welfare requires humane handling of animals, provision of shelter, proper nutrition, and prevention of diseases according to The World Organization for Animal Health, OIE (2015). Mankind has used donkeys for thousands of years and hence they have been a very important facet of the human livelihood. Donkeys around the world and in particular Kirinyaga County were used majorly as a means of transport. Despite all the usefulness, the welfare of donkeys was never a priority to the owners, this led to the formation of several animal welfare organizations to champion the rights of animals the world over. Heshimu Punda is one of the projects that address donkey welfare issues in Mwea West sub-county of Kirinyaga County. Despite the project being there for several years, the welfare of donkeys seemed not to have improved much. This study therefore sought to look at the factors that influence the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West Sub-County, Kirinyaga County. The specific objectives of the study were: To determine the influence of donkey owners' perceptions on the performance of donkey welfare projects; To determine the influence of donkeys' contribution to owner/user livelihood on the performance of donkey welfare projects; To determine the influence of rise in demand for donkey products on the performance of donkey welfare projects; and to determine the influence of owner/user training on the performance of donkey welfare projects. This study would enlighten the existing animal welfare projects on the areas to focus so as to improve the performance of their projects as well as adding to the available literature on the topic of study. The study was anchored on the Kantian theory and Utilitarianism and the researcher discussed how the two theories were related to the study topic. A descriptive study design was used for the study and the target population for the research study was one thousand five hundred (1500) donkey owners/users in Mwea West Sub-County. Krecjie and Morgan formula was used to determine the sample size for the donkey owners while a census was done for project officers, the chief and the veterinary officers. Both qualitative and quantitative data was collected using semi-structured questionnaires, key informants and observation, quantitative data was coded into SPSS v25 for analysis using descriptive study design while qualitative data was analyzed thematically, where coding was done and then themes developed based on the content of the data. The study found out that donkey owner' perceptions, donkeys' contribution to owner/user livelihood, demand for donkey products and owner/user level of training had influence of on the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea west Sub-County in Kirinyaga County. Donkey owners' perception affects how they treat the donkeys; donkeys contributed largely to the livelihood of the donkey owners and users. The findings of this study will be of help to the donors and other stakeholders as they will help them to mainstream their programming to ensure donkey owners and users change their attitude thereby improving the performance of the donkey welfare projects. The findings of this study will provide policy makers and implementers at County and National level with information that they will use to ensure that donkey owners and users have the necessary knowledge and skills to handle their donkeys well. The study has built on the existing knowledge and literature and also suggests areas of further study and research. The recommendations of the study were that there is need for more sensitization and training to donkey owners/users on donkey welfare issues. In addition, lobbying to the government should be done to improve policies that protect the welfare of donkeys.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Animal welfare, according to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), refers to the ability of an animal to cope with its current living conditions. An animal is in a good state of welfare if it is comfortable, safe, healthy, and well nourished. Such an animal is free from distress, pain, and fear, and can express innate behavior. Consequently, good animal welfare requires humane handling of animals, provision of shelter, proper nutrition, and prevention of diseases (OIE, 2015). Animal welfare is an intricate issue which has implications on scientific, ethical, economic and political dimensions. According to the Farm Animal Welfare Council, animal welfare is about the state of physical and mental well-being of animals and is also referred to as an animal's "quality of life" (FAWC, 2009).

There are estimated to be 44 million donkeys in the world, almost all of which are maintained for work. China has the highest population (eleven million) followed by Ethiopia (five million). For the past thirty years (and more) there has been a gradual but consistent growth in donkey numbers. The main areas of increase have been in sub-Saharan Africa, the north of the Indian subcontinent and the tropical highlands of Latin America. This has more than offset the decline in the Mediterranean region. In the past thirty years there has been a three-fold increase in the Sahelian zone of West Africa. Rapid increases have also been seen in some southern African states. Major declines in donkey populations have been reported in Turkey and southern Europe (Starkey and Starkey, 2012). According to the livestock census of 2009, the number of donkeys in Kenya is 1,832,519 and in Kirinyaga County the number is 4,019 (kendat.org). Despite the heavy reliance on equines in Kenya, they are often affected by poor welfare including wounding and bruising from misuse and abuse, malnutrition, dehydration, diseases, hoof abnormalities, eye conditions and respiratory problems.

Performance of donkey welfare projects was a relatively new area of research, but just like any other project, the measurement indicators depended on the desired outcomes. The KPIs were completed within time, schedule and budget. However, Afaq (2013)

asserts that performance of a project should be based on it meeting the technical specification and meeting the stakeholders' expectation. For purposes of this research study, the performance of donkey welfare projects was looked at in terms of reduced donkey suffering, reduced donkey deaths, reduced donkey theft, improved donkey health and increased donkey population.

A recent area that has increased exponentially was the consumption of donkey meat and skin products in the Asian market place. This was reflected in the amount of recent articles published on the subject, with a total of 11 articles mainly coming from Italy, Turkey, and Spain. The baseline price for donkeys has increased dramatically in developing countries leading to large numbers of donkeys once used for draft purposes being sent for slaughter and their products being exported to Asia. The increased demand has impacted the global population of donkeys with outsourcing to many developing countries with large populations of working donkeys. In many countries throughout Africa, donkey slaughterhouses have been set up and have created additional welfare concerns for the donkeys (Wang et al, 2014).

Donkey welfare initiatives had been implemented in Kirinyaga County for almost twenty years addressing increased cases of donkey theft, mistreatment, and poor handling which have posed a serious threat to communities' social and economic life. Donkey welfare has to do with ensuring the safety of donkeys through good shelter, fodder availability, availability of clean drinking water, and good harnessing practices such as the use of appropriate carts and harnesses that are donkey friendly and vet service (Grandin, 2013). The main challenge faced by donkey owners in Kirinyaga County was loss of donkeys through theft as a result of demand for donkey products in Europe and Asia. In the recent past, demand for donkey skin has escalated in many parts of the world, which had also put donkey lives at risk. Researchers had indicated that donkey skin was used in the production of an anti-aging Chinese product known as ejiao (Wu, 2005 and Yang 2003) and that following the decreased supply of donkeys in China, the Chinese had turned to Africa to supplement their supplies. This of course, came as a huge challenge to donkey owners in terms of safety of their equines who contributed so much socially and economically.

According to Webster, (2011) addressing donkey welfare problems was a considerable challenge because these welfare problems and remedies were all mediated by humans. In this regard, resolving donkey welfare problems was about changing human behavior. The way that humans manage their animals in different parts of the world was a synthesis of cultural norms, experience, learning, received wisdom and trial and error and was dependent on income and access to resources. Management of the donkeys was based around routines which are often planned to deliver convenience for humans rather than to address the complex needs of the animals. Kenya had the highest number of donkey slaughterhouses in Africa, with at least five spread across the country in Nakuru, Turkana, Baringo, and, most recently, one abattoir has been set up in Machakos County. “The crave for donkey products was hurtling out of control. The growing demand was insatiable and the number of donkeys being slaughtered legally was rising by day, while donkey theft was spiraling across the country,” Samuel Theuri, an advocacy officer at the Brooke East Africa says.

Human training can play an important role in creating a compassionate and caring society which would take benign responsibility for ourselves, each other, our fellow animals and the earth. When animals were abused and badly treated in a home, there’s a strong chance that people were also being abused in that home by way of child abuse, spouse abuse, and/or abuse of the elderly. When a home was not a safe and caring place for animals it was not a safe and caring place for people either. Animal welfare training promotes knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes and values related to human involvement in the lives of animals. It included the effects on animals’ abilities to satisfy their needs, and human responsibilities as a result. It could bring about beneficial changes in the treatment of animals at the hands of humans, but can stop short of bringing about lasting attitudinal change – especially if carried out in an instructional or piecemeal way (Fraser, 2008).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The phrase ‘beasts of burden’ described the utility of donkeys as pack animals in many parts of the world as they play a significant economic and social role in the transport of water, building materials, relief supplies, animal feeds and other critical supplies. In Mwea West Sub-County, donkeys suffered welfare related challenges such as poor

harnessing, overloading and whipping which affect their health and physical well-being, as well as productivity. Despite the fact that several NGOs had put projects in place to enlighten the owners and users on the importance of taking good care of donkeys, the uptake of these initiatives was still low among donkey owners and users. Implementers of donkey welfare projects had taken major strides especially in trainings on donkey harnessing, on appropriate load, on handling and also on donkey safety through construction of good lockable shelters where donkeys were able to rest after work and also at night. However, there still remained a challenge since donkey users had not utilized the gained skills and knowledge to care for their donkeys. They continued to overwork them, failed to give them necessary veterinary care and underfed them thus affecting the welfare of donkeys. In addition, safety of donkeys remained a concern among donkey owners, following the licensing of donkey abattoirs in different parts of the country such as Machakos, Baringo, Naivasha and Turkana. These abattoirs depended on donkeys that had either been bought from willing owners or stolen (Standard Media, January 2019). Over time, donkey owners had been unwilling to sell their prized assets and this had contributed to increased cases of donkey theft in different parts of the country in order to facilitate the continued operations of the abattoirs at the expense of donkey owners' livelihood. Several non-governmental organizations including KENDAT, Practical Action, and Brooke had started projects to improve the welfare of donkeys seeking to improve the welfare of the working equines even though the intervention seemed to yield minimal results. It was in this regard therefore that the researcher sought to undertake the study to unearth the factors influencing the performance of the donkey welfare projects in Mwea West Sub-County in Kirinyaga County.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study was to investigate the factors influencing the performance of donkey welfare projects, the case of Heshimu Punda Project in Mwea West sub county, Kirinyaga County.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The study was guided by the following objectives:

- i. To establish the influence of donkey owners' perceptions on the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County.
- ii. To assess the influence of donkeys' contribution to owners' livelihood on the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County.
- iii. To establish the influence of the rise in demand for donkey products on the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County.
- iv. To assess the influence of training among donkey owners/users on the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County.

