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## **THE ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNANCE ON POVERTY REDUCTION IN MOGADISHO MUNICIPALITY**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The study was aimed at assessing the role of local governance on poverty reduction in Mogadishu- municipality. The objectively wanted to examine the contribution of accountability to the poverty reduction, to analyze the effect of community participation on poverty reduction and to assess the effect of responsiveness eliminating or reduction of poverty in Mogadishu municipality. The study adopted an explanatory research design to emphasis on studying a situation or a problem in order to explain the relationships between the local governance and poverty reduction in Mogadishu municipality. A sample of 80 respondents was selected across study area in order to collect data from the respondents. The study relied on primary sources of data. Primary data was gathered from respondents using a structured self-administered questionnaire. The collected data was organized and edited at the end of each step to ensure accuracy, completeness and consistency of the information given by the respondents. Coded data was then analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Scientist (SPSS). Findings revealed that there is a relationship between the local governance and poverty reduction in Mogadishu Municipality. The respondents said there is positive strong relationship between accountability and poverty reduction which means the increase the level of accountability may contribute reduction of the poverty and also whenever the local governance allow the community participate the governance system there is possibility of eliminating the poverty and finally the study concluded the responsiveness the local governance contribute the reduction of poverty.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Local government, Poverty reduction*

## INTRODUCTION

Local governance is a critical policy requirement for a successful poverty reduction strategy and human development progress of any country. While Poverty is defined as lack of capability to do things and development as ‘freedom’ Regarded as by the unavailability of income and non-income resources and a denial of voice and power in the political process (ADEJUMOBI, 2006)

In the context, Somalia became a prime example of economic collapse and state failure, clearly illustrating the pernicious effects of lack of development and poor local governance on establishing and sustaining central authority.

In 1990, the World Bank’s World Development Report gave a key role to poverty reduction in development by integrating in its definition of poverty not only low income, but also capabilities’, such as health, education and nutrition, and by stressing the interactions among these dimensions. This broadening of focus was echoed in the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) annual Human Development Reports, first published in 1990, which played a crucial role in refocusing attention on the different aspects of poverty and its distribution (Adamolekun, 1990)The 2000 World Development Report further extended the concept of poverty to include the dimensions of “vulnerability, voicelessness, and powerlessness.” The range of policies and measures intended to alleviate poverty was thus further broadened.

In 1995, the World Social Summit held in Copenhagen identified poverty as a major threat to the future of humankind. While poverty was seen as a phenomenon in both developed and developing countries alike, its presence and rapid growth in developing countries was more alarming. In spite of years of progress by the WHO to eliminate communicable diseases such as typhoid, cholera and tuberculosis (TB), they were increasing in developing countries towards the end of the twentieth century. It was also in developing countries, particularly Africa, where more children died before they were five, about 50% of the population could not afford a proper meal in a day and fresh drinking water necessary in the fight against communicable diseases was inaccessible