

**DEVOLUTION AND ITS EFFECT ON THE COMMUNITY: A CROSS SECTIONAL  
STUDY OF GITHUNGURI CONSTITUENCY IN KIAMBU COUNTY**

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**DECLARATION**

This research project is my original work. It has not been submitted to any other institution of learning for whatever purpose.

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

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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this project to my lovely family far and wide and to future generations who should live a more fulfilling life enjoying the fruits of the hard labor, blood and sweat of our forefathers.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

CBF:	Constituency Bursary Fund
CDF:	Constituency Development Fund
LA:	Local Authorities
SPSS:	Statistical Packages for Social Sciences

## **OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS**

**Community development:** This is where the local people actively participate in community development.

**Devolution:** the transfer power and functions to country governments.

**Devolved funds:** money transferred to county governments

**Decentralization:** the process of redistributing powers and functions from national government.

## **ABSTRACT**

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 set a pace for the process of devolution. In Kenya devolution involves transfer of finances and power to County governments with an aim of bringing services and development close to its citizens in view of vision 2030. Despite this initiative, there is less evidence indicating the effect of devolution on the many communities in Kenya. This study sought to examine the impact of devolution on community development with reference to Githunguri constituency.

The study used a cross sectional study design and utilized qualitative as well as quantitative data. The target population was 39350 house hold heads in Githunguri constituency. Fisher's fomula was used in the determination of the sample size. Stratified random sampling was applied to select a sample size of 384 household heads from the target population. The strata were the five locations in Githunguri constituency. In addition, purposive sampling to select on 5 chiefs from the five locations in Githunguri Constituency as the key informants. The study used primary data collected using structured questionnaires and interview guides.

The study found that the social and economic projects initiated after devolution in Githunguri Constituency had yielded some benefits. Devolution had led to improved accessibility to the market due to improved roads and feeder roads, improved availability of medicine in healthcare facilities, improved lighting in the streets, increased accessibility to water. However, factors such as poor administrative capacity, embezzlement of revenues, evasion, lack of capacity, use of traditional service delivery methods, improper procedures in procurement and lack of professionalism in public sector management were negatively influencing devolution.

This study recommends that the national government as well as the county governments should formulate and implement policies to separate powers and authority so as to ensure that there are no overlapping of powers and authority. In addition, County Governments should ensure an increased use of modern technology in service delivery and in procurement. This will help to improve efficiency of service delivery and reduce collusion and corruption in public procurement.

## **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

Devolution refers to a central initiative by Governments that wish to take economic resources and political powers to the lower community level thereby bringing services and development close to its citizens. Many governments globally are characterized by devolution (Rodriguez-Pose and Gill, 2003). It involves devolving of functions, like decision making, finance and management, from the national government to the County governments (Simiyu & Mweru, 2014).

Among the most important arguments on devolution and decentralization is that it enhances economic efficiency by optimizing information flow, bring public services closer to the people and reduce development cost. Furthermore, devolution creates democratic space for institutions of governance to thrive (Deweese, Lobao & Swanson, 2003).

As mentioned earlier in the chapter, there are several countries in the world that are run through devolved units. The level of success differs from one country to the other. For example, in the United Kingdom, devolution of power did not involve the community, which changed the emphasis on governance and reduced the local authority access to funds (Willett & Giovannini, 2014). Other most notable successful experiences with devolution are the US and India with about 200 and 60 years of experience respectively.

In the case of Africa, after gaining independence, many countries embraced the one-party system in what they referred to as “democracy by consensus”. However, this system of government would be contested later due to oppression from very powerful government. Further, after

independence, African leaders started realizing that they had difference in ideologies. These factors, among many others led to the struggle for multi-party democracy in many countries (Haughton, Counsell & Vigar, 2008).

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 enshrines devolution. The constitution led to the creation of 47 counties that are managed by political leaders such as governors and Member of County Assemblies (Khaunya, Wawire & Chepng'eno, 2015). The constitution also establishes several institutions/bodies to oversight counties to enhance accountability. Such bodies include the senate and the auditor general's office (Ndung'u, 2014).

In various parts of Kenya, devolution has been found to impact on community members in various ways. According to Simiyu and Mweru (2014) devolution has a positive influence on socio-economic welfare and economic empowerment and the of the people of Kimilili constituency. In addition, Ndung'u (2014) argues that devolution influences economic development potentialities in various parts of Kenya.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Devolution has in the recent past become quite widespread in some political and academic debates. Literature suggest that Kenya has experienced fundamental changes in the state institutions concerned with economic development and redistribution. Governments at all levels are more subject to market influences, the scope of the national government is reduced, and greater authority is devolved to counties and communities (Rummery & Greener, 2012).

According to Othieno (2012), devolution can be a solution to problems like conflicts, corruption, inequalities, rent seeking, inefficient use of public resources, and economic stagnation. Besides,

devolution is also implemented as a reaction to external pressure from organized groups. For devolution to be effective, however, consensus is paramount.

Since devolution is in its early stages in Kenya and has been facing various challenges, studies on the influence of devolution on community development are very important. So far, several studies relating to devolution in Kenya have been conducted. For instance, Kivuva (2011) did a study on devolution and the politics of marginalization in Kenya; Ager (2012) did a study on devolution in Kenya: A critique of the concept of constitutionalism; and Mitullah (2013) conducted a study on development ideals and reality: bridging the Kenya gap through devolution. However, there is little empirical evidence on the effect of devolution on community development. This study therefore sought to answer the question: What is the effect of devolution on community development in Githunguri constituency in Kiambu County?

### **1.3 Research Questions**

- i. What is the level of participation by the people in the projects funded by the devolved funds in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County?
- ii. What are factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County?
- iii. What is devolved funding effect on the socio-economic welfare in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County?

## **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

### **1.4.1 Main Objective**

This study aims at establishing the effects of devolution on community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.

### **1.4.2 Specific objectives**

1. To examine the level of participation by the people in the projects funded by the devolved funds in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.
2. To identify the factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.
3. To evaluate the effects of devolved funding on the socio-economic welfare in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.

## **1.5 Justification of the Study**

This study is of importance to various groups, which include academicians and researchers, county governments the national government and policy makers.

The national government, county government and policy makers could use the findings of this study to evaluate the effect of devolution on community development, which could help to improve on existing research policies.

To the general public in Kenya the findings of this study provide information on their role in the implementation of devolution. The study also educates the general public on the positive and negative effects of devolution on community development.

This study will act as an important source of literature for review by future studies. Furthermore, the study adds to the body of knowledge by providing insights to issues around devolution in Kenya and elsewhere in the world.

### **1.6 Scope and Limitations of the Study**

This study was limited to Githunguri constituency, Kiambu County. The study used qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection. Primary data was collected using questionnaires and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs). The target populations comprised female and male youths Githunguri Constituency, local leaders, technical officers from both government and non-government organizations, and political leaders at the constituency level. The study determined how economic development and social service responses in Githunguri constituency match up with the implementation of general principles of devolution by identifying the factors that affect the full implementation of devolution in the Constituency. The study also sought to establish the link between devolution and community development in the Constituency. The study faced a number of limitations. First, the interpretations of the questionnaires was subjected to the respondents' understandings and perceptions on the subject matter and the honesty in responding to all the questions. The respondents' background and different knowledge and exposure may have influenced their interpretation of the questionnaires. The researcher overcame this by administering both open ended and closed questions as well as by using interview schedules for the community members.

## **CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter reviews literature in relation to the objectives of this study. It begins with empirical literature followed by an identification of research gaps, theoretical framework, and conceptual framework.

### **2.2 The concept of devolution**

Devolution is one of the ways to fully attain people's participation in governance. Further, devolution enables public authority and resources to be transferred from higher national levels to lower jurisdictions (Jiwaji, 2014).

As a governance tool, devolution inculcates the principle of subsidiarity, that is, reassigning functions and powers from the national government to the devolved units. Devolution also often referred to as decentralization has three fundamental dimensions, which are the administrative, fiscal, and the political dimensions. Administrative decentralization transfers responsibility of functions from the central agency to one or more of its lower levels internally while political devolution separates powers and political responsibilities horizontally or vertically (Willett & Giovannini, 2014). On the other hand, fiscal decentralization entails two main things: decentralizing revenue collection, and giving devolved units power to expend.

### **2.3 Devolution in Kenya**

Kenya had a short-lived devolution experience through the *majimbo* system enshrined in the independence constitution. However, it collapsed due to lack of substantive roots in the philosophies of either its sponsors in the KADU government or the victorious KANU

government was mandated to implement it. Due to this and lack of support, the country returned to a centralized system of governance.

Conversely the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 following extensive decade-long consultation process, changed the governance structure to devolution. It was expected that the development challenges of the centralized government Kenya had faced since independence will be addressed following this promulgation and the onset of the County Government after the 2013 elections with the accompanying enactment of subsidiary laws (Khaunya, Wawire & Chepng'eno, 2015). Indeed the National Government is making deliberate effort to distribute resources in more equitable way through quota disbursement of County Governments. However, the counties are still threatened by a number of challenges ranging from misappropriation of funds to irregular appointments to nepotism among others (Simiyu & Mweru, 2014).

## **2.4 Empirical Literature**

This section presents an empirical review of literature on the objectives of the study. It comprise of literature on the level of participation by the people in the projects funded by the devolved funds, factors affecting the implementation of devolution and effects of devolved funding on the socio-economic welfare.

### **2.4.1 Community Participation in the Projects Funded by the Devolved Funds**

In Kenya, public participation is both a key promise and provision of the Constitution of Kenya. It is instilled in the national values and principles of governance stipulated in article 10. The Legislature and Executive at both national and county levels are required to engage the public in the processes of policy making, monitoring and implementation (Jesuit Hakimani Centre, 2013).

According to a study conducted by Transparency International (2016) 85 percent of Kenyans had not participated in county citizen consultation forums. Additionally, 62 percent had not heard about such forums. This highlights inefficiency in communication to create awareness about such forums, and hence allow public participation. On the other hand, the public should play a proactive role in devolution matters.

In a study on the community participation in the management of development projects in Kilgoris Constituency, Kwena (2013) found that there was very low community participation and limited awareness in development projects. The study also found that in order for the government to achieve maximum community participation in development projects, devolved units should create room for community participation and also create a favorable environment to address among other things, the institutional obstacles and the capacity gaps within the community.

#### **2.4.2 Factors Affecting the Implementation of Devolution**

The implementation of devolution cannot be conducted completely alienated from the forces of politics. Thus, according to Tadlock et al. (2005), in the U.S., devolution has so often been the cause for major inequalities with regard to economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances etc. Such inequalities can only be reduced by fiscal equalization and a major guarantee for equal distribution of good public services within the entire federation. Many states also fear that autonomy will become the first step for the final secession. Autonomous units may build up a proper identity and thus compete with the identity of the federal state. Such development may create loyalty conflicts of different citizens.