1.5 Research questions

- i. To what extent does donkey owners' perceptions influence the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County?
- ii. To what extent does contribution of donkeys to owners' livelihood influence the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County?
- iii. To what extent does the rise in demand of donkey products influence the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County?
- iv. To what extent does training among donkey owners/users influence the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County?

1.6 Significance of the study

The study would be useful to various stakeholders as findings and recommendations of this study would provide organizations that promote welfare of donkeys with information that would ensure that the projects they implement are sustainable. This study would further provide investors with information to ensure that the resources that they invest in the communities would bear fruits and contribute in alleviating poverty. The findings and information generated from the study would be helpful in enhancing welfare of donkeys

in the community. Further, the findings would provide policy makers and implementer at county and national level with information that they can use to ensure that development is done in a manner that promotes sustainability of donkeys' welfare projects. The study would provide recommendations on how to improve on the welfare of the donkeys ultimately improving the livelihoods of the users and owners of the donkey. Lessons from this research would also help project implementers to prioritize areas of intervention especially in the wake of reported loss of donkeys through theft. The study would identify the existing training, skill and knowledge gaps and provide recommendations to bring them. The study would build on the existing knowledge and literature and also suggest areas of further study and research.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

The major limitation that the study encountered was that some respondents were not easily reached due to poor road infrastructure, vast area and long distances to cover. To mitigate this, the researcher engaged two research assistants. The other limitation was that some respondents were not ready to disclose information that they deemed confidential. To counter this, questionnaires were used and this ensured confidentiality and anonymity as the respondents were not required to write their names or contacts on the questionnaires.

1.8 Delimitation of the Study

The study was seeking to determine the factors affecting the performance of donkey welfare projects: The case of Heshimu Punda project in Mwea West Sub-county, Kirinyaga County. The study solely focused of influence of donkey owner's perception/ myths, donkey's contribution to livelihood, rise in demand for donkey products and and training among donkey owners and users on the performance of donkey welfare projects. The focus on this Sub county was because it is among those which have huge population of donkeys in Kirinyaga County and also faced the biggest donkey welfare challenges that jeopardize their potential.

1.9 Assumptions of the Study

The study was guided by two assumptions: That the respondents would be willing to participate in the study and that the respondents would provide informed responses to the questions asked to the best of their knowledge.

1.10 Definition of Significant terms used in the study

Demand for donkey products: Desire to have donkey meat, skins and other body parts for commercial purposes.

Donkey welfare: The physical and psychological state of a donkey as regards its attempt to cope with its environment. A donkey is in a good state of welfare if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, able to express innate behavior, able to have normal social contact with others of the same species, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear and stress.

Training: Refers to the teaching and learning activities carried on for the primary purpose of helping members of an organization acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, abilities and attitudes needed by a particular job and organization.

The researcher will be looking at how it influences implementation of donkey welfare projects.

Livelihood: A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for means of living by an individual or community.

Perceptions: Beliefs and cultural underpinnings of donkey users and owners

Welfare projects: These are organized activities geared towards enhancing animal welfare.

1.11 Organization of the study

This study was organized in five chapters. Chapter one focused on the introduction of the study, background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, objectives of the study, research questions, and significance of the study, delimitation, limitations, and assumptions of the study and definition of key terms as they were used in the study.

Chapter two focused on literature review on the factors affecting performance of donkey welfare projects. It also focused on the independent and dependent variables and how they related to each other which were shown in conceptual framework.

Chapter three focused on research methodology which covered research design, target population, sample and sampling procedure, data collection instruments, methods of data collection, validity and reliability of the instruments, ethical considerations, operational definition of variables, and methods of data analysis.

Chapter four covered how data would be presented, analyzed and interpreted while chapter five focused on the summary of findings, discussion of the findings, recommendation and suggestions for further studies.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter indicated the ideas relevant to the subject under study relating to the other studies and was briefly discussed to provide the foundation of the proposed study. In order to clarify the problem of the study and variables, careful review of literature and studies must be done. The literature survey on different dimensions of topic under study was presented in the following section, a theoretical framework, conceptual framework, knowledge gaps and finally the summary of the chapter.

2.2 Performance of Donkey Welfare Projects

Donkey welfare is a complex, multifaceted, international and domestic public policy issue with scientific, ethical, economic, legal, religious and cultural dimensions plus important trade policy implications. Alongside various religious, ethical and philosophical bases for animal welfare, there is also recognition of the ties between animal welfare indicators and animal health (OIE, 2017).

Disregard for donkey welfare may lead to poor health – increased susceptibility of their populations to disease, injury and theft, especially in the wake of the growing demand for donkey meat and skin in Asia and Europe. The increased demand for donkeys and their products comes at a time when such products have been said to contain medicinal, rejuvenating and beautifying properties. *Ejiao*, one of such products, is a Chinese traditional medicine manufactured from donkey hides and the product has been on high demand following policies by the Chinese government requiring citizens to use traditional medicine more (Bennett, Richard & Pfuderer, 2019).

Donkey welfare is thus intrinsically related to other government concerns such as public health, food safety and long-term economic development (Welfare Quality, 2012). The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) note that it is a responsibility that must be shared between governments, communities and the people who own, care for and use donkeys. Mutual recognition and constructive engagement among parties is considered necessary to achieve sustained improvements to animal welfare (Brooke, 2015).

OIE is the primary international standard-setting organization for veterinary matters and takes a strong science-based approach to defining donkey welfare, adopting the following definition (OIE, 2008): Donkey welfare means how a donkey is able to cope with the conditions in which it lives. A donkey is in a good state of welfare if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, able to express innate behavior, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear, and distress. Most discussions of donkey welfare draw on this understanding of the scientific basis for donkey welfare practices.

Implementation of standards globally at a uniform rate via regional initiatives is, however, not possible due to a number of factors: the socioeconomic situations in developing, in-transition and developed countries; cultural and religious differences; and competing national priorities. However, it is possible to improve the performance of donkey welfare projects by acknowledging it as a progressive longer term activity (William, 2018). China, one of the countries with the largest donkey population has, for instance, not been able to meet the growing demand for donkeys. The country's rapid economic development has contributed to increase in demand for ejiao and consequently, decrease in donkey population.

Key to success is political support and the provision of resources, both cash and in-kind. In this latter regard, a number of countries, such as Australia and some countries of the EU, are providing assistance to the OIE and countries globally to progress the donkey welfare agenda. Non-governmental organizations such as the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), plays pivotal roles in improving donkey welfare and providing support through education, training, communication, legislation and research – which have all had a part to play in improving donkey welfare and the development of strategies at regional and national levels (WSPA, 2017).

According to Stevenson (2012), a major impediment to the adoption of stronger donkey protection legislation by the EU (and other countries) is the free trade legislation of the WTO. The conventional view is that while a WTO member country may prohibit the use of cruel farming practices in its own jurisdiction, it cannot restrict the import of products derived from these practices in other countries. In effect, this makes it difficult for any

country to prohibit livestock products as it runs the risk that its own farmers will be undermined by lower welfare, and hence cheaper, imports, and this in turn has a detrimental effect on the performance of animal welfare projects (William, 2018).

Donkey populations have therefore been on the decline in Kenya- and Kirinyaga County precisely since their demand is much higher than the supply. Cross border donkey smuggling has also been ongoing in an attempt to provide licensed donkey abattoirs with donkeys for slaughter. Donkey slaughter has therefore impacted negatively on many families' livelihood since majority of households depend on donkeys for their daily income. Donkeys are used to ferry farm produce, contribute to household tasks and social events such as ferrying water and firewood as well as transporting produce to and from the market (Svendsen, 1997). Political will is also required in terms of inclusion of working equines within international, regional and national policy definitions of livestock.

2.3 Owners' perceptions and Performance of Donkey Welfare Projects

Despite the increase in mechanization, donkeys were still well deserving of the name "beasts of burden", as they play an important role in carrying loads in rural areas. According to Tsiko (2016) donkey users need to change their attitudes towards donkeys and embrace the protection and care of the working animals which have been at the center of rural economic growth and development for decades. Donkeys played significant role in the livelihoods of local communities especially in arid regions where conditions were harsher but our perceptions towards them were still negative. Those who used donkeys were seen by their peers in society as primitive, backward and people of low economic status. The image of donkey was not held highly by donkey owners and users and resultantly, they abused and mistreated them in the process of working the animals. There was need to change our perceptions and appreciate the economic value of the working animals as donkeys were a big asset in combating poverty (Herald, 2015).

Kielland et al. (2010) reported that farmer's perception and attitude directly relate to human-animal interactions and these attitudes and perceptions affect farmers' behavior towards animals in terms of the type of food they feed their animals and also the duration that animals spend working, this in turn affect the performance of the animal welfare

projects. Dutlaw (2016), claims that most developing countries tend to be embarrassed that they are still using donkeys but in Latin America, some counties now want to redouble the populations after seeing the environmental and cost benefits.

Most people in peri-urban centers either owned or rent horses, mules or donkeys to transport goods, people and even water (Mohammed, 1991). Despite their use, the husbandry practices of working equines are poor. Some hobbling methods cause discomfort and inflict wounds (Alujia and Lopez, 1991; Mohammed, 1991). In addition, inappropriate harnesses or yokes that may be heavy and ragged, long working hours and insufficient food, have a negative effect on the animals' health and welfare (safety) (Alujia, 1998). Working donkeys were also suffering from lack of shelters that would protect them from sun, rain and insect parasites at market or working sites. Only few owners provide water (4.38%) and feed (10.5%), and almost no one provides shelters at the working site (Solomon and Rahmeto, 2010). Food is preferably allocated to bovines than to equines. In many cases, local communities, professionals and institutions pay more attention to the maintenance of cattle, because it provides meat and milk (Pearson, 1992).