Federal units, which built up on the diversity of their majority, may on the other hand discriminate minorities, which may even belong on federal level to the majority. In this case majorities might strongly oppose any real devolution. Thus too much autonomy especially with regard to security of minorities may endanger the weak minorities in certain federal units.

There are many factors affecting devolution on a global scale. First, economies of scale/scope may enhance efficiency in provision of public goods by the central agency. Secondly, there is the problem of assigning power and roles in devolved units without overlapping (Sheely, 2012). Thirdly, many structures of government create complexity thereby hindering transparency and accountability. This also leads to a huge increase in recurrent expenditures. Fourthly, transfer of powers to devolved units for instance power to collect revenue and incur expenditure could bring with it corruption (Kim & Fording, 2008). Finally, Dewees Lobao & Swanson (2003) indicates that devolved units often run huge fiscal deficits which could lead to unfavorable long-term economic implications.

### **2.4.3 Role of Devolution in Community Development**

#### **2.4.3.1 Devolution of Structures**

According to Mitchell (2001), devolution creates variation in governance. Variation in the relationships between central government, local government and community agents is considerable (Danson & Lloyd, 2012).

For example, in China devolution has been a success. China has focused on fiscal devolution and has experienced improved community development. It began with shift in the tax collection duty from central government to lower tiers of government in early 1980s. As a result, some sub-

national authorities were conferred with the rights for their own budgets and to manage their own finance (Condor, 2010).

Devolution system in South Africa is comprised of regional governments headed by a premier. The national congress derives representation from the devolved units in the cabinet and assembly. The national government is also mandated to perform both supervisory and oversight roles.

#### **2.4.3.2 Decentralization of Funds**

In Brazil, economic development has been achieved through devolution. The country has a long history of federalism dating back to the nineteenth century. In this regard Brazil is among the most decentralized democracies globally, with devolved units accounting for about 50 percent of the total public expenditure (Bockmeyer, 2003).

In South Africa, financial decentralization has remained strong. In this regard, the country's large cities are able to finance/sustain themselves (Bartley et al. 2008). In the cases of Johannesburg and Cape Town, the two cities only rely on 15% and 8% of grant respectively to finance their budgets. In this regard, such cities can exercise autonomy in making their spending decisions. The fact that grant negotiations occur between technocrats other than politicians is an important aspect in preventing interference from politics.

In Kenya, some devolved funds have enhanced service delivery, and more devolved funds have been introduced such as the Youth Enterprise Fund and the Women's' Enterprise Fund in budget 2007/08. With regard to social services, each County government has faced the need to create socially, economically and environmentally sustainable frameworks for service delivery with increased revenue raised by the counties themselves. According to the World Bank's estimates,

devolution will see Counties been responsible for functions that cost about 30% of total revenues—more than what they are guaranteed by the Constitution. Some of the gap will be filled by revenues raised directly by Counties themselves.

#### **2.4.4 Effect of Devolution on Social Economic Welfare**

Socio-economic development is a concept whereby the development stakeholders envision helping in improving quality of life, to support empowerment of the local ordinary people, to develop or preserve the local assets, to overcome market failures, to strengthen cohesion, and to define and deliver grass-root development projects (Nyakiongora, 2013). The initiatives touted in such a direction are usually area-specific integrated strategies that help to mobilize a big number of local stakeholders. This means that devolution is an important tool to achieve socio-economic development.

Simiyu, Mweru and Omete (2015) conducted a study that sought to determine the socio-economic impact of devolution in Kimilili Constituency, Kenya. A descriptive survey design was used. A total of 98 respondents were selected through the census approach. The results of the study show that CDF plays an important role in social economic aspects of the lives of the locals and calls for policy makers to better manage devolved funds. In a strive to provide access to clean water; Kimilili constituency through CDF has supported various water projects which include piped water, digging of bore holes, springs protection, dams' rehabilitation and erection of water tanks in schools. In addition, employment has been created to the locals though in a smaller scale. Specific areas where employment has been created through CDF include: administrative jobs, manual jobs in CDF funded projects, and supply jobs.

## **2.5 Theoretical Framework**

This study was anchored on two theories, namely; theory of balanced growth and theory of unbalanced growth.

### **2.5.1 Theory of Balanced Growth**

The theory was postulated by Ragnar Nurkse (1907–1959). It highlights narrow market, and limited market opportunities as the main impediments to development. Under these conditions, only complementary investments bundle is capable of creating mutual demand. Thus, governments need to plan for investment to achieve balanced growth (Merrifield, 2010).

Fernando (2009) supports the theory of balanced growth by indicating that due to low demand for goods, the propensity to invest is low which translates to low capital equipment per capita (i.e., per worker). Since the amount of capital per capita is small, productivity per worker is low which in extension means low per capita income and poverty.

This theory is pertinent to this study as it gives insight on how county governments should make their investment decision for the betterment of the community's well-being. Such investments in can be done in sectors which have a high relation between supply, purchasing power, and demand as in consumer goods industry and food production (Whitworth & Whitworth, 2010).

### **2.5.2 Theory of Unbalanced Growth**

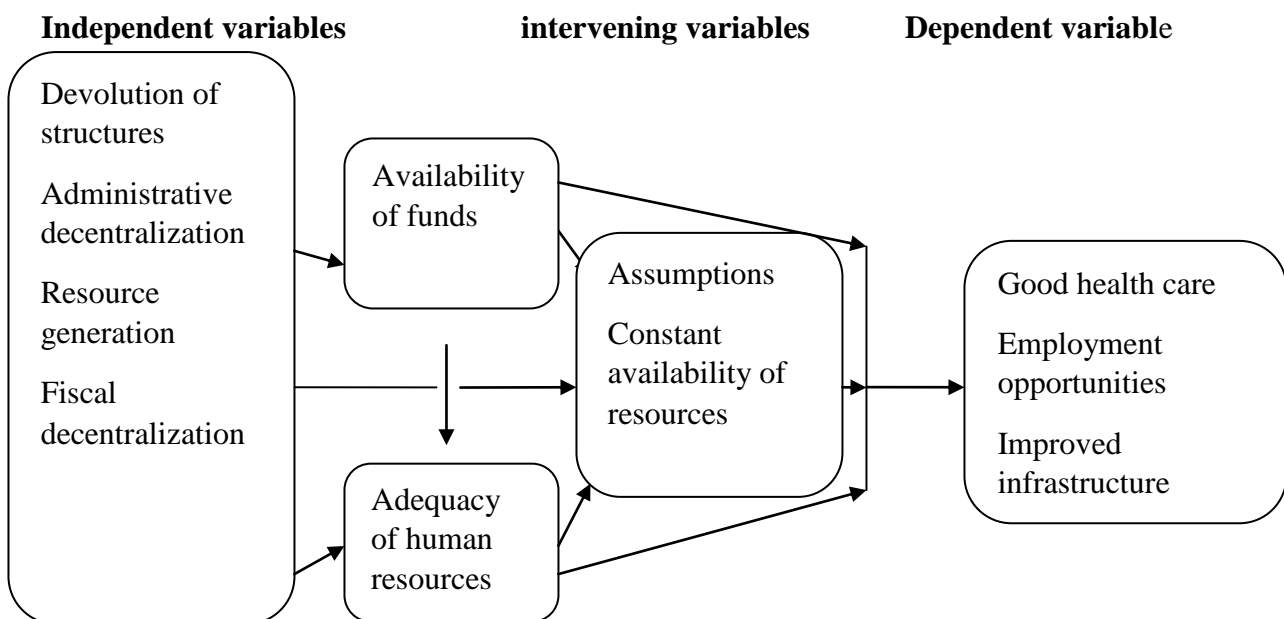
According to Hirschman, the real impediment is not the shortage of capital, but lack of entrepreneurial abilities; this is a complete contrast to the balanced growth theory (Gardiner et al., 2013). This theory is also significant and relevant as it is offering a completely different

perspective on how to achieve balanced growth. It states that the most important and influential factor is the existence of entrepreneurial skills.

## 2.6 Conceptual framework

In this study the researcher viewed community development as subject to facilitation by devolution. The independent variables, which include devolution structures, administrative decentralization, devolution policies, and fiscal decentralization influence availability of funds and adequacy of human resources in county governments. As indicated in figure 2.1, the five independent variables have an influence on the dependent variable, which is community development. However, the success of the independent variables in influencing community development is influenced by the intervening variables like availability of funds and adequacy of human resources. In addition, availability of funds and adequacy of human resources can on their own influence role differentiations and performance, which in turn influences various aspects of community development.

**Figure 2. 1: Conceptual Framework**



**Source: Author (2016)**

## **2.7 Operationalization**

Operationalization is the process of strictly defining variables into measurable factors. In this study, the independent variables included devolution structures, administrative decentralization, resource generation, fiscal decentralization, resource mobilization and community development. The indicators of devolution structures include development of county assemblies, county assemblies, senate and devolvement of services. In addition administrative decentralization was measured in terms of movement of power from national government to county governments, distribution of authority, decentralization of civil service and transfer of responsibility for the planning and management of certain public functions from the central government. The indicators of resource generation in county governments include new local taxation policies, funding by donors and borrowing. Further, fiscal decentralization was measured in terms of allocation of fund to county governments, change of responsibility over resources and fiscal Capacity and Trade-offs. Lastly, community development was measured in terms of poverty reduction, service delivery and infrastructure development like roads and electricity.

**Table 2. 1: Operationalization Table**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
Devolution structures	County assemblies services board
	County governments
	County assemblies

	Senate
	Devolvement of services
Administrative decentralization	Movement of power from national government to county governments
	Redistribution of authority
	Decentralization of civil service
	Transfer of responsibility for the planning and management of certain public functions from the central government
Resource generation	New local taxation policies
	Funding by donors
	Borrowing
Fiscal decentralization	Allocation of fund to county governments
	Change of responsibility over resources
	Fiscal Capacity and Trade-offs
Community development	Poverty reduction
	Service delivery
	Infrastructure development like roads and electricity

## **CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

The chapter describes the methodologies employed by the study. It specifically focuses on: site description, research design, sampling procedures, research instruments, data collection and analysis.

### **3.2 Site Description**

Githunguri Constituency is one of the five constituencies in Kiambu County in Kenya. As per the 2009 census the constituency had a population of 154,891 and 39350 households. In addition, the constituency has five wards, namely; Githiga, Githunguri, Ikinu, Komothai and Ngewa. Githunguri The constituency is renowned for agriculture especially dairy, coffee and tea farming.