Implementation of donkey welfare projects had been to a large extent affected by donkey owners' perceptions/ myths concerning the care of the equines. Some donkey owners believed that donkeys, as the 'beasts of burden' should work the entire day and should only be fed at night. This had resulted to donkeys being overworked by their owners and users due to the demand for more income. The fact however was that donkeys need to rest after work so that they can be more productive (Pearson, 1999). Donkey welfare projects that sought to sensitize donkey owners and users about the need for donkeys to be rested had in the past not been taken into consideration, as these efforts are seen as 'limiting the donkeys' potential' in terms of income generation. Other perceptions such as donkeys could get sick if not overworked had also resulted in cases of users and owners of donkeys working with their equines for long hours where the welfare of these vital animals had been jeopardized. The result was reduced efficiency in production from donkeys, reduced income and potential death of the animal due to being over-strained.

Raising awareness of animal welfare was not just for the sake of the donkey but for the owners and users as a key step to making sure change was sustainable.

2.4 Donkeys' contribution to Owners' Livelihood and Performance of Donkey

Welfare Projects

Working donkeys make up approximately 112 million of the global livestock population in less developed countries. They support people's livelihoods in a wide range of sectors including agriculture, tourism, mining and public transport (Doumbia, 2014). It was estimated that working equine animals help approximately 600 million globally, very often in the poor and marginalized communities. They were used for domestic and commercial purposes, providing critical support system to households that rely on them. Donkeys transported goods throughout the year and their work was not only limited to transport of farm products such as rice, but they also helped in fetching water, transporting construction materials from hardware shops to the homesteads or construction sites and also for transport of fodder and manure.

Admassu and Shiferaw (2011) noted that working donkeys save money that would otherwise have been spent on other forms of labor or transport, since most of the households that own donkeys use them for household activities hence saving on costs that would have been incurred on alternative transport means. Voices from Women (2015) also indicated that equines are very vital in their increased output in dairy farming since donkeys brought fodder and water to their dairy cows. This was not the limit of the donkeys in terms of how they contributed to income as part of livelihood, as they also supplied other livestock such as chicken, cows, sheep and goats with fodder and water, thus making farming possible and profitable. The beneficiaries in this case were people who owned donkeys.

Although working equids technically fall under the definition of livestock, they are often not considered as such by policy makers primarily because they do not produce food of animal origin and therefore are not perceived as critical elements of people's livelihoods. Although donkeys did not have direct nutritional impact, they do have financial impact on the overall economy of the county. According to the Brooke (2015), donkeys contributed both directly and indirectly to livelihood among communities in Mwea West

sub-county. Donkey owners were able to generate income through a number of ways: Using their own animals for transport of commercial goods (mainly rice) that they were able to sell in different towns at a profit, use of donkey drivers who hired donkeys at a fee to engage in commercial activities and hiring their donkeys to casual laborers who engage in commercial activities on behalf of individuals who own donkeys. This was especially in cases where donkey owners are aged or unwell hence unable to use the donkeys. A healthy and well cared donkey would benefit its owner by being able to work more efficiently and remain active longer.

2.5 Demand for donkey products and Performance of Donkey Welfare Projects

Demand for donkeys and their products had been on the increase in the wake of opening up of abattoirs in different parts of the country. China was the leading destination for donkey products (skin and meat) as they manufacture *ejiao*, a traditional Chinese remedy that had anti-aging properties that had become very popular both in China and other parts of the world. Donkey meat was also used to prepare delicacies and was a source of nutritious food in Italy which is among the leading countries in terms of equine meat consumption in Europe (Starkey and Starkey, 1997).

A recent area that had increased exponentially was the consumption of donkey meat and skin products in the Asian market place. This was reflected in the amount of recent articles published on the subject, with a total of 11 articles mainly coming from Italy, Turkey, and Spain. The baseline price for donkeys has increased dramatically in developing countries leading to large numbers of donkeys once used for draft purposes being sent for slaughter and their products being exported to Asia. The increased demand has impacted the global population of donkeys with outsourcing to many developing countries with large populations of working donkeys. In many countries throughout Africa, donkey slaughterhouses had been set up and have created additional welfare concerns for the donkeys (Wang et al, 2014).

The Donkey Sanctuary, a UK-based charity, estimated the annual demand for donkeys at 10 million, and with the increased demand for donkey meat and skin, the main destination of these products, China, had been unable to satisfy her demand from within, she had turned to Africa to make up for the shortfall. As a result, several African

countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Senegal had banned exports of donkey products in recent years. Ethiopia also banned donkey skin trade and retracted the license of a Chinese-owned abattoir saying it was “against the values and culture of the society” whereas Tanzania banned the same trade in May 2017 (Leithead, 2017).

According to Nsingo (2017), the donkey slaughter for skin trade may lead to the drastic decimation of the donkey population in Zimbabwe. The situation in Kenya was cited as an example by Chebet (2017) who stated that in 2009 Kenya had 1.8 million donkeys but this has been reduced significantly owing to the donkey trade as 100 000 donkeys were being slaughtered annually. The absence of donkey breeding projects and low reproduction levels present a mismatch between supply and the rising demand while raising the issue of sustainability the trade.

Cases of donkey theft in Kenya were still very rampant, as the demand for donkeys was way much higher than the supply. Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2009) indicated that there were about 1.8 million donkeys in the country, but this number was reported to have reduced immensely due to theft aimed at supplying the market demand for equines. Donkey owners would therefore need to take drastic measures to protect their animals against theft through proper shelters and also taking part in breeding programs aimed at meeting the surging demand.

2.6 Training among donkey owners/users and Performance of Donkey Welfare

Projects

According to Gardener (2011) and Jensen (2005), authentic learning built around donkey welfare training and donkey welfare topics that impact the real world or personal neighborhoods of students encourages brain growth and increased competencies in areas such as kinesthetic, spatial, artistic and interpersonal in a way that traditional didactic and educator-centered learning does not. Learner interest in animals and animal welfare issues, while it varies some based upon distinguishing student factors that include age or grade level, gender and residential location such as urban versus rural is reported by both students and teachers alike to be high (Itle-Clark, 2013). It was important that animal donkey training became an essential part of the professional development of any person planning to work with animals or in any animal policy. Donkey welfare training for

veterinarians was important because of their future potential for spreading the welfare message and promoting good practice.

Training without doubts was key part of the answer to improving the lives of donkey. Humane training could play an important role in creating a compassionate and caring society which would take benign responsibility for ourselves, each other, our donkeys and the earth. When donkeys are abused and badly treated in a home, there's a strong chance that people are also being abused in that home by way of child abuse, spouse abuse, and/or abuse of the elderly. When a home was not a safe and caring place for donkeys it was not a safe and caring place for people either. Donkey welfare training promoted knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes and values related to human involvement in the lives of animals. It included the effects on animals' abilities to satisfy their needs, and human responsibilities as a result. It could bring about beneficial changes in the treatment of animals at the hands of humans, but could stop short of bringing about lasting attitudinal change – especially if carried out in an instructional or piecemeal way.

2.7 Theoretical framework

This section discussed the various theories that were used to support the study. The study adopted Kantian theory and Utilitarianism. These theories guided the study on factors influencing performance of donkey welfare projects-the case of Heshimu Punda project in Mwea-West Sub-county in Kirinyaga County.

2.7.1 Kantian Theory

Kant viewed rationality as the basis for being a moral patient—one due moral consideration—he believed that animals have no moral rights. Animals, according to Kant, are not rational, thus one cannot behave immorally towards them. Although he did not believe we have any duties towards animals, Kant did believe being cruel to them was wrong (Driver, 2007). On this basis, the study's variable on donkey's owner perception was anchored on this theory. The behavior of the owner towards the donkey depended on one's morality.

According to Kant, morally permissible actions were those actions that could be willed by all rational individuals in the circumstances. The important part of his conception for

the moral status of animals was his reliance on the notion of willing. While both animals and human beings had desires that could compel them to action, only human beings were capable of standing back from their desires and choosing which course of action to take. This ability was manifested by our wills. Since animals lacked this ability, they lacked a will, and therefore were not autonomous. Kant's theory went beyond the worldview/religious theories by relying on more general philosophical arguments about the nature of morality (Kant, 1993). Rather than simply relying on the fact that it was "natural" for rational and autonomous beings to use non-rational beings as they see fit, Kant instead provided an argument for the relevance of rationality and autonomy.

2.7.2. Utilitarianism

Peter Singer's Animal liberation, often considered the bible of the animal welfare movement, takes a utilitarian approach in weighing the costs and benefits of our use of animals. It is an ethical theory that defends that we should act in ways that bring about happiness as possible in the world (Singer, 2011). For utilitarianism, the use of nonhuman animals can be acceptable only if the happiness their exploitation causes is greater than the harm it causes. But it is very hard to think of any way in which this could be the case. Nonhuman animals are abruptly and painfully deprived of their lives after having been deprived of most of the positive experiences they could have had, and after having been made to suffer terribly (Matheny, 2006).

The concept of utilitarianism is mainly based on the utility of the donkey. In this regard, the contribution of the donkey to the livelihood of the owner will determine the way the donkeys are treated, the more the contribution the better the treatment and the less the benefit the worse the treatment.

2.8 Conceptual framework

The following conceptual framework outlined the factors that influence the performance of donkey welfare projects –The case of Heshimu Punda Project in Mwea West Sub-county of Kirinyaga County in Kenya. Specifically, the framework underlined donkey owners' perceptions, donkeys' contribution to livelihood, rise in demand for donkey products and training among donkey owners/ users as independent variables that

influence the performance of donkey welfare projects which is the dependent variable with Government policy as the moderating variable.