### **3.3 Research Design**

The study was cross-sectional in nature, and utilized both qualitative and quantitative data. In contrast with causal or relational studies, cross-sectional studies are observational and descriptive in nature (Kothari, 2004). Researchers record information collected from a population without manipulating variables. Cross-sectional research is mainly used to describe characteristics portrayed by a population. On the other hand, descriptive research design entails collecting data that describe a phenomenon. The data is then presented in visual aids such as graphs and chart. In addition, descriptive research is designed to give a picture of a phenomenon as it naturally happens (Mugenda and Mugenda 2003). In the current study, descriptive research was used to provide a picture of the effect of devolution and neo-liberalism on community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.

### **3.4 Unit of Analysis and Unit of Observation**

#### **3.4.1 Unit of Analysis**

This refers to the ‘what’ or ‘whom’ that is being studied. In this research study, the unit of analysis was the effect of devolution and neoliberalism on community development.

#### **3.4.1 Units of Observation**

Household heads and sub chiefs in Githunguri Constituency comprised the unit of observation for the current study.

### **3.5 Target Population**

According to Cooper and Schindler, (2006), target population is a group of interest from which the individual participants or objects from which the measurement is taken. Target population is therefore the entire population to whom the results of the study would be generalized. Ngechu (2004) defines a population set of people, events, services, elements, group of things or households under study/investigation. There are 39350 households in Githunguri Constituency. In this study the target population was therefore 39350 house hold heads.

**Table 3. 1: Households Distribution**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Population</b>
Githiga	6,979
Githunguri	9,721
Ikinu	6,532
Komothai	8,584

Ngewa	7,534
Sub-Total	39350

### 3.6 Sample Size and Sampling Technique

This is the process of selecting the object or cases to be studied from the target population. According to Creswell (2008) factors that influence sample size include but not limited to: population size, research methods and analysis methods. Sampling was done for households heads. However, since the number of MCAs (5) and sub-chiefs (20) is small they were all included in the study.

To determine the households heads sample size for study used Fisher (1998) sample size determination formula within  $\pm 5\%$  points with 95% confidence, with  $p = 0.5$  ( $q=1-p$ ),  $e=0.05$ ,  $\alpha =0.05$  and  $Z=1.96$

$$n = \frac{z^2 pq}{e^2}$$

Then

$$n = \frac{(1.96 \times 1.96) \times 0.5 \times 0.5}{0.05 \times 0.05}$$

$$n = 384.16$$

Hence  $n = 384$

Stratified random sampling was applied to select 384 household heads from the population. Stratified sampling is by definition, a probability sampling technique where the population is

divided into different subgroups or strata. The sample is then selected from different strata, proportionally. The sample size of this study was therefore 384 household heads.

**Table 3. 2: Sample Size**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>
Githiga	6,979	68
Githunguri	9,721	95
Ikinu	6,532	64
Komothai	8,584	84
Ngewa	7,534	73
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>39350</b>	<b>384</b>

The study also used purposive sampling to select on 5 chiefs from the five locations in Githunguri Constituency as Key Informants.

### **3.7 Data Collection Methods**

#### **3.7.1 Data Collection Instruments**

The study made use of mainly primary data. Creswell (2005) defines primary data as the data collected for the first time. Thus, both semi-structured questionnaires and Key Informants Interview Guides were used in the collection of the primary data. Key informants in this study were 5 chiefs from the five locations in Githunguri Constituency.

#### **3.7.2 Data collection procedures**

Prior to data collection, a letter of introduction was obtained from the University of Nairobi Department of Sociology and Social Work, which was transmitted to respondents to

communicate the identity of the researcher. In addition, the purpose, duration and potential use of the research results were clarified to the respondents . During the fieldwork interviews were carried out with only those who agree to participate in the study. Informants were also informed of their rights to withdraw at any stage of the study. The information that the researcher received was treated with confidentiality and also names of the respondents were not used or mentioned in the study.

### **3.8 Pilot Test**

This is a mock study. It helps in assessing the suitability of data collection instruments and identify any difficulty that could be experienced during the actual study. The study tool was pre-tested at Kiambu town constituency this was because it has similar characteristics with Githunguri constituency. This gave feedback to the researcher on whether all the areas required in the study were captured well and amendments were made on the study tools in readiness for the actual study.

#### **3.8.1 Research Instrument Validity**

Creswell (2005) defines the concept as the extent to which the results from analysis represents the phenomenon under study. Validity can either be content (which refers to the probability that a question is misinterpreted or misunderstood) or face validity (which is a measure that depicts all facets of a social construct). In the current study content validity was achieved by seeking expert opinion for instant supervisors while face validity was achieved by conducting a pilot study and adjusting any unclear/ambiguous questions.

### **3.8.2 Research Instruments Reliability**

Reliability is the degree to which a research instrument produces stable and consistent results (Greener, 2008). In this study, a reliability test was used to establish the ability of the questionnaire to produce consistent result. The reliability of the questionnaires was measured by measuring the internal consistency technique. Internal consistency techniques were measured by use of Cronbach's Alpha. Coefficient of 0.6-0.7 is a commonly accepted rule of thumb that indicates acceptable reliability and 0.8 Or higher indicated good reliability (Robinson, 2009).

### **3.9 Data Analysis**

Quantitative data was obtained from the structured questions in the questionnaire while Qualitative data was obtained from the open ended questions in the questionnaire, and the interview guides. Prior to analysis, data was coded. All the questionnaires were numbered before data collection for ease of referencing. All the quantitative variables were chronologically arranged to ensure that the correct code is entered for each variable. By using the coded variable number and the questionnaire number, it is easy to identify and rectify mistakes performed during data entry. Data cleaning was then performed. After verifying that all data entered was correct, descriptive statistics were generated. Descriptive statistics help in describing distribution of measurements, organizing and summarizing data (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003).

On the other hand, qualitative data was coded accordingly and analyzed by use of content analysis. The results from the qualitative data were then be presented in a prose form.

## **CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION**

### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents data analysis, results and interpretation. The general objective of this study was to determine the effect of devolution on community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County. The study also sought to determine how economic development and social service responses in Githunguri constituency match up with the implementation of general principles of devolution; to identify the factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County; and to establish the link between devolution and community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.

The sample size for the study was 384 household heads in Githunguri Constituency, out of which 328 filled and returned their questionnaires, and 5 key informants interviews were carried out while 51 questionnaires were not returned. Overall, the response rate is about 86.7%. According to Babbie (2002) any response rate of 50% or above is adequate for analysis. Thus the response of 86.7% is very significant for the analysis.

### **4.2 General Information**

The general information of the respondents comprised of their location, gender, age bracket and their highest level of Education

#### **4.2.1 Respondents' Location**

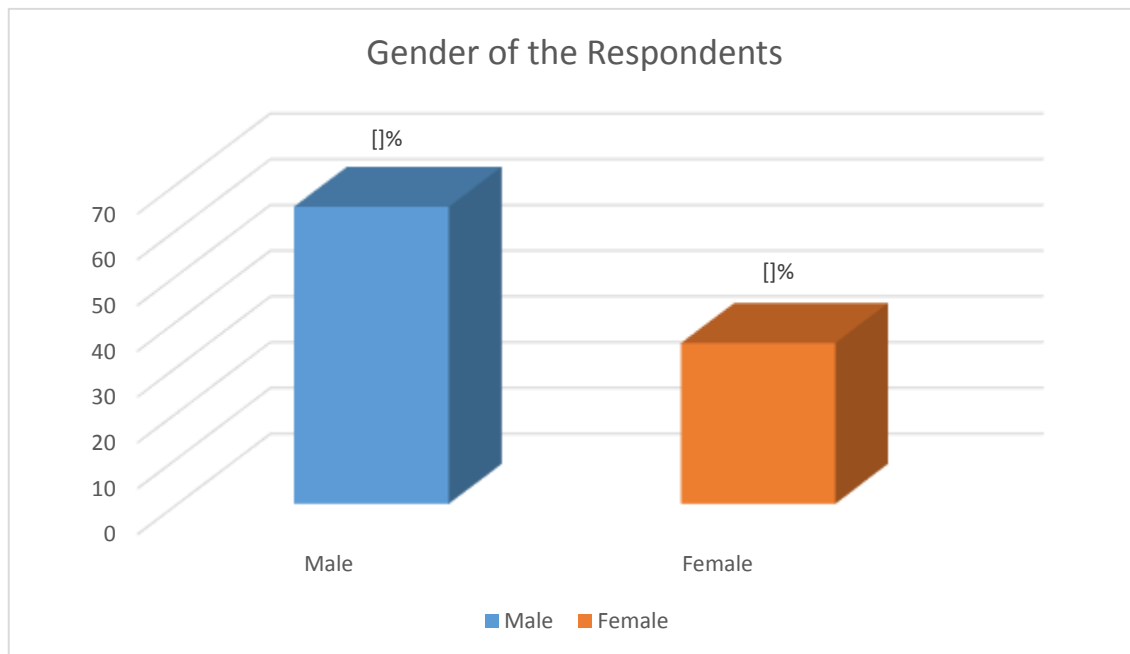
The community members were also requested to indicate their location. The results were as shown in the figure below. From the findings, 35.1% of the community members indicated that

they came from Ngewa location, 24.7% came from Githunguri location, 18.2% came from Ikinu location, 11.7% came from Githiga location and 10.4% came from Komothai location. This shows that most of the respondents came from Ngewa location.

#### 4.2.2 Gender of the Respondents

From the findings, 64.9% of the community members indicated that they were male while 35.1% indicated that they were female (see figure 4.2 below) . This shows that most of the community members involved in thi study were male. According to Bardhan and Mookherjee (2006) men and women view development projects differently. Men will look at development in terms of infrastructures such as roads, businesses and electricity while women look at development from the perspective of water accessibility, healthcare facilities accessibility and schools.

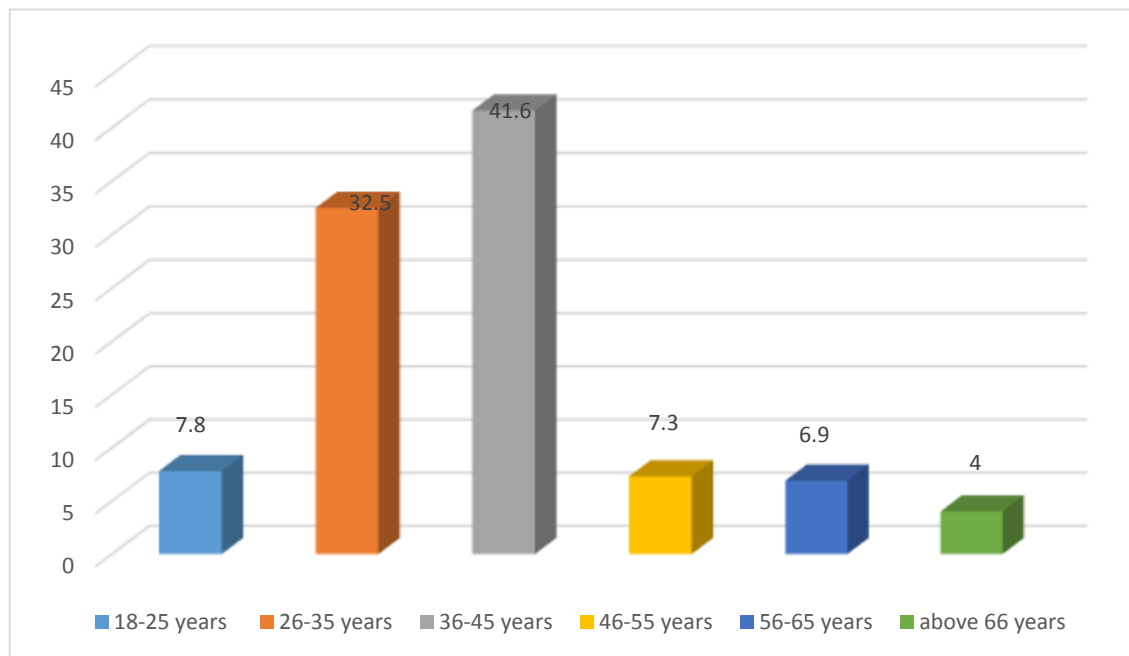
**Figure 4.1: Gender of the Respondents**



### 4.2.3 Respondents' age bracket

According to the findings, 41.6% of the community members indicated that they were aged between 36 and 45 years, 32.5% were aged between 25 and 35 years, 7.3% were 46-55 years, 6.9% were 56-65 years, 4 % were above 65 years and 7.8% indicated that they were below 25 years in age. These findings show that most of the community members were aged between 36 and 45 years. The age of community members influences their views on social and economic development projects. Young people will look at development in terms factors like ICT infrastructure while older people will focus on schools, healthcare facilities, market accessibility among others.

**Figure 4. 2: Respondents' age bracket**

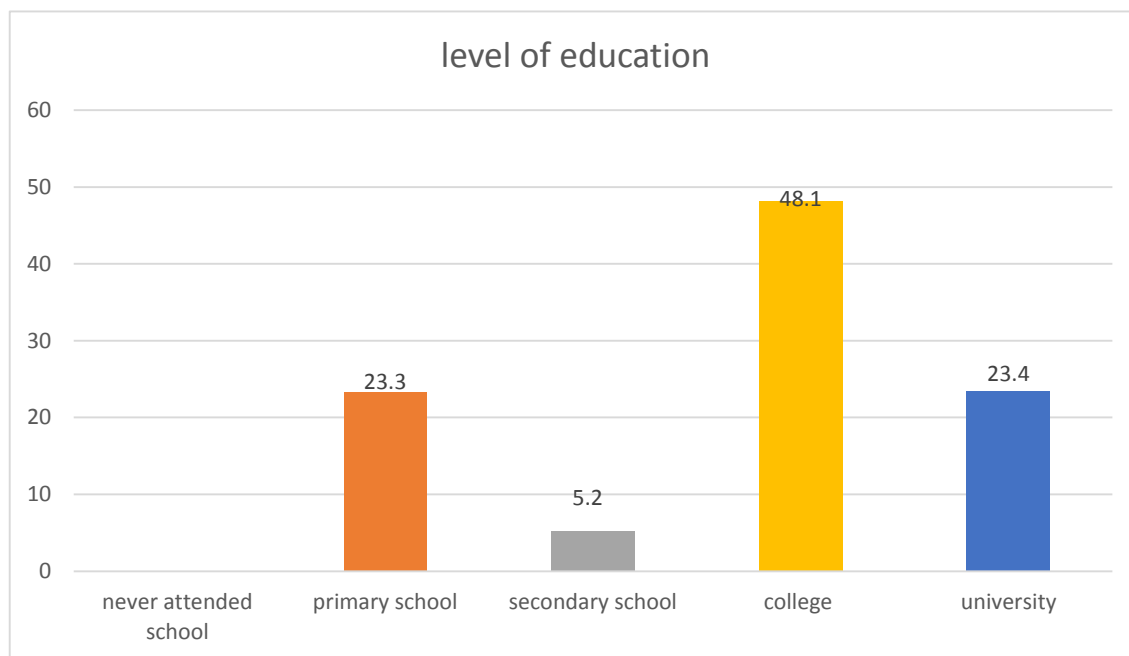


(N=328)

#### 4.2.4 Highest Level of Education

From the findings, 48.1% of the community members had college education, 23.4% had university education, 5.2 % had secondary school education, and 23.3 % only attained primary school education (see figure 4.3). More educated community members will have knowledge on development projects that will improve the quality of life and livelihood as compared to less educated community members.

**Figure 4. 3: Highest Level of Education**



(N=328)

### 4.3 The Influence of Devolved Funds on Community Development

#### 4.3.1 Existing Funding Projects

From the findings, 61.9% of the respondents indicated that the existing funding projects were constituency development funds, 31% indicated that they were bursary funds, 4.8% indicated

that they were poverty eradication funds and 2.4% indicated that they were local authority funds.

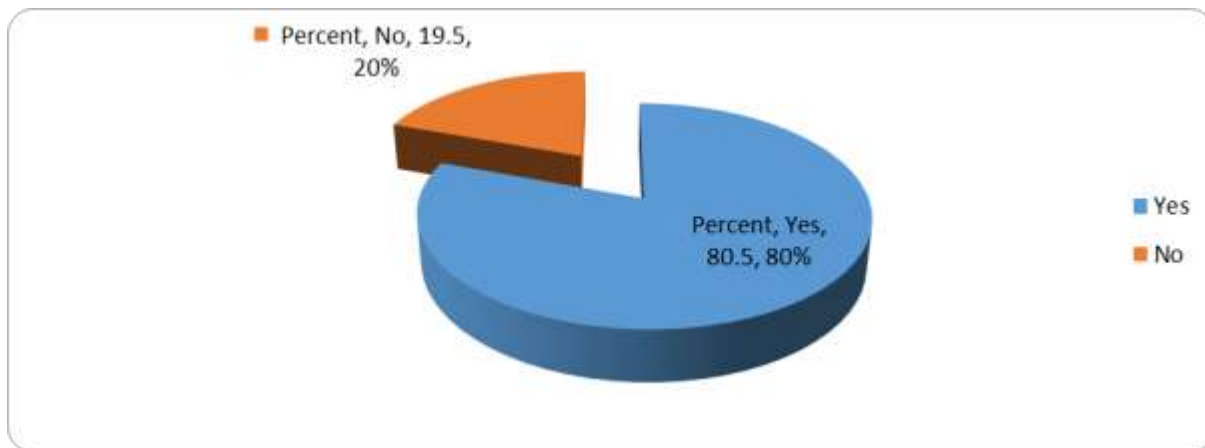
Table 4. 1: Existing Funding Projects

<b>Existing Devolved funds</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Constituency development funds	234	61.9
Bursary funds	78	31.0
Local authority fund	6	2.4
Poverty eradication funds	10	4.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

#### **4.3.2 Knowledge on Social and Economic Development Projects**

The community members were asked to indicate whether they knew of any social and economic development projects that have been initiated in their constituency since the onset of devolution. The results were as show in figure 4.4 below. From the findings, 80.5% of the community members indicated that they knew of social and economic development projects that have been initiated in their constituency since the onset of devolution while 19.5% disagreed. From these findings were can deduce that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution.

**Figure 4. 1: Knowledge on Social and Economic Development Projects**



(N=328)

### **4.3.3 Demographic Information and Knowledge on Social and economic Development Projects**

From the findings, 80% of the male respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 20% of them disagreed. In addition, 81.5% of the female respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 18.5% disagreed.

From the findings, 66.7% of the respondents aged below 25 years indicated that they knew about social and economic development projects. the constituency since devolution while 33.3% of them disagreed. Further, 76% of the respondents aged between 25 and 35 indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the formation of county Governments, while 24% disagreed. In addition 90.6% of the respondents aged between 36 and 45 years indicated that there were also social and economic development projects in the constituency while 24% disagreed. Finally, 71.4% of the

respondents aged 46 years and above indicated there were developments in their constituency however, 28.6% disagreed on the same.

Further from the findings, 75% of the postgraduate respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since devolution while 25% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of Bachelor holders respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri Constituency since devolution. Further, 83.8% of the Diploma holder respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects in the constituency while 16.2% of them disagreed. Finally, 77.8% of the certificate graduants respondents indicated that there social economic development projects in the constituency since devolution while 22.2% disagreed.

**Table 4. 2: Demographic Information and Knowledge on Social and economic Development Projects**

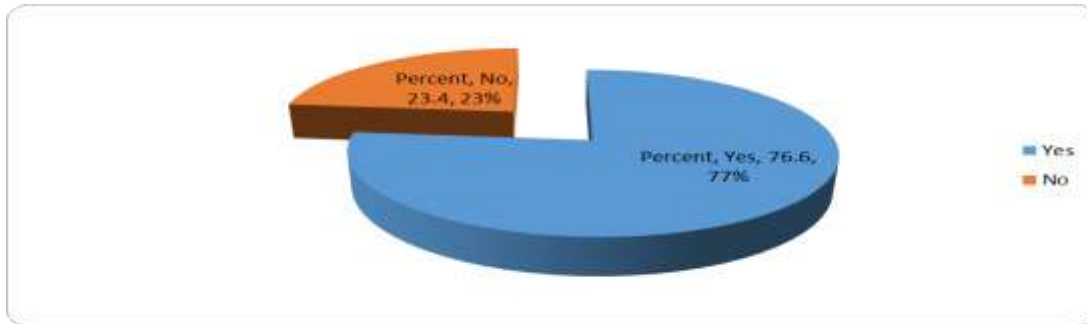
			Knowledge on Social and economic Development Projects(existence of projects initiated after devolution)		Total	
			Yes	No		
Gender	male	Count	160	40	200	
		Percent	80.0%	20.0%	100.0%	
	female	Count	88	20	108	
		Percent	81.5%	18.5%	100.0%	
Total		Count	248	60	328	
		Percent	80.5%	19.5%	100.0%	
Age Bracket	Below 25 Years	Count	16	8	24	
		Percent	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%	
	25 to 35 Years	Count	76	24	100	
		Percent	76.0%	24.0%	100.0%	
	36 to 45Years	Count	116	12	128	
		Percent	90.6%	9.4%	100.0%	
	46 years and above	Count	40	16	56	
		Percent	71.4%	28.6%	100.0%	
	Total		Count	248	60	328
			Percent	80.5%	19.5%	100.0%

Level of Education	Postgraduate	Count	12	4	16
		Percent	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	Bachelors	Count	56	16	72
		count	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
	Diploma	Count	124	24	148
		Percent	83.8%	16.2%	100.0%
	Certificate	Count	56	16	72
		Percent	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
Total		Count	248	60	328
		Percent	80.5%	19.5%	100.0%

#### 4.3.4 Benefits from the Projects

From the respondents who indicate that they knew of social and economic development projects that have been initiated in their constituency since the onset of devolution, the current study also sought to determine whether the projects had yielded any benefits. From the findings, 76.6% of the community members indicated that the social and economic projects had yielded some benefits while 23.4% differed. From these findings it can be concluded that the social and economic projects initiated after devolution in Githunguri Constituency had yielded some benefits.