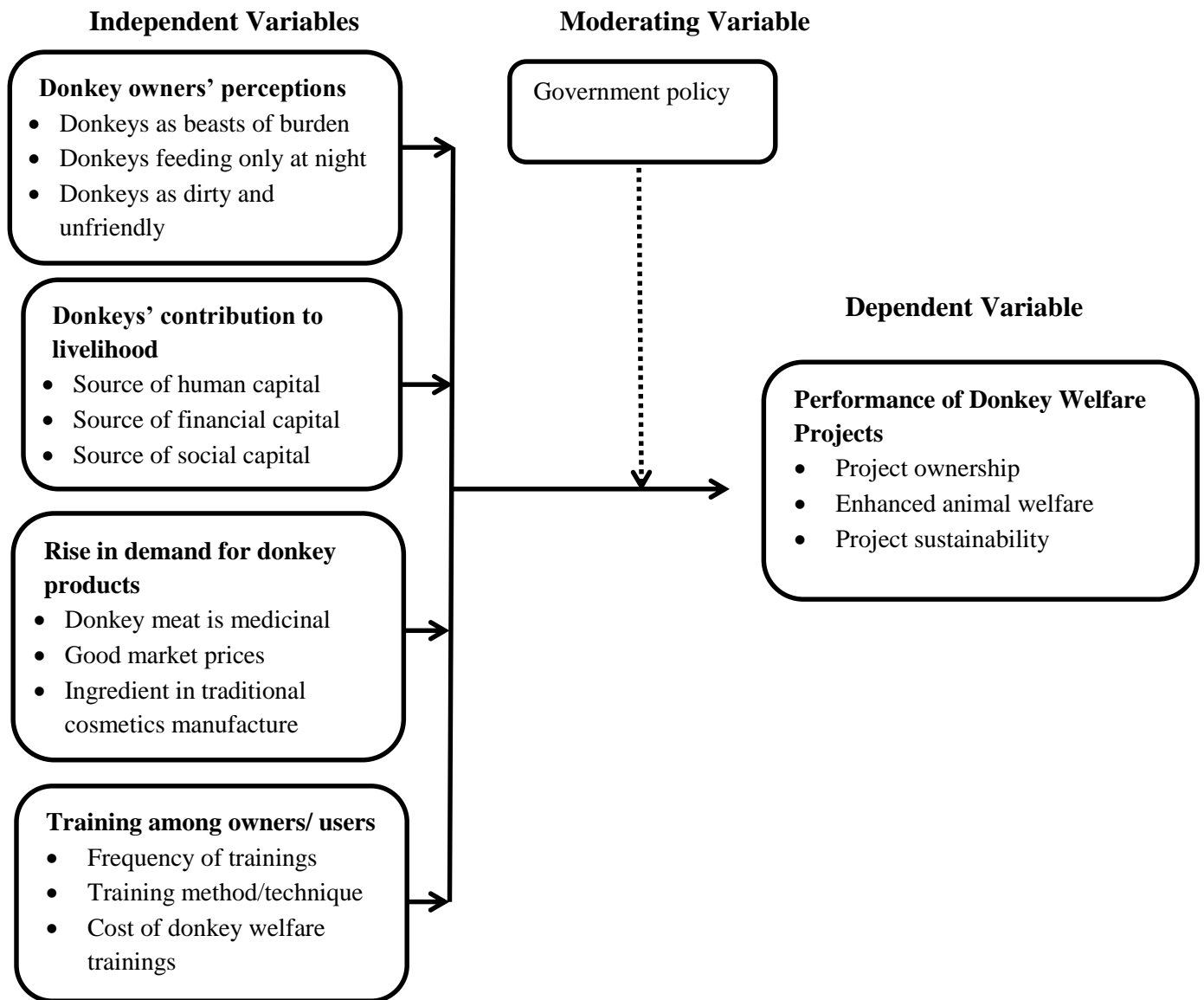


Figure 1.1: Conceptual framework

2.9 Knowledge Gap

Table 2.1: Research Gaps

Author/ Year	Title of the Study	Findings	Research gap	Focus of current study
Shuxian et. al (2005)	Influence of culture on the performance of animal welfare projects	The findings showed that the national and individual culture is a strong influencer of the	The study did not establish the influence of human perception on performance of donkey welfare projects	Influence of donkey owners' perceptions on the performance of donkey welfare projects
Douglas (1996)	Effect of religion on the performance of animal welfare projects	Results indicated that human beings treated animals differently depending on how their	It is necessary to establish the influence of the perception on the performance of the projects rather than the animal	Influence of donkey owners' perceptions on the performance of donkey welfare projects
Kellert and Berry (1980)	Investigated the influence of knowledge on the treatment of animals	It was established that the knowledge level of an individual on the rights of animals	It is necessary to establish the influence of training on animal rights on the performance of donkey welfare projects	Influence of training among donkey owners/users on the performance of donkey
Knight and Barnett (2008)	Influence of education on the handling of animals	The findings indicated a two sided influence of education on the handling of animals.	The study did not particularly look at how training of humans influenced the performance of donkey welfare projects	Influence of training among donkey owners and users on the performance of donkey welfare projects

GATHAGA (2013)	Factors influencing the effectiveness of animal welfare programs in Kenya: A case of Kenya	Religious and ideological beliefs and values may promote particular attitudes toward	The study's variables did not include donkeys' contribution to livelihood	Influence of donkeys' contribution to livelihood among owners/users on the performance
KAMONZO (2018)	Animal welfare: A comparative study of working donkeys in rural and urban/peri-urban areas of	Training has influence on perception and involvement, particularly in decision making and monitoring	The study's variables did not include training among owners and users.	Influence of training among donkey owners and users on the performance of donkey welfare projects

2.10 Summary of literature review

This chapter reviewed the literature on the factors that influence the performance of donkey welfare projects. Donkey owners' perceptions, donkeys' contribution to livelihood, rise in demand for donkey products and training among donkey owners/users are the factors that were reviewed. A conceptual framework was included to sum up the relationships between the independent variables, moderating variable and dependent variable (Performance of donkey welfare projects). The case in question was Mwea West Sub-county, Kirinyaga County, Kenya.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter gave an overview of the methodology that was used in the study. The specific sub-topics that were discussed were: research design, the target population, size of the sample and sampling procedure, data collection instruments, procedure of data collection and analysis, and ethical considerations.

3.2 Research design

The study adopted descriptive study design to carry out the research. The study employed this design in order to describe the state of the aspects under study without manipulating the data. The respondents were asked the questions using questionnaires whose responses were described. Kerlinger (1973) says that a descriptive study design studies large population by selecting and studying sample that has been chosen from the population to determine the relative incidence, distribution and interrelation. The data that was collected was both qualitative and quantitative, which after analysis, explained the relationship between the independent variable (Donkey owners' perceptions, donkey contribution to livelihood, rise in demand for donkey products and training among donkey owners and users and the dependent variable (performance of donkey welfare projects). This method provided information of attitudes and values of the population which were qualitative in nature. Questionnaires were used to collect data from the respondents and the researcher used them because of the easiness to administer to large sample of study population at a low cost and easy analysis of data.

3.3 Target population

The target population comprised of all individuals that the researcher could reasonably generalize findings (Cooper & Schindler, 2006). The target population were beneficiaries of donkey welfare projects, project officers implementing donkey welfare projects, veterinary officers, local administration and meat vendors. The project in Mwea-West Sub County targeted 1500 donkey owners and users from which the sample was drawn.

3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

Chris Olsen & Jay L. Devone (2008) defined a sample as a representation of a population under study, in cases where studying the entire population is impossible or impractical; and where the representation could be used to make inferences or extrapolations. It was a selection of respondents that were chosen in a manner that they characterized the total population and were able to give a relatively accurate interpretation of the population. The researcher used the Krecjie and Morgan model of determining sample size because the population was large.

A study with a population of 1500 donkey owners would therefore use a sample size of 306. This study used systematic random sampling to collect data where by a fixed starting point was identified then a constant interval was used from there to select other respondents for the study. Census was used to select the three project officers from three other different NGOs implementing animal welfare projects, three veterinary officers, one officer under local administration and three meat vendors within the area. This was illustrated in a sample frame as indicated below:

Table 3.1 Target Population

Category	Sample	Rate (%)
Donkey owners/users	306	96.84
Project officers	3	0.95
Veterinary officers	3	0.95
Local administration	1	0.32
Meat vendors	3	0.95
Total	316	100

3.5 Data collection instruments

The research instruments used were questionnaires, focused group discussions and observations. The questionnaires contained both closed and open ended questions. In open-ended questions the respondents were given room to explain their answers in detail.

The responses to the statements in the questionnaire were hinged on a 5 – point Likert scale ranging from 5 – Strongly Agree; 4 – Agree; 3 - Neutral; 2 – Disagree; and 1 – Strongly Disagree. This was consistent with Likert (1932) proposed that these scales should offer five points. The measurement scales used in the questionnaire were obtained from previous studies on the animal welfare programs and found them to be valid and reliable measures.

3.5.1 Pilot Testing

The research instruments were pilot tested in Mwea East sub-county which borders Mwea West Sub-county among randomly selected respondents who had same characteristics with the target population. A total of 32 questionnaires were administered to the different categories of respondents. The data collected was analyzed for validity and reliability using the Cronbach alpha technique. The research instrument was then improved and adjusted to meet the validity and reliability requirements. According to Connelly (2008), a pilot study sample size should be 10% of the projected study sample size. This pilot test was used to ensure the clarity of the questions asked, and also check if the respondents understood the questions.