**Figure 4. 2: Benefits from the Projects**



(N=328)

#### **4.3.5 Demographic Information and Benefits of the Projects**

From the findings, 78% of the male respondents indicated that there were benefits derived from social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 22% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of the female respondents indicated that there were benefits of social and economic developments that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 22.2% disagreed.

Further from the findings, 66.7% of the respondents aged below 25 years indicated that they had benefited from social and economic development projects in the constituency since devolution while 33.3% of them disagreed. Further, 68% of the respondents aged between 25 and 35 indicated that they benefited from social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the formation of county Governments, while 32% disagreed. In addition 90.6% of the respondents aged between 36 and 45 years indicated that there were also social and economic development projects in the constituency while 9.4% disagreed. Finally, 71.4% of the respondents aged 46 and 55 years indicated there were developments in their constituency however, 28.6% disagreed on the same.

Further from the findings, 75% of the university graduates respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since devolution while 25% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of college respondents indicated that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri Constituency since devolution. Further, 83.8% of those who have college education indicated that there were social and economic development projects in the constituency while 16.2% of them disagreed. Finally, 77.8% of primary and secondary school graduates respondents indicated that there social economic development projects in the constituency since devolution while 22.2% disagreed.

**Table 4. 3: Demographic Information and Benefits of the Projects**

			Benefits of Projects initiated after devolution		Total
			Yes	No	
Gender	male	Count	156	44	200
		Percent	78.0%	22.0%	100.0%
	female	Count	84	24	108
		Percent	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
Total		Count	240	68	328
		Percent	77.9%	22.1%	100.0%
Age Bracket	Below 25 Years	Count	16	8	24
		Percent	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
	25 to 35	Count	68	32	100

	Years	Percent	68.0%	32.0%	100.0%
	36 to	Count	116	12	128
	45Years	Percent	90.6%	9.4%	100.0%
Total		Count	240	68	328
		Percent	77.9%	22.1%	100.0%
Level of Education	University	Count	12	4	16
		Percent	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	College	Count	56	16	72
		Percent	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
	Secondary school	Count	120	28	148
		Percent	81.1%	18.9%	100.0%
	Primary school	Count	52	20	72
		Percent	72.2%	27.8%	100.0%
Total		Count	240	68	328
		Percent	77.9%	22.1%	100.0%

#### 4.3.5 The influence of devolution on Community Development

In the assertions seeking to gauge the effects of d on Community Development, a question seeking opinion from respondents that Devolution has led to increase in numbers of schools in Githunguri Constituency, majority of the respondents' equivalent to 52.4% strongly agreed. Those who had agreeing opinion were 28 respondents represented by 34.1% while 11% were neutral. Only 2.4% disagreed strongly.

**Table 4. 4: Respondents perception on whether devolution has led to increase in numbers of schools in Githunguri.**

<b>Level of agreement</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly Disagree	8	2.4%
Disagree	0	0%
Neutral	36	11.0%
Agree	112	34.1%
Strongly Agree	172	52.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

The community members were further asked to indicate whether devolution has led to more infrastructure development. The findings were as shown in figure 4.5 below. Most infrastructural framework has been laid down by devolution funding according to 172 and 52 respondents represented by 52.4% and 15.9% from those who agreed and strongly agreed. Response of 12.2% was neutral while 11% were on disagreeing opinion. A response of 12.2% represented those with neutral opinion while 11% disagreed and 8.5% strongly disagreed.

**Table 4. 5: Respondent’s perception on whether devolution has led to more infrastructural development.**

<b>Level of agreement</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly Disagree	28	8.5 %
Disagree	36	11%
Neutral	40	12.2%
Agree	172	52.4%
Strongly Agree	52	15.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

From the findings, 48.8% agreed that devolution projects have increased level of community participation in development while 35.4% strongly agreed. Those who had neutral opinion were 11% and those disagreed with the statement were 4.9%. More employment opportunities have been created through devolution projects as supported by 53.7% and 19.5% from those who agreed and strongly agreed. Neutral opinion was received by 18.3% while 4.9% and 3.7 % disagreed and strongly disagreed.

**Table 4. 6: Respondent’s perception on whether devolution Contribution to Increased Community Level Of Participation**

<b>Level of agreement</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly Disagree	0	0%
Disagree	16	4.9%
Neutral	36	11 %
Agree	160	48.8%
Strongly Agree	116	35.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

The assertion that respondents hardly experience developmental changes as a result of devolution was opposed by majority of the respondents of 47.6% and 37.8% of those who disagreed and strongly disagreed. Neutral view was supported by 8 respondents equivalent to 2.4% as 16 and 24 respondents represented by 4.9% who agreed and 7.3% strongly agreed.

**Table 4. 7: Respondent’s perception on whether development changes are as a result of devolution.**

<b>Level of agreement</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly Disagree	156	47.6%
Disagree	124	37.8%
Neutral	8	2.4 %

Agree	16	4.9 %
Strongly Agree	24	7.3 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>100</b>

**4.3.6 Demographic Information and Improvement of Economic Development**

From the findings, 74% of the male respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic developments that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 26% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of the female respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution while 22.2% disagreed.

Further from the findings, 66.7% of the respondents aged below 25 years indicated that improvements in social and economic developments in the constituency since devolution while 33.3% of them disagreed. Further, 64% of the respondents aged between 25 and 35 indicated that there were improvements in social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the formation of county Governments, while 36% disagreed. In addition 87.5% of the respondents aged between 36 and 45 years indicated that there were also social and economic development projects in the constituency while 12.5% disagreed. Finally, 71.4% of the respondents aged 46 years and above indicated there were improvements in developments in their constituency however, 28.6% disagreed on the same.

Further from the findings, 75% of the postgraduate respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since devolution while 25% of them disagreed. In addition, 77.8% of Bachelor

holders respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic developments that had been initiated in Githunguri Constituency since devolution. Further, 78.4% of the Diploma holder respondents indicated that there were improvements in social and economic developments in the constituency while 21.6% of them disagreed. Finally, 66.7% of the certificate graduants respondents indicated that there were improvements in social economic development projects in the constituency since devolution while 33.3% disagreed.

**Table 4. 8: Demographic Information and Improvement of Economic Development**

		Improvement of Economic Development and Social Service			Total
		Response			
			Yes	No	
Gender	male	Count	148	52	200
		Percent	74.00%	26.00%	100.00%
	female	Count	84	24	108
		Percent	77.80%	22.20%	100.00%
Total		Count	232	76	328
		Percent	75.30%	24.70%	100.00%
Age Bracket	Below 25 Years	Count	16	8	24
		Percent	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
	25 to 35 Years	Count	64	36	100
		Percent	64.0%	36.0%	100.0%
	36 to 45 Years	Count	112	16	128
		Percent	87.5%	12.5%	100.0%
	46 to 55 years	Count	40	16	56
		Percent	71.4%	28.6%	100.0%
Total		Count	232	76	328

		Percent	75.3%	24.7%	100.0%	
Level of Educati on	Universi ty	Count	12	4	16	
		Percent	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%	
	College	Count	56	16	72	
		Percent	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%	
	Seconda ry school	Count	116	32	148	
		Percent	78.4%	21.6%	100.0%	
	Primary school	Count	48	24	72	
		Percent	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%	
	Total		Count	232	76	328
			Percent	75.3%	24.7%	100.0%

#### 4.3.7 Improvements in Social Service Response

From the community members who indicated that there were economic development and social service response had improved since the implementation of devolution, the study also sought to establish the specific improvements. From the findings, the community members indicated that accessibility to the market had improved through improved roads and feeder roads e.g. Ikinu-Githiga road. The community members also indicated that there was availability of medicine in healthcare facilities. The community members also indicated that there was an improvement in street lights and several water projects and been completed e.g. Thuita Water Project. Further, the community members indicated that new markets had been opened to help the local people to buy and sell their products. The community members also indicated that the County Government was using technology in service delivery like in levies. It was also indicated by the community

members that public facilities such as toilets for the public had been built to help sanitation in bus terminals. The respondents also indicated that there was opening of polytechnics which train the youth with skill e.g Nyaga Polytechnic. The community members further indicated that security had been improved through the establishment of police posts in various areas such as Maringe police post. It was also indicated that pollution had been reduced through refuse removal and improved solid waste disposal

#### **4.3.8 Understanding of Devolution**

The community members were asked to indicate their understanding of devolution in terms of leadership/governance, generation of resources, decision making and sharing of resources. From the findings, 84.4% of the community members indicated that they understood devolution in terms of leadership/governance, 81.8% indicated that they understood devolution in terms of decision making, 80.5% indicated that they understood devolution in terms of generation of resources and 80.5% indicated that they understood devolution in terms of sharing of resources. This shows that the community members in Githunguri Constituency understood devolution in terms of leadership/governance, decision making, generation of resources and sharing of resources.

The community members further explained that there are public forums where the local people are involved in decision making like in the finance bill. The community members also indicated that devolution was bringing resources and service down to the common Mwananchi. In addition, through devolution water projects had been developed to generate income for the youth who were selling water in kiosks. In addition, the rehabilitation of public toilets was used as a

way of creating employment and generating income for the youth. The community members also indicated that there was public private partnership in financing of various projects.