3.5.2 Validity of Instruments

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999), validity refers to the degree of accuracy and meaningfulness of deductions based on the research results. In most cases, is it impossible to be 100 % valid thus validity is measured in degrees. According Black (1993), to ensure validity, any instrument must measure what it was intended to measure. In order to ensure content validity, the research instruments were pre-tested through a pilot study which was done in Mwea East Sub County which borders Mwea West Sub-county among randomly selected respondents who had same characteristics with the

target population. This helped to confirm if the respondents would interpret the questionnaire in the same way and ensured that the research instruments were refined to give valid results. The researcher also sought opinion of the supervisor in order to establish the validity of the research instrument through revision and modification. The researcher also made sure that the format of the instrument was appropriate.

3.5.3 Reliability of Instruments

Reliability concerns the extent to which a measurement of a phenomenon provides stable and consistent result (Carmines and Zeller, 1979). Reliability is also concerned with repeatability. For example, a scale or test is said to be reliable if repeat measurement made by it under constant conditions will give the same result (Moser and Kalton, 1989). Testing for reliability is important as it refers to the consistency across the parts of a measuring instrument (Huck, 2007). A scale is said to have high internal consistency reliability if the items of a scale “hang together” and measure the same construct (Huck, 2007, Robinson, 2009). The most commonly used internal consistency measure is the Cronbach Alpha coefficient. It is viewed as the most appropriate measure of reliability when making use of Likert scales (Whitley, 2002, Robinson, 2009). No absolute rules exist for internal consistencies, however most agree on a minimum internal consistency coefficient of .70 (Whitley, 2002, Robinson, 2009).

For an exploratory or pilot study, it is suggested that reliability should be equal to or above 0.60 (Straub et al., 2004). Hinton et al. (2004) have suggested four cut-off points for reliability, which includes excellent reliability (0.90 and above), high reliability (0.70-0.90), moderate reliability (0.50-0.70) and low reliability (0.50 and below) (Hinton et al., 2004). The appeal of an internal consistency index of reliability is that it is estimated after only one test administration and therefore avoids the problems associated with testing over multiple time periods (Wong, 2012). Internal consistency is estimated via the split-half reliability index (Wong, 2012) and coefficient alpha index (Anderson et. al., 2002) which is the most common used form of internal consistency reliability. Data obtained from the pilot study was entered into SPSS v25 for a principal component analysis, to check correlations between the components then a reliability analysis was done to generate a Cronbach alpha value, which was the basis for the conclusion on reliability of

the questionnaire. A Cronbach alpha value of 0.70 and above was considered for the reliability of the research instrument in this study.

3.6 Data collection procedure

The researcher got a letter of approval from the University and a research permit from National Council for Science and Technology in order to conduct the study. Data was collected using questionnaires that were administered to the respondents and collected after two weeks for analysis. The researcher explained the purpose of the study to the respondents before conducting the data collection exercise and sought their consent. Courtesy calls and visits were done to remind the respondents to fill the questionnaires. The questionnaires were administered to the respondents who filled and returned them for analysis.

While collecting data from key informants, the researcher booked appointment with the key informants. The researcher used a note book and pen to record the responses. Research assistants were used to collect data from project officers, veterinary officers, local administration representative and meat vendors and were trained before embarking on the collection of the data. The questionnaires were administered to beneficiaries of the donkey welfare projects-donkey owners and users with the help of the research assistants. One research assistant was the moderator while the other was the note taker. The research assistants informed the respondents the purpose of the study and assured them confidentiality of the information they provided.

3.7 Data analysis

The study adopted both qualitative and quantitative methods of data analysis. During the data analysis, the researcher checked the completeness and consistency of the questionnaires. The data collected through questionnaires was firstly edited, coded and descriptively analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS version 25.0) where the output was presented in form of percentages and frequency distributions. The qualitative data from key informants was cleaned up and categorized into themes and coded for analysis. The themes were then analyzed through content analysis. The findings were presented using tables which generated the conclusions and recommendations.

3.8 Ethical Considerations

During the study, care was taken to ensure that the research did not compromise the dignity of the respondents. The researcher communicated to the respondents before their engagement that the information they provided would be treated with confidentiality and the identity of the respondents would not be disclosed. The researcher sought consent of the respondents to participate in the study. No respondent was coerced to participate in the study. The research assistants were trained before they administered the questionnaires to ensure that they conformed to the ethical standards. The respondents were also informed that the information they provided would be used solely for the purposes of this study. The respondents were informed the purpose of the study before they provided any information as well as how it would impact on them.

3.9 Operational Definition of Variables

A variable is an empirical property that can take two or more values. It is any property that can change, either in quantity or quality.

A dependent variable is a variable whose outcome depends on the manipulation of the independent variables. In this study the dependent variable was implementation of animal welfare projects. Independent variable on the other hand is a variable that is manipulated to cause changes in the dependent variable. In this study the independent variables were owners'/users' perception, animals' contribution to owners'/users' livelihood, demand for animals' products and training among donkey owners and users.

An operational definition describes how the variables are measured and defined within the study. It is a description of a variable, term or object in terms of the specific process or set of validation tests used to determine its presence and quantity. It is generally designed to model a conceptual definition. Table 3.2 is a summary of the operational definition of variables in the study showing the indicators, measure of indicators, measurement scale, tools and type of analysis. Nominal scales were used to investigate the various variables in the study.

Table 3.2: Operational Definition of Variables

The operationalization of variables is shown in Table 3.2

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES	VARIABLE	TYPE OF VARIABLE	INDICATORS	DATA COLLECTION METHOD	SCALE OF MEASUREMENT	TYPE OF ANALYSIS
To determine the influence of owners' perceptions, on the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County	Owner perception/myth	Independent variable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donkeys as beasts of burden • Donkeys feeding only at night • Donkeys as dirty and unfriendly 	Questionnaire Interviews	Nominal Ordinal	Descriptive statistics
To determine the influence of donkeys contribution to livelihood of owners and users on the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County	Animal contribution to livelihood	Independent variable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source of human capital • Source of financial capital • Source of social capital 	Questionnaire Interviews	Nominal Ordinal	Descriptive statistics
To establish the influence of the rise in demand for donkey products on the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County	Demand for donkey products	Independent variable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donkey meat is medicinal • Good market prices • Ingredient in traditional cosmetics manufacture 	Questionnaire Interviews	Nominal Ordinal	Descriptive statistics

To establish the influence of training among donkey owners/users on the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West sub-county, Kirinyaga County	Training	Independent variable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequency of trainings • Training method/technique • Cost of donkey welfare trainings 	Questionnaire Interviews	Nominal Ordinal	Descriptive Statistics
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CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter comprises of data analysis, presentation, interpretation and discussion. It is organized according to the objectives of the study which include animal owners' perception, animal's contribution to owners' livelihood, rise in demand for animal products and training among donkey owners and users. The data that has been analyzed is presented using frequency tables and followed by interpretation and explanations of findings of factors influencing the performance of donkey welfare projects: the case of Heshimu Punda project in Mwea West Sub-County, Kirinyaga County.

4.2 The response rate

This section consists of the response rate of the questionnaires and the interviews. In this study, the researcher administered 306 questionnaires to the respondents. The researcher got back 285 questionnaires were filled and returned for analysis. The response rate was 93.14 % which is considered sufficient for analysis and drawing of conclusions. According to Babbie (2002), a response rate of 50 % and above is adequate for making conclusions. Data was collected through questionnaires and interviews.

4.3 Demographic characteristics of the respondents

The questionnaire used to collect data from animal owners had section A which sought to get demographic information of the respondents which included gender, age and level of education.

4.3.1 Distribution of respondents by gender

The summary of the respondents by gender are as shown in table 4.1 below.

Table 4.1: Distribution of respondents by gender

Categories	Frequency	Percentage
Male	253	88.77
Female	32	11.23
Total	285	100.0

According to table 4.1, majority of the respondents were males at 88.77 percent while the female respondents stood at 11.23 percent. This scenario shows that many of the donkey owners are men thereby placing women at a lower level when it comes to making key decisions. Although some women own donkeys in the area, their number is notably small. This could be attributed to the desire of men to hold positions of power and control of resources in the community.

4.3.2 Distribution of the respondents by age

The summary of the respondents by age is as shown in table 4.2

Table 4.2: Distribution of respondents by age

Categories	Frequency	Percentage
18-35 years	118	41.40
36-55 years	146	51.23
56-75 years	21	7.37
76 years and above	0	0.00
Total	285	100.00

As shown in table 4.2, majority of the respondents were aged between 36-55 years at 51.23 percent. Respondents who were aged between 18-35 years were 41.40 percent while those aged between 56-75 years were only 7.37 percent. Notably, there was no respondent aged between 76 years and above which is the category of the elderly in the

community. It implies that most of the donkey owners are the youthful persons in the community. The elderly do not own donkeys perhaps due to their old age and reduced activity in search of livelihood. The youth are more active and as they are breadwinners and labor providers in the community.

4.3.3 Distribution of the respondents by number of trainings attended

The summary of the respondents by the number of trainings is as shown in table 4.3

Table 4.3: Distribution of respondents by number of trainings attended

Number of Trainings	Frequency	Percentage
None	19	6.67
One	40	14.04
Two	102	35.78
Three or more	124	43.51
Total	285	100.0

From Table 4.3, most of the respondents had attended three or more training sessions at 43.51 percent while respondents who had attended two training sessions were 35.78 percent. Notably, those who had attended one training session were few at 14.04 percent whereas those who had not attended any training session were 6.67 per cent. This indicates that the highest number of donkey owners and users had attained knowledge on donkey welfare through training which would influence how they handled their donkeys thereby influencing the performance of welfare projects.

4.3.4 Number of donkeys owned

The summary of the number of donkeys owned by the respondents is shown in table 4.4

Table 4.4: Distribution of the number of donkeys owned by the respondents

Categories	Frequency	Percentage
None	0	0.00
One	42	14.74
Two	168	58.94
Three or more	75	26.32
Total	285	100.0

Table 4.4 shows that majority of the respondents owned two donkeys at 58.94 percent. On the other hand, some significant number of respondents had three or more donkeys at 26.32 percent. This can be attributed to their nature of working where the cart they pull is usually loaded to a pair of donkeys thus most of the respondents had a pair of donkeys. In other occasions, donkey owners and users use three donkeys to pull a cart. This can be attributed to their effort to distribute the weight of the load especially if it is heavy or with an intention of ensuring that they do not overwork the donkeys. The table also shows that 14.74 per cent of the respondents had only one donkey. This can be attributed to their financial inability to own two donkeys as well as loss of donkeys through theft. Their inability to have more than one donkey forced them to either overload their donkey or overwork them for lack of additional donkey to use on the cart. This increased the probability of the donkey overworking, getting mistreated and reduced rest time.

4.4 Findings of the four objectives of the study

The study sought to investigate the factors influencing the performance of donkey welfare projects, a case of Heshimu Punda project in Mwea West Sub County. The objectives that guided the study were donkey owner's perceptions, donkeys' contribution to livelihood, rise in demand of the donkey products and training among donkey owners and users.

4.4.1 Owners' perceptions and performance of donkey welfare projects

The first objective of the study was to establish the influence of donkey owners' perceptions on the performance to donkey welfare projects. The researcher sought to know the perception of donkey owners and users so as to assess the perception influence on the performance of the donkey welfare projects.

Table 4.5: Owners' Perceptions and Performance of Donkey Welfare Projects

Donkey owners perceptions	Percentage
Donkeys are beasts of burden	7.45
People believe that donkeys do not get sick	7.55
Donkeys are dirty and unfriendly animals	6.30
Donkeys do not get tired	14.70
Donkeys do not deserve any special treatment	6.50
Donkey waste causes tetanus among people	4.25
If you do not overwork a donkey it will become aggressive	26.70
Donkey should only feed at night	26.55
Total	100.0

Table 4.5 shows varying perceptions of donkey owners and users. It was notable that virtually all respondents had negative attitude towards the donkeys. Many termed them as beasts of burden and that they do not get sick. This explains why many of the owners do not provide medical care to the donkeys thereby leaving them unattended and sickly. A significant number of respondents said that donkey do not get tired at 14.70 percent. This

means that they usually overwork the donkeys with the notion that they do not get tired. On the other hand, respondents had perceptions that if the donkeys are not overworked, they will become aggressive and starting biting and kicking at 26.70 percent. This forces that to make them work for a long time to make them docile. Similarly, 26.55 percent of the respondents had perception that donkeys should only feed at night. Due to this reason, they make the donkeys to work throughout the day and give them food at night. These perceptions therefore contribute to overworking of the donkey and mistreatment.

The study revealed that donkey owners and users have negative perceptions that may contributed to poor treatment of the donkeys. As a result, they neglect the donkeys, overwork them and feed them poorly. They do not give them enough time to rest and be more productive as per Pearson 1999, who argues that donkeys need to rest after work so that they can be more productive.

This also confirmed the responses by project officers who work with the donkey owners in the projects as it was found that the perceptions of donkey owners affected how they treated their donkeys during work and even after work.

4.4.2 Donkeys' contribution to owners' livelihood and performance of donkey welfare projects

The second objective was to determine the influence of donkeys' contribution to owner's livelihood on the performance of donkey welfare projects.

Table 4.6: Donkeys' Contribution to Owners' Livelihood and Performance of Donkey Welfare Projects

Donkeys' contribution to owners' livelihood	Percentage
Donkeys are a source of money	18.65
Donkeys have contributed to improved income	21.15
Donkeys have contributed to food security	21.75
Donkeys are a source of financial capital	18.25
Donkeys have contributed to increased savings	20.20
Total	100.0

From table 4.6, it was found out that donkeys contributed to livelihood of their owners and users in a significant manner. Through the donkeys, the owners and users were able to get money thereby improving on their income (18.65 percent). The donkeys also contributed to food security (21.75 percent) and acted source of financial capital hence increased saving at 21.75 percent and 18.25 respectively. The findings revealed that the donkey provide labor in the farms where they are used to plough hence providing food to its owners. This concurs with Admassu and Shiferaw (2011) who argued that working donkeys save money that would otherwise have been spent on other forms of labor or transport, since most of the households that own donkeys use them for household activities hence saving on costs that would have been incurred on alternative transport means.

Some owners use the donkeys to conduct farm activities like ferrying farm produce which reduces on wastage of the produce. Some of the materials they ferry include fodder which if fed to other animals in the farm. This concurs with Voices from Women (2015) who indicated that equines are very vital in their increased output in dairy farming since donkeys brought fodder and water to their dairy cows. This was not the limit of the donkeys in terms of how they contributed to income as part of livelihood, as they also supplied other livestock such as chicken, cows, sheep and goats with fodder and water, thus making farming possible and profitable.

4.4.3 Demand for donkey products and performance of donkey welfare projects

The third objective was to establish the influence of the rise in demand for donkey products on the performance of donkey welfare projects.

Table 4.7: Demand for Donkey Products and Performance of Donkey Welfare Projects

Rise in demand of donkey products	Percentage
The demand for donkey products is high	32.27
There is steady supply of donkey products in the market	9.81
Donkey meat is medicinal	4.37
Good welfare of donkeys leads to low cost of production	4.49
Donkey products fetch good money in the market	29.88
Donkey skin is used to make anti-aging products	19.18
Total	100.0

From table 4.7, there is a high demand for donkey products in the market at 32.27 percent. In support of high demand for donkey products in the market, respondents agreed that there is steady supply of donkey products in the market. However, it was notable that these products are not consumed locally. Most of the respondents agreed that donkey products fetch good money in the market as they are cheap to purchase. In addition, some of the products are used abroad to make anti-aging products such as *ejiao*, a Chinese product manufactured from donkey skin. This concurs with the findings of Starkey and Starkey 1997, that donkey meat is also used to prepare delicacies and is a source of nutritious food in Italy which is among the leading countries in terms of equine meat consumption in Europe. China is the leading destination for donkey products (skin and meat) as they manufacture *ejiao*, a traditional Chinese remedy that has anti-aging properties that has become very popular both in China and other parts of the world.

Local meat vendors confirmed that even though donkey theft was on the increase largely because of the skin and meat, these products were not sold locally but were exported to the international market to make some products believed to contribute to anti-aging and increased male libido. The local administration also confirmed that cases of donkey theft were reported to their office as donkey theft seemed to be on the rise.

4.4.4 Training among donkey owners/users and Performance of Donkey Welfare Projects

The fourth and last objective was to ascertain how training influences performance of donkey welfare projects.

Table 4.8: Training among Donkey Owners/Users and Performance of Donkey Welfare Projects

Training among donkey owners/users	Percentage
Training on donkey welfare issues is good	45.55
The method and technique used in training is appropriate	10.89
The cost of training donkey welfare issues is high	4.26
The number of people trained on donkey welfare issues is high	14.44
Trainings are organized frequently	24.86
Total	100.0

Table 4.8 shows that the donkey owners and users are trained on donkey welfare issues at 45 percent. This is significantly high where donkey owners are empowered with skills and knowledge of how to care for their donkeys which influences on how they treat them. The respondents also agreed that the technique that was used in the training was appropriate and it suited them. This impacted on how they received the knowledge and utilized as well as cascading it downwards to the other stakeholders.

The respondents also agreed that the training were organized frequently which meant that there was no knowledge gap and that corrective measures were taken promptly. As a

result, knowledge on donkey welfare affects their performance and owners and users are able to care for them which in turn provide them with income and support their livelihood activities which ultimately impacts on the relationship between humans and the donkeys. This concurred with the findings of Gardener (2011) and Jensen (2005), who argued that authentic learning built around animal welfare training and animal welfare topics that impact the real world or personal neighborhoods of students encourages brain growth and increased competencies in areas such as kinesthetic, spatial, artistic and interpersonal in a way that traditional didactic and educator-centered learning does not. Training without doubts is key part of the answer to improving the lives of donkey. Training can play an important role in creating a compassionate and caring society which would take benign responsibility for ourselves, each other, our fellow animals and the earth. When animals are abused and badly treated in a home, there's a strong chance that people are also being abused in that home by way of child abuse, spouse abuse, and/or abuse of the elderly. Animal welfare training promotes knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes and values related to human involvement in the lives of animals. It includes the effects on animals' abilities to satisfy their needs, and human responsibilities as a result. It can bring about beneficial changes in the treatment of animals at the hands of humans, but can stop short of bringing about lasting attitudinal change – especially if carried out in an instructional or piecemeal way.

Veterinary officers interviewed confirmed that donkey owners who had received more trainings on donkey welfare handled their donkeys better compared to those who had received less trainings on the same. Donkey owners /users who had received more training on donkey welfare were also more compassionate to their donkeys compared to those who had not attended any trainings.

CHAPTER FIVE
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter five presents a summary of the findings for this study, discusses the findings and gives conclusion on the factors influencing the performance of donkey welfare projects: the case of Heshimu Punda project in Mwea west sub-county. It also gives recommendations of the study and suggestions for further studies.

5.2 Summary of Research Findings

This study sought to establish the factors influencing the performance of animal welfare projects: a case of Heshimu Punda project in Mwea west sub-county. The objectives of the study were to assess the influence of donkey owners' perceptions on the performance of donkey welfare projects, establish the influence of donkeys' contribution to owner/user livelihood on the performance of donkey welfare projects, investigate the influence of rise in demand for donkey products on the performance of donkey welfare projects; and finally establish the influence of owner/user training on the performance of donkey welfare projects.