**Table 4. 9: Understanding of Devolution**

	Frequency		Percent		Total	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Frequency	Percent
Leadership/governance	260	48	84.4	15.6	328	100
Generation of resources	248	60	80.5	19.5	328	100
Decision making	252	56	81.8	18.2	328	100
Sharing of resources	248	60	80.5	19.5	328	100

**4.3.9 Implementation of Devolution**

The community members were asked to indicate their level of agreement with various statements on the implementation of devolution. Where SD was strongly disagree, D was disagree, N was neutral, A was agree and SA was strongly agree. From the findings, the respondents agreed with a mean of 3.662 that with devolution resources and public facilities have moved closer to the people at the grassroots. In addition, the community members were neutral on whether devolution is an opportunity to bring power and participation in governance closer to the people as shown by a mean of 3.298. Further, the respondents were neutral on whether devolution had led to decentralization of funds as shown by a mean of 3.286. The community members were also neutral on whether devolution promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power as shown by a mean of 3.285. In addition, the community members were neutral on whether devolution enhances citizen participation as shown by a mean of 3.246. Additionally, the community members were neutral on whether devolution has brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources as indicated by a mean of 3.155.

Lastly, the community members were neutral on whether devolution has led to division of roles and responsibilities as shown by a mean of 3.039.

**Table 4. 10: Implementation of Devolution**

<b>Factors in Implementation of Devolution</b>	<b>Level of Agreement (Percent)</b>					<b>Total</b>		<b>Mean</b>
	<b>SD</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>N</b>	
With devolution resources and public facilities have moved closer to the people at the grassroots	3.9	10.4	18.2	50.6	16.9	100.0	328	3.662
Devolution has brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources	3.9	18.2	40.3	33.8	3.9	100.0	328	3.155
Devolution is an opportunity to bring power and participation in governance closer to the people	5.2	15.6	35.1	32.5	11.7	100.0	328	3.298
Devolution promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power	9.1	10.4	35.1	33.8	11.7	100.0	328	3.285
Devolution enhances citizen participation	6.5	13.0	41.6	27.3	11.7	100.0	328	3.246
Devolution has led to decentralization of funds	9.1	10.4	37.7	28.6	14.3	100.0	328	3.286

Devolution has led to division of roles and responsibilities	11.7	11.7	44.2	26.0	6.5	100.0	328	3.039
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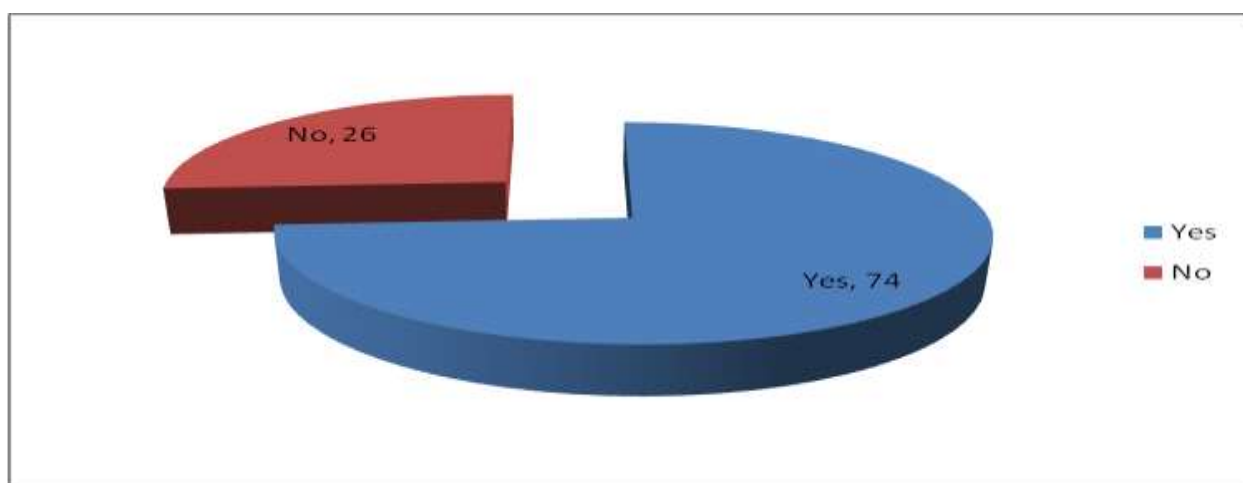
#### 4.4 Key factors that ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses

The second objective of the study was to investigate on the key factors that ensure that counties race in the right direction social service responses and community well-being.

##### 4.4.1 Racing in the Right Direction Social Service Responses

The community members were asked to indicate whether Kiambu County had been racing in the right direction social service responses. The results were as shown in figure 4.8 below. From the findings, 74% of the community members indicated that Kiambu County had been racing in the right direction social service responses while 26% disagreed. These findings clearly show that Kiambu County had been racing in the right direction social service responses.

**Figure 4. 3: Improved social service responses**



(N=328)

#### **4.4.2 Ways to ensure the Right Direction for Community Development**

The respondents were also required to indicate the extent to which various ways could be used to ensure counties race in the right direction in social service responses and community development. Where NA was no extent at all, LE was low extent, ME was moderate extent, GE was great extent and VGE was very great extent. From the findings, the respondents indicated that training of staff to enhance service delivery (Mean=3.883). This could be used to a great extent as way to ensure counties improve in social service responses and community development. The respondents also indicated that facilitating information sharing among all stakeholders could be used to a great extent as way to ensure counties improve in social service responses and community development (Mean=3.654). Further, the respondents indicated that enhancing accountability by developing ways of identifying corruption instances could be used to great extent to ensure improvement in social service responses and community development in County governments (Mean=3.545). In addition, the respondents indicated that enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds can be used as a way of improving social service responses and community development in Counties (Mean=3.532). The respondents also indicated that educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation can be used as a way of improving social service responses and community development (Mean=3.519). Further, the respondents indicated that supporting and developing programmes that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation could be used as a way of improving social service responses and community development (Mean= 3.519).

The respondents were also asked to indicate which other ways could be used to ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses and community development. From the findings, the community members indicated that the County Governments should ensure and

increased use of modern technology in service delivery. The respondents also indicated that the adoption of Nyumba Kumi initiative and community policing would help to improve security. In addition, the community members indicated that it was necessary for the County Government to ensure an increased involvement of community members in decision making. Further, the County government should invite external investors to help in projects. Further, the community members indicated that another way of ensuring Counties are racing in the right direction is by prioritization of development projects to impact grater on communities other than use of funds for recurrent expenditure. It was also indicated that health care centres should have adequate supply of drugs. In addition, sanitation services should be made available in shopping centres as well as in sports facilities. The respondents also indicated that there should be cooperation and collaboration between County leaders in the implementation of projects.

**Table 4. 11: Ways to ensure the Right Direction for Community Development**

<b>Ways to ensure the right direction for community development</b>	<b>Extent of Agreement (Percent)</b>					<b>Total</b>	<b>Mean</b>	
	<b>NA</b>	<b>LE</b>	<b>ME</b>	<b>GE</b>	<b>VGE</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>N</b>	
Training of staff to enhance service delivery		9.1	11.7	61.0	18.2	100.0	328	3.883
Enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds	5.2	7.8	40.3	22.1	24.7	100.0	328	3.532
Enhancing accountability by developing ways of identifying corruption instances	6.5	7.8	35.1	26.0	24.7	100.0	328	3.545
Educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation	6.5	13.0	28.6	26.0	26.0	100.0	328	3.519
Supporting and developing programs that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation	5.2	13.0	29.9	28.6	23.4	100.0	328	3.519
Facilitate information sharing among all stakeholders	5.2	13.0	33.8	27.3	20.8	100.0	328	3.654

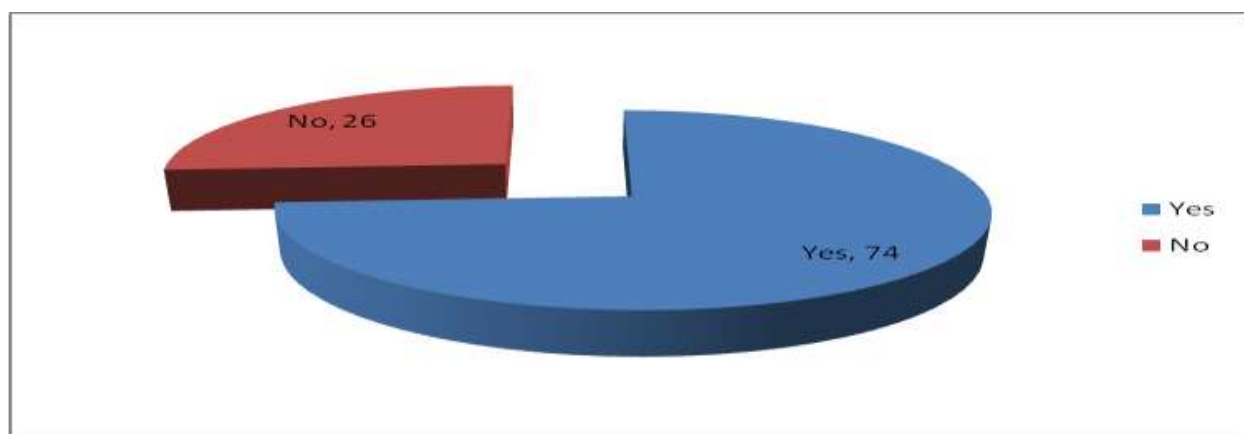
#### **4.5 Factors affecting the implementation of devolution**

The third objective was to determine factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County.

##### **4.5.1 Implementation of Devolution in the Right Way in Kiambu County**

The respondents were asked to indicate whether devolution is being implemented in the right way in Kaimbu County. From the findings, 74% of the community members indicated that devolution was being implemented in the right way in Kaimbu County while 26% differed. From these findings, it can be concluded that devolution was being implemented in the right way in Kaimbu County.

**Figure 4. 4: Implementation of Devolution in the Right Way in Kiambu County**



(N=328)

#### **4.5.2 Challenges Facing the Implementation of Devotion in Kiambu County**

From the respondents who indicated that devolution was not being implemented in the right way in Kaimbu County, follow-up was done to establish the challenges facing the implementation of devotion in Kaimbu County. From the findings the community members indicated that the challenges included lack of coordination among MCAs and MPs, corruption, illiteracy, inadequacy of funds, unqualified personnel in running the public sector, poor management of funds, misplaced priorities, lack of teamwork among leaders and lack of public participation in decision making. There was also lack of governance especially by some top officials hence leading to delay in some resources and facilities.

#### **4.5.3 Factors Affect the Implementation of Devolution in Kiambu County**

The respondents were also asked to indicate the extent to which various factors affect the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County. Where NA was no extent at all, LE was low extent, ME was moderate extent, GE was great extent and VGE was very great extent. From the findings, the respondents indicated with a mean of 3.753 that inequalities with regard to

economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances affect the implementation of devolution to a great extent. The respondents also indicated with a mean of 3.737 that difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way affect the implementation of devolution to a great extent. The respondents further indicated with a mean of 3.711 that poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. In addition, the respondents indicated with a mean of 3.646 that corruption, including embezzlement of revenues affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. The respondents further indicated with a mean of 3.642 that direct and intentional tax evasion affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. In addition, the respondents indicated with a mean of 3.516 that lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills affects implementation of devolution to a great extent.

The community members also indicated that other factors that affect the implementation of devolution include nepotism, lack of enough skills, lack of capacity building, illiteracy, ethnicity, use of traditional methods in delivering services, improper procedures in procurement and lack of professionalism in public sector management.

**Table 4. 12: Factors that affect implementation of devolution**

<b>Factors that affect implementation of devolution</b>	<b>Extent of Agreement (Percent)</b>					<b>Total Percent</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>
	<b>NA</b>	<b>LE</b>	<b>ME</b>	<b>GE</b>	<b>VGE</b>			
Inequalities with regard to economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances	2.6	9.1	11.7	63.5	13.0	100.0	307	3.753
Difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way	3.9	10.5	41.8	35.9	7.8	100.0	306	3.737
Poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes	9.1	13.0	29.9	33.8	14.3	100.0	328	3.711
Explicit and intentional tax evasion and resistance from taxpayers	6.5	15.3	43.0	27.4	7.8	100.0	307	3.642
Corruption, including embezzlement of revenues	9.2	14.1	31.4	33.7	11.8	100.0	306	3.646
Lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills	19.5	9.1	19.5	44.0	7.8	100.0	307	3.516

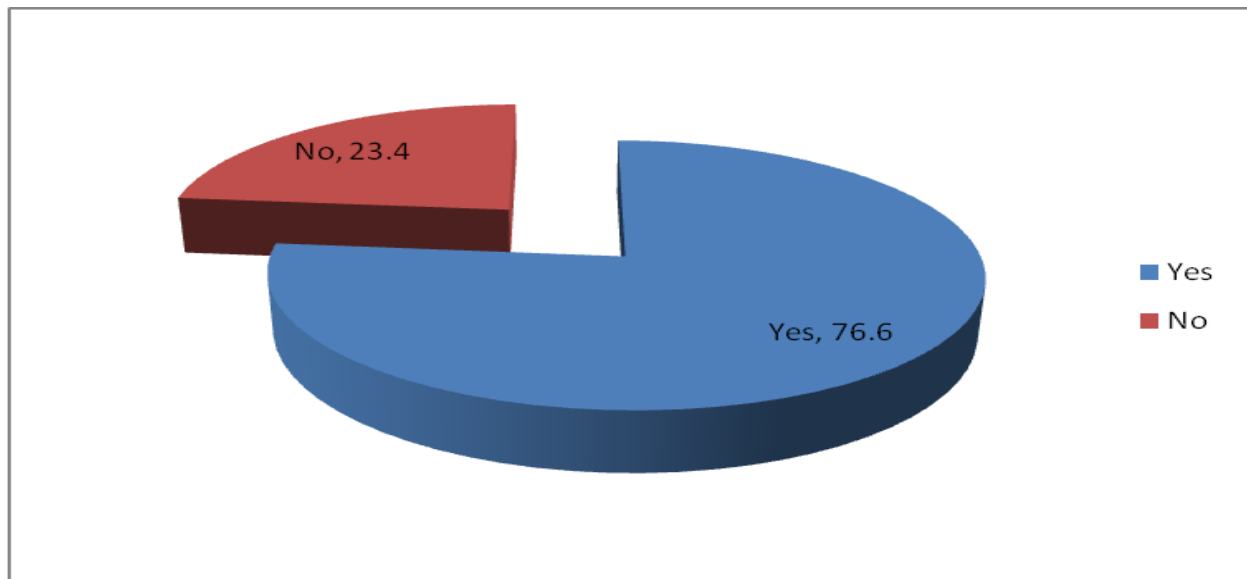
#### 4.6 The relationship between devolution and community development

The fourth objective of this study was to determine the relationship between devolution and community development in Kiambu County.

##### 4.6.1 Influence of Devolution on Community Development

The respondents were asked to indicate whether devolution influences community development. The results were as shown in figure 4.10 below. From the findings, 76.6% of the respondents reported that devolution influences community development while 23.4% differed. From these findings, it can be concluded that devolution influences community development in Githunguri Constituency, Kiambu County. The community members also indicated that devolution enhances the good living of the people, it improves the accessibility of services such as schools, health facilities and water. In addition, devolution creates employment for the people and thus improving the living standards.

**Figure 4. 5: Influence of Devolution on Community Development**



(N=328)

#### 4.6.2 Elements of Devolution influencing Community Development

The respondents also indicated the extent to which the stated elements of devolution influence community development. Where NA was no extent at all, LE was low extent, ME was moderate extent, GE was great extent and VGE was very great extent. According to the findings, the respondents indicated with a mean of 4.298 and a standard deviation of 0.928 that decentralization of Funds influences community development to a great extent. The respondents also indicated with a mean of 4.181 that decentralization of administrative roles influences community development to a great extent. The respondents further reported with a mean of 4.026 that devolution policies influence community development to a great extent. In addition, the respondents indicated with a mean of 4.000 that resources generation influence community development to a great extent. Lastly, the respondents indicated with a mean of 3.766 that devolution structures influences community development to a great extent.

**Table 4. 13: Elements of devolution**

Elements of devolution	Extent of Agreement (Percent)					Total		
	NA	LE	ME	GE	VGE	Percent	N	Mean
Devolution Structures	2.6	6.5	18.2	57.0	15.6	100.0	307	3.7662
Decentralization of Funds	6.5	6.5	44.2	36.4	6.5	100.0	328	4.2987

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Decentralization of administrative roles	5.2	23.5	30.0	31.3	10.1	100.0	307	4.1818
Devolution policies	7.8	21.9	39.2	21.9	9.2	100.0	306	4.0260
Resources Generation	11.4	24.8	29.7	19.6	14.4	100.0	306	4.0000

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## **CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter summarizes the findings, and offers conclusions and recommendations for practice and future studies on the problem. This study aimed at establishing the effect of devolution on community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County. The study also sought to determine how economic development and social service responses in Githunguri constituency match up with the implementation of general principles of devolution; to identify the factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Githunguri Constituency of Kiambu County; and to establish the link between devolution and community development in Githunguri Constituency in Kiambu County.

### **5.2 Discussion of the Findings**

#### **5.2.1 Economic development and social service responses**

The study established that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution. The study also revealed that the social and economic projects initiated after devolution in Githunguri Constituency had yielded some benefits. In addition, the study found that economic development and social service response had improved in Githunguri Constituency since the implementation of devolution. These findings agree with Condor (2010) findings that China has focused on fiscal devolution and has experienced improved community development.

Since the initiation of devolution accessibility to the market had improved through improved roads and feeder roads such as Ikinu-Githiga road. There was also an improvement in availability of medicine in healthcare facilities street lights and several water projects and been completed such as Thuita Water Project. Further, new markets had been opened to help the local people to buy and sell their products, the County Government was using technology in service delivery like in levies and public facilities such as toilets for the public had been built to help sanitation in bus terminals. After the initiation of devolution there was opening of polytechnics which train the youth with skill like Nyaga Polytechnic. In addition, security had been improved through the establishment of police posts in various areas such as Maringe police post. These findings agree with Adeniyi (2014) findings that directing resources towards various public services is seen as more detrimental to growth.

The study also revealed that community members in Githunguri Constituency understood devolution in terms of leadership/governance, decision making, generation of resources and sharing of resources. There were public forums where the local people are involved in decision making like in the finance bill. In addition, devolution was bringing resources and service down to the common *Mwananchi*. For instance, through devolution water projects had been developed to generate income for the youth who were selling water in kiosks. In addition, the rehabilitation of public toilets was used as a way of creating employment and generating income for the youth.

In relation to the implementation of devolution, the study found that with devolution resources and public facilities had moved closer to the people at the grassroots. These findings agree with Deadman (2011) argument that decentralization of resources and public facilities brings public services closer to the people. In addition, devolution was found to be an opportunity to bring power and participation in governance closer to the people. Further, devolution had led to

decentralization of funds, promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power, enhances citizen participation had brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources and had led to division of roles and responsibilities.

### **5.2.2 Key factors that ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses**

The study found that Kiambu County had been racing in the right direction social service responses. In relation to ways to ensure counties improve in social service responses and community development, the study found that possible ways include training of staff to enhance service delivery, facilitating information sharing among all stakeholders, enhancing accountability by developing ways of identifying corruption instances, enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds, educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation and supporting and developing programmes that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation. These findings agree with Connelly (2010) argument that factors such as corruption, accountability and transparency hinder the implementation of devolution.

### **5.2.3 Factors affecting the implementation of devolution**

The third objective was to determine factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County. The study revealed that devolution was being implemented in the right way in Kaimbu County but it was facing various challenges. The challenges include lack of coordination among MCAs and MPs, corruption, illiteracy, inadequacy of funds, unqualified personnel in running the public sector, poor management of funds, misplaced priorities, lack of teamwork among leaders and lack of public participation in decision making. There was also lack of governance especially by some top officials hence leading to delay in some resources and

facilities. These findings agree with Wehner (2000) argument that factors such as corruption, inadequacy of funds and poor management of funds influence the implementation of devolution negatively.

The study also revealed that inequalities with regard to economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances affect the implementation of devolution. The study also found that difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way affect the implementation of devolution. Poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes was also found to affect the implementation of devolution. In addition, the study revealed that corruption, including embezzlement of revenues affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. Explicit and intentional tax evasion and resistance from taxpayers were also found to affect implementation of devolution to a great extent. In addition, lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills affects implementation of devolution to a great extent. Other factors that affect the implementation of devolution include nepotism, lack of enough skills, lack of capacity building, illiteracy, ethnicity, use of traditional methods in delivering services, improper procedures in procurement and lack of professionalism in public sector management.

#### **5.2.4 The relationship between devolution and community development**

The study found that devolution influences community development in Githunguri Constituency, Kiambu County. Devolution was also found to enhance the good living of the people, improve the accessibility of services such as schools, health facilities and water. In addition, devolution was found to create employment for the people and thus improving the living standards. Elements of devolution that were found to influence devolution include decentralization of

funds, decentralization of administrative roles, devolution policies, resources generation and devolution structures.