5.2.1 Influence of donkey owners' perceptions on the performance of donkey welfare projects

The study revealed that donkey owners and users had negative perceptions towards the donkeys. These perceptions impacted negatively on how they treated the donkeys thereby affecting the donkeys negatively. Although the donkey owners and users were trained and empowered with skills, their perceptions watered down all the knowledge gained. The study established that these perceptions and myths were passed from generation to

generation. These perceptions made the value of the donkey and how they should be treated to go down. It also established that the perceptions made the owners and users of the donkey to ignore them even when they are in dire need of veterinary care. This concurred with Pearson (1999), who argues that donkeys need to rest after work so that they can be more productive; for example, the perception that donkeys do not get tired which resultantly made the donkey owners to overwork them.

5.2.2 Influence of donkeys' contribution to owner/user livelihood on the performance of donkey welfare projects

The study revealed that donkeys play vital role in contributing to the livelihood to their owners and users. It was found out that through the donkeys, the owners were able to get money by offering transport services to others thereby contributing to improvement of their income. Additionally, the donkeys provide cheap labor in transporting farm produce either from farms to stores or from homes to the market hence contributing to the livelihood of their owners. This was supported by Admassu and Shiferaw (2011) who argued that working donkeys save money that would otherwise have been spent on other forms of labor or transport, since most of the households that own donkeys use them for household activities hence saving on costs that would have been incurred on alternative transport means.

Donkeys also work in farms to plough to produce food for households either for subsistence uses or for commercial purposes. As a result, they bring about food security and ultimately help in reduction of poverty level. They were also used to ferry farm produce in form of fodder for other livestock in the farm thus making farming possible and profitable since they provide cheap labor.

5.2.3 Influence of rise in demand for donkey products on the performance of donkey welfare projects

The study revealed that there was rising demand for donkey products like meat and skin in the market. Although the demand for donkey products is on the rise, research found out that the products were not consumed locally but rather exported to other countries like China. These products are used to make other final products such as anti-aging creams. Resultantly, this has affected performance of donkey welfare projects as donkeys are sold by their owners or stolen from them for sale in order to provide raw materials for such products. The rate of increase in demand for donkeys and their products is high. This agrees with Starkey and Starkey (1997), who argued that donkey meat is also used to prepare delicacies and is a source of nutritious food in Italy which is among the leading countries in terms of equine meat consumption in Europe.

5.2.4 Influence of owner/user training on performance of donkey welfare projects

The study revealed that training of the donkey owners and users had effect on performance of donkey welfare projects. The owners and users of donkeys were empowered with knowledge and skills on donkey welfare. The study also found out that the technique that was used to carry out the training was appropriate and met their needs thus absorption of the knowledge was relatively high. It was also revealed that trainings were frequently organized by the trainers to pass on knowledge and skills. This concurred with the findings of Gardener (2011) and Jensen (2005), who argued that authentic learning built around donkey welfare training and donkey welfare topics that impact the real world or personal neighborhoods of students encourages brain growth and increased competencies thereby affecting how donkey owners/users related with their donkeys.

The respondents also agreed that the trainings were organized frequently which meant that there was no knowledge gap and that corrective measures were taken promptly. As a result, it was found out that knowledge on donkey welfare improved the level of care donkeys received from their owners and users, thus increasing the capacity of donkeys to provide owners/ users with income and support their livelihood activities. This ultimately impacted on the relationship between the owners/ users and the donkeys. Trainings ensured that donkey owners and users had enough knowledge and skills to care for their donkeys and also improved on their relationship with other stakeholders thus impacting positively on the welfare of the donkey projects in Mwea West Sub County.

5.3 Discussions of findings

The findings of the study indicated that there was influence of perceptions of donkey owners on the performance donkey welfare projects. This agrees with a study done by Gathaga in 2014, which indicated that religious and ideological beliefs and values may promote particular attitudes toward animals. Donkeys also contribute to the livelihood of their owners and users. There was a rising demand of donkey products which affected negatively on the donkey welfare projects as donkey owners and users had begun losing donkeys to meet the growing market demand and training among donkey owners and users influenced on the performance of the donkey welfare projects in terms of how well donkey owners were able to take care of their donkeys after receiving trainings on donkey welfare.

The perceptions of donkey owners and users greatly influenced how they related with the donkeys. These perceptions affected the welfare of the donkeys negatively and as a result, affected their productivity. The donkey owners believed that the donkeys should

feed only at night which influenced on their feeding patterns. This gave the owners the leeway of overworking the donkeys and providing them with feed only at night. These results are in line with Pearson (1999) who indicated that donkeys can only be productive if they are allowed adequate rest and are also fed well. Donkeys contribute significantly to the livelihood of their owners and users. They are used to ferry goods from farms to the market. They are also used to transport farm produce from the farms to homes. They are also used to plough the farms thereby producing food for the families. Provision of this cheap labor by the donkeys makes farming and businesses more profitable. Through their labor, the owners earn income and are assured of food security.

There was a rising demand in the products of the donkey which has influenced on the performance of donkey welfare projects. The donkeys are cheap compared to other livestock like cows. As a result, they are preferred by butchers due to their profits. Interestingly, their produced and not mainly consumed locally but rather exported to others countries like China. The high demand of the donkey products has led to criminal activities like theft where they are stolen and sold off to donkey slaughters.

Training among donkey owners/users had influence of how they treated the donkeys. Those who were trained on the welfare of the donkeys took care of them better compared to those who were not. This training imparted knowledge and skills on how to care for the donkey including feeding, treatment, housing and general handling of the donkeys.

5.4 Conclusions of the study

The researcher made conclusions of the study according to the objectives of the study which included influence of donkey owners' perceptions on the performance of donkey

welfare projects, donkeys' contribution to owner/user livelihood, rise in demand for donkey products and training among donkey owners/users as outlined below.

5.4.1 Influence of donkey owners' perceptions on the performance of donkey welfare projects

The study concluded that donkey owners and users have perceptions that negatively impact on the welfare of the donkeys. These perceptions have downgraded the efforts of donkey welfare implementers thereby slowing down the expected change of proper treatment of the donkeys. These perceptions have led to slow uptake of knowledge passed on through training and sensitization thus citizens and governments are not always aware of animal welfare issues. Consequently, the donkeys are poorly fed, overworked, beaten unnecessarily, and denied time to rest. As a result, the donkey welfare projects are affected negatively.

5.4.2 Influence of donkeys' contribution to owner/user livelihood on the performance of donkey welfare projects

The study concluded that donkeys play a significant role in contributing to the livelihoods of their owners and users. They provide cheap labor which makes farming more profitable. Through the donkeys, farmers ferry goods from farms to home and from home or farms to the market to sell the farm produce. The donkeys are also used for ploughing in the farms. This brings about generation of income thereby improving the livelihoods of the owners. Donkey users also use the donkeys to work for others and earn income. The donkeys therefore are very critical in farms and play significant role in contributing to the livelihoods of their owners and users. Their role in contributing to the livelihoods has a lot of impact on the donkey welfare projects as their owners usually have positive attitude because of the benefits they get from the donkeys.

5.4.3 Influence of rise in demand for donkey products on the performance of donkey welfare projects

The study concluded that there is a rising demand for donkey products in the recent years. Donkeys are slaughtered for their meat and skin although these products are not usually consumed locally. Due to their demand since they are cheaply acquired, the number of donkeys has gone down at a high rate. In other instances, donkeys are stolen to be taken to the slaughter houses. This greatly influences the performance of donkey welfare projects as it slows down the efforts of key players in this sector of empowering the owners and users with required skills and knowledge of how to deal with the donkeys.

5.4.4 Influence of owner/user training on performance of donkey welfare projects

The study concluded that training has an influence on the performance of donkey welfare projects. Those who were trained tended to have better donkey handling skills compared to those who were not trained on donkey welfare. The trainings should help the participant to understand how human actions can affect donkeys and other living beings and that as a result we owe them a duty of care, to understand that we are frequently faced with moral dilemmas and that people hold different opinions, to acquire skills in effective communication (in order to better explain our ideas and responsibilities), demonstrating appropriate levels of care and of empathy and also to develop and show attitudes of kindness, respect and responsibility.

5.4.5 Factors influencing the performance of donkey welfare projects

The study concluded that donkey owner' perceptions, donkeys' contribution to owner/user livelihood, rise in demand for donkey products and training had influence the performance of donkey welfare projects. Owners' negative perceptions affected how they

treated the donkeys through excessive beating, overworking, medical neglect and poor feeding which affected the health of the donkeys. The role of donkeys in contributing to the livelihoods of their owners and users made them to have a positive attitude towards them. Rise in demand of donkey products affected negatively effort different players with indent of improving the welfare of the donkeys. Training is paramount when it comes to uptake and utilization of knowledge and skills of donkey welfare.

5.5 Recommendations of the study

Based on the findings of the study, the following are the recommendations:

Donkey owners and users need to be sensitized on the right perceptions with an aim of changing their attitude towards the donkeys. This can be done through public barazas or organized workshops to give them the right knowledge to ensure that they properly handle their donkeys. This sensitization should be done progressively in order to fully root out those negative myths about donkeys which affect how they are treated.

Donkey owners, users and the general community member should be informed on the critical importance of the donkeys and how they contribute to their livelihood. This will change how they treat the donkey upon realizing their value. The information can be passed on through mass media, posters, bills boards and other means of communication that will ensure that the message is conveyed.

Government should come up with policies that deal with donkey welfare. Currently, government and veterinary policies are projected to livestock rearing. These policies will address the current menace of donkey theft and uncontrolled slaughter of the donkey with unquenchable desire to get quick money through sale of donkey products.

The government and other key players and donor organizations should fully ensure that donkey owners have the right information through training and sensitization. Acquisition of the knowledge and skills will ensure that they treat their donkeys well in a manner that will improve the general welfare of the donkeys. The training should be done in a conducive environment and should fully involve the beneficiaries of the projects to ensure uptake and utilization of the knowledge and skills.

5.6 Suggestions for further research

The following are suggestions for further study:

- i. The researcher suggests further research to be done on community participation in donkey welfare issues. Community participation is paramount in the success of donkey welfare projects.
- ii. The researcher also suggests a study to be done on the influence of youth and women involvement on donkey welfare projects and its sustainability in Mwea West Sub-County, Kirinyaga County.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: TRANSMITTAL LETTER

STAFFORD MBITHI YAMBU,
P.O. BOX 136-90137,
KIBWEZI.

Dear Respondent,

RE: PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH

I am a post graduate student at the University of Nairobi pursuing Master of Arts in Project Planning and Management. I am carrying out a research on factors affecting the performance of donkey welfare projects: The case of Heshimu Punda project in Mwea West Sub-County, Kirinyaga County as part of requirements for the award of this degree. The purpose of this letter is to request you to provide the required information as per the questionnaire provided. The information you will provide will be considered as confidential and will only be used for my academic purpose.

Thank you in advance.

Yours faithfully,

Stafford Mbithi Yambu

L50/10696/2018

APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON FACTORS INFLUENCING THE PERFORMANCE OF
DONKEY WELFARE PROJECTS-THE CASE OF HESHIMU PUNDA
PROJECT IN MWEA WEST SUB-COUNTY IN KIRINYAGA COUNTY**

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Name of donkey owner

Ward.....

Sub -Location

Village.....

Gender of respondent Male []

Female []

Age of respondent 18-35 []

36 -55 []

56-75 []

76 and above []

Number of donkey welfare trainings attended:

None []

One []

Two []

Three or more []

Number of donkeys owned

None []

One []

Two []

Three or more []

SECTION B: OWNERS' PERCEPTIONS/MYTHS ABOUT DONKEYS

This section seeks to establish how owners' perceptions/myths about donkeys influence the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West Sub County, Kirinyaga County, Kenya. To achieve this, you are required to give your honest opinion on the level of agreement or disagreement on the following statements using a Likert scale of 1 to 5 where;

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neutral; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

		5	4	3	2	1
2.1	Donkeys are beasts of burden					
2.2	People believe that donkeys don't get sick					
2.3	Donkeys are dirty and unfriendly animals					
2.4	Donkeys don't get tired					
2.5	Donkeys don't deserve any special treatment					
2.6	Donkey waste causes tetanus among people					
2.7	If you do not overwork a donkey it will become aggressive					
2.8	Donkeys should only feed at night					

i. What other beliefs do you have about donkeys?

.....

.....

.....

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.....

.....

SECTION C: CONTRIBUTION OF DONKEYS TO LIVELIHOOD AMONG OWNERS/USERS

This section seeks to establish how contribution of donkeys to livelihood among owners/users influences the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West Sub County, Kirinyaga County, Kenya. To achieve this, you are required to give your honest opinion on the level of agreement or disagreement on the following statements using a Likert scale of 1 to 5 where;
 1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neutral; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

		5	4	3	2	1
3.1	Donkeys are a source of human capital					
3.2	Donkeys are a source of physical capital					
3.3	Donkeys are a source of natural capital					
3.4	Donkeys are a source of financial capital					
3.5	Donkeys are a source of social capital					

i. Please describe other ways by which donkeys contribute to your livelihood

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SECTION D: DEMAND FOR DONKEY PRODUCTS

This section is out to establish how the demand for donkey products influences the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West Sub county, Kirinyaga County, Kenya. To achieve this, you are required to give your honest opinion on the level of agreement or disagreement on the following statements using a Likert scale of 1 to 5 where;

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neutral; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

		5	4	3	2	1
4.1	The demand for donkey products is high					
4.2	There is a steady supply of donkey products in the market					
4.3	Donkey meat is medicinal					
4.4	Good welfare of donkeys leads to low cost of production					
4.5	Donkey products fetch good money in the market					
4.6	Donkey skin is used to make anti-aging products					

i. What are some of the donkey-related products in the market here?

.....

ii. Are the products of donkeys used locally?

.....

SECTION E: TRAINING AMONG DONKEY OWNERS AND USERS

This section seeks to establish how training among donkey owners/users influences the performance of donkey welfare projects in Mwea West Sub county, Kirinyaga County, Kenya. To achieve this, you are required to give your honest opinion on the level of agreement or disagreement on the following statements using a Likert scale of 1 to 5 where;

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neutral; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

		5	4	3	2	1
5.1	The level of training on donkey welfare issue is high					
5.2	The method and technique used in training is appropriate					
5.3	The cost of training donkey welfare issues is high					
5.4	The number of people trained on donkey welfare issues are many					
5.5	Trainings are organized frequently					

i. How has the training on donkey welfare helped you handle your donkeys?

.....

ii. Is the knowledge gained adequate?

.....

iii. Have you utilized the skills and knowledge acquired?

.....

SECTION F: PERFORMANCE OF DONKEY WELFARE PROJECTS

This section seeks to establish how the performance of animal welfare projects is influenced by the above independent variables: perceptions/myths, contribution to livelihood, rise in demand for animal products and training among owners/users in Mwea West Sub county, Kirinyaga County, Kenya. To achieve this, you are required to give your honest opinion on the level of agreement or disagreement on the following statements using a Likert scale of 1 to 5 where;

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neutral; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree

		5	4	3	2	1
1.1	Donkey welfare projects have contributed greatly towards good welfare of donkeys					
1.2	The projects have improved people’s lives by reducing donkey diseases and increase livestock production					
1.3	The projects have improved people’s attitudes towards donkeys through training					
1.4	The projects have saved the lives of many donkeys					
1.5	The projects have contributed greatly to policy formation, implementation and law enforcement on donkey welfare issues					

i. Has skills and knowledge helped donkey owners and users handle their donkeys better? (Yes/No)

.....
 Explain.....

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

APPENDIX III: RESEARCH PERMIT



**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
OPEN DISTANCE AND E-LEARNING
SCHOOL OF OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING
DEPARTMENT OF OPEN LEARNING PROGRAMMES**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Date: 2nd September, 2019

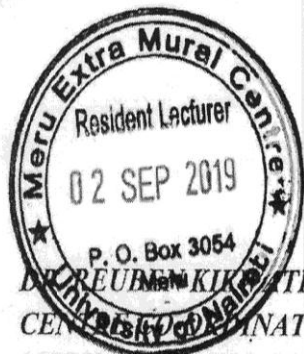
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SUBJECT: STAFFORD MBITHI YAMBU - ADM. NO. L50/10696/2018

This is to confirm that the above named person is a student at the University of Nairobi, School Of Open and Distance Education, Department of Open Learning Programmes, Meru Learning Centre.

He is pursuing a Masters course in *Project Planning and Management* and would like to be assisted with information from your organization to finalize his research proposal.

Any assistance accorded to him will be highly appreciated.



**STAFFORD MBITHI YAMBU
CO-ORDINATOR
MERU LEARNING CENTRE**

APPENDIX IV: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR PROJECT OFFICERS

This guide was developed to collect data from project officers on the factors affecting the performance of donkey welfare projects- The case of Heshimu Punda Project in Mwea-West Sub-County in Kirinyaga County.

1. What type of donkey welfare projects are you implementing among the donkey owners and users in the Sub-county?
2. In your opinion, how does the Project involve donkey owners/users in formulating, implementing and monitoring the success of the projects?
3. Explain the level of community participation in the donkey welfare projects you are implementing?
4. Are donkey owners/ users able to organize themselves to address their own challenges without much support from your organization?
5. What would you say is the donkey owners'/users' role in monitoring of donkey welfare projects?
6. How is your input considered as a stakeholder?
7. In your opinion, do you think the approaches used in donkey welfare projects adequately address the challenges faced in implementing donkey welfare projects?
8. Are the donkey welfare projects in your area relevant and sustainable?

APPENDIX V: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR VETERINARY OFFICERS

1. How effective have been your trainings to donkey owners/users?
2. What is their response to the trainings?
3. Have donkey owners/ users been calling you to attend to their donkeys?
4. What would you say are some of the challenges while working with donkey owners/users from this region?
5. What changes would you implement in your approach while implementing the donkey welfare projects?

APPENDIX VI: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR LOCAL ADMINISTRATION



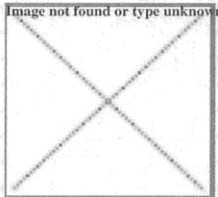


REPRESENTATIVE

1. How are you involved in initiatives that target to improve donkey welfare in your region?
2. Have cases involving donkey theft and /or mistreatment been reported to your office in the past?
3. What challenges do you face while dealing with cases involving donkey owners/users?
4. What action has your office taken to curb the mentioned challenges?
5. What other support do you offer to donkey owners/users in this region?

APPENDIX VII: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR LOCAL MEAT VENDORS

1. What is the preference of meat customers from this locality?
2. Have there been cause of worry among meat customers about the safety of meat they purchase from you in the wake of donkey theft cases?
3. Have there been cases of donkey meat supply in the local market?
4. Do local people eat donkey meat?

APPENDIX VIII: RESEARCH LICENSE

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PROJECTS: THE CASE OF HESHIMU PUNDA PROGRAMME IN MWEA WEST
SUB-COUNTY, KIRINYAGA COUNTY, KENYA

BY

STAFFORD MBITHI YAMBU

A Research Project Report Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Award of Master of Arts Degree in Project Planning and Management of the University
of Nairobi

2019
DECLARATION