The study also found that there is a positive significant association between devolution structures and community development. These findings agree Condor (2010) argument that devolution structures in China influence community development and delivery of services. In addition, the study found that decentralization of funds positively and significantly influence and community development. These findings concur with Ansari et al. (2011) argument that decentralization of funds to County governments led to community development in Uganda. Further, the study established that there is a positive relationship between decentralization of administrative roles and community development. Additionally, the study found that there is a positive relationship between devolution policies and community development. These findings agree with Davies (2012) argument that devolution policies influence community development in County governments. Lastly, the study established that there is a positive relationship between resources generation and community development. These findings concur with Bockmeyer (2003) argument that in Los Angeles County securing resources had led to an improvement in community development.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

The study concludes that there were social and economic development projects that had been initiated in Githunguri constituency since the onset of devolution and they had yielded various benefits. The benefits of devolution include improved accessibility to the market due to improved roads and feeder roads, improved availability of medicine in healthcare facilities, improved lighting in the streets, increased accessibility to water. Devolution had led to decentralization of funds, promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power, enhances

citizen participation had brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources and had led to division of roles and responsibilities.

In relation to the key factors that ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses, the study concludes that these factors include training of staff to enhance service delivery, facilitating information sharing among all stakeholders, enhancing accountability, enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds, educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation and supporting and developing programmes that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation.

In relation to factors affecting the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County, the study concludes that these factors include inequalities with regard to economic development, difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way, poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes, embezzlement of revenues, explicit and intentional tax evasion and resistance from taxpayers lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills, lack of capacity building, illiteracy, ethnicity, use of traditional methods in delivering services, improper procedures in procurement and lack of professionalism in public sector management.

In relation to the relationship between devolution and community development, the study concludes that devolution structures, decentralization of funds, decentralization of administrative roles, devolution policies and resources generation influences community development. Devolution was also found to enhance the good living of the people, improve the accessibility of services such as schools, health facilities and water. In addition, devolution was found to create employment for the people and thus improving the living standards.

#### **5.4 Recommendations**

The study found that there problems in cooperation and collaboration between County leaders in the implementation of projects. This study therefore recommends that leaders in the County government of Kiambu should come together to work as a team in the implementation of projects in Kiambu County.

The study found that difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way was affecting the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County. This study therefore recommends that the National government as well as the county government should ensure that there are no overlapping or powers and authority. This can be done by formulating more policies to separate powers and authority.

The study also found that there was poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes and explicit and intentional tax evasion was high. This study hence recommends that the county government should come up with citizen friendly ways of collecting taxes. In addition, the county government should take up the responsibility of informing the citizens on the importance of paying taxes. Further, the county government should ensure that the taxation system is automated so as to increase efficiency in tax collection.

This study recommends that County Governments should ensure an increased use of modern technology in service delivery and in procurement. This will help to improve efficiency of service delivery in County governments. This will also help to reduce collusion and corruption in public procurement in County governments.

The study also found that there was an issue of unqualified personnel in running the public sector and poor management of funds. This study therefore recommends that the County government of Kiambu should employ skilled staff so as to enhance devolution.

The study found that embezzlement of revenues was affecting the implementation of devolution. This study therefore recommends that the county government should ensure transparency and accountability of all the revenue collected.

The study also established that there was lack of capacity in requisite skills and lack of capacity building. The study therefore recommends that the county government should launch some training programs to ensure that all the staff have got the skills required to deliver services to the community members.

The study found that the county government was using traditional methods in delivering services. This study therefore recommends that the county government should automate its service delivery systems and use modern means of service delivery so as to ensure efficiency.

The study found that the adoption of *Nyumba Kumi* initiative and community policing would help to improve security. This study therefore recommends that the county government of Kiambu should emphasize and ensure the implementation of *Nyumba Kumi* initiative.

### **5.5 Areas for Further Research**

This study was limited to Kiambu County and hence its findings may not be generalized to represent other counties in Kenya. In this regard further studies should be conducted in other counties in Kenya on the relationship between devolution and community development. The study also recommends further studies on the challenges facing the implementation of devolution in Kenya.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix I: Questionnaire for Household Heads

Please answer the questions with absolute honesty. All information provided will be treated with anonymity and confidentiality. Besides, the information will only be used for academic purposes.

Please tick your responses/choices as appropriate.

#### General Information

1. Gender

Male

Female

2. Age bracket

25 Years or below [...] 26 to 35 Years

36 to 45 Years  46 to 55 years

56 to 65 years  65 years or above

3. What is your highest verifiable level of Education?

Never attended school  primary school

Secondary school  College

University

4. Where do you come from in Githunguri constituency

Githiga  Githunguri

Ikinu  Komothai

Ngewa

**PART B:**

**The relationship between devolution and community development**

5. Do you think devolution influences community development?

Yes            [ ]            No            [ ]

6. If yes, how?

.....  
.....  
.....

**Economic development and social service responses**

7. Do you know of any social and economic development projects that have been initiated in your constituency since the onset of devolution?

Yes            [ ]            No            [ ]

8. If yes, have these projects yield any benefits?

Yes            [ ]            No            [ ]

9. Has the economic development and social service response improved since the implementation of devolution?

Yes            [ ]            No            [ ]

**Effects of devolved funds on community development**

10. To the best of your knowledge, are the projects in your area funded through any of the following

- a. CDF
- b. Bursary
- c. Local authority transfer fund
- d. Poverty eradication funds

11. The table below relates to effects of devolution. Please tick the column that best describes your opinion.

**Key:** 5= Strongly agree (SA), 4= Agree (A) 3=Neutral (N), 2=Disagree (D), 1=Strongly Disagree (SD)

Statement	5-SA	4-A	3-N	2-D	1-SD
<b>Effects of Devolution on community development</b>					
Devolution has led to increase in numbers of schools Githunguri Constituency					
Most infrastructural framework has been laid down after devolution					
As a result of devolution , there has been more allocation for infrastructural development					
Projects after devolution have increased level of community participation in					

development					
More employment opportunities have been created through devolution.					
We hardly experience developmental changes as a result of devolution					
<b>Effects of funding through county representatives on development</b>					
Member of county assembly partners with the community to plan and develop projects					
Many of the projects within our area have been through combined input of different funding agencies					
We have adequate service delivery provided by the member of county assemble.					
Our member of county assembly does not have capacity to cater development needs					
<b>Effects of education funding on community development.</b>					
There has been increased level of school retention as a result of bursary financing					
The bursary allocation is a fair process and has increased access to education among poor students					
Community residents are aware of availability of bursary funds to finance					

financial needs					
There has been increased academic performance as result of bursary allocations					
Our area has no cases of school dropouts attributed to school fee payment.					
<b>Effects of poverty eradication efforts on community development</b>					
Most projects in Githunguri Constituency have increased the living standards for the residents					
We have formed investment groups funded by the local fund					
Poverty eradication fund provides favourable interest rates for small and medium enterprises					
The objective of poverty eradication fund has been marred by poor management					
Most self-employment programs at Githunguri Constituency were created through poverty eradication fund					
Through poverty eradication fund, we are normally trained on business development skill					
<b>Kindly indicate your rating the following kinds of devolved funds on community</b>					

<b>development</b>					
<b>Devolved funds</b>	<b>Very great extent</b>	<b>Great extent</b>	<b>Moderate extent</b>	<b>Small extent</b>	<b>Not at all</b>
Constituency development fund					
Bursary funds					
Women funds					
Poverty Eradication fund					
Youth funds					

12. Do you understand devolution in form of the following?

	Yes	No
Leadership/governance	[ ]	[ ]
Generation of resources	[ ]	[ ]
Decision making	[ ]	[ ]
Sharing of resources	[ ]	[ ]

13. To what extent do you agree with the following in relation to implementation of devolution?

(Where: 5=strongly agree, 4=agree, 3=neutral, 2=disagree, 1=strongly disagree)

<b>Factors in Implementation of Devolution</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
1. With devolution resources and public facilities have moved closer to the people at the grassroots					
2. Devolution has brought about equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources					
3. Devolution is an opportunity to bring power and participation in					

governance closer to the people					
4. Devolution promotes democratic and accountable exercise of power					
5. Devolution enhances citizen participation					
6. Devolution has led to decentralization of funds					
7. Devolution has led to division of roles and responsibilities					

14. To what extent do you think the following ways can be used to ensure counties race in the right direction in social service responses and community development? (Where: 5=very great extent, 4=great extent, 3=moderate extent, 2=low extent, 1=no extent at all)

<b>Ways to ensure the right direction for community development</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
1. Training of staff to enhance service delivery					
2. Enhancing accountability and transparency like in project funds					
3. Enhancing accountability by developing ways of identifying corruption instances					
4. Educating the public on their roles in project monitoring and evaluation					
5. Supporting and developing programs that stimulate community development and increase citizen participation					
6. Facilitate information sharing among all stakeholders					

**Factors affecting the implementation of devolution**

15. Do you think devolution is being implemented in the right way in Kiambu County?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

16. To what extent do the following factors affect the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County? (Where: 5=very great extent, 4=great extent, 3=moderate extent, 2=low extent, 1=no extent at all)

<b>Factors that affect implementation of devolution</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Inequalities with regard to economic development, taxes, opportunities, administrative performances					
Difficulty of assigning powers and functions in a non-overlapping way					
Poor administrative capacity to enforce the taxes					
Explicit and intentional tax evasion and resistance from taxpayers					
Corruption, including embezzlement of revenues					
Lack of capacity both in numbers and requisite skills					

17. To what extent do the following elements of devolution influence community development?

(Where: 5=very great extent, 4=great extent, 3=moderate extent, 2=low extent, 1=no extent at all)

<b>Elements of devolution</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Devolution Structures					
Decentralization of Funds					
Decentralization of administrative roles					
Devolution policies					

Resources Generation					
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## *Appendix II: Interview Guide for Key Informants*

1. Who are the main stakeholders in the implementation of devolution Kiambu County?
2. What are the positive effects of devolution on economic development and social service response in Kiambu County?
3. What are the negative effects of devolution on economic development and social service response in Kiambu County?
4. What should be the basis for funds and grants allocation in county governments?
5. What should be the procedures and practices followed by county governments for proper budgeting and financial management?
6. What are some of the ways that can be used to ensure counties race in the right direction social service responses and community development?
7. What actions are needed to promote cooperation among County governments and between county governments and the National Government?
8. Which are the challenges facing the implementation of devolution in Kiambu County?
9. What steps should taken to ensure public participation in county governance affairs?
10. How can the public oversight the performance and accountability of the county government?
11. What is the relationship between devolution and community development in Kiambu County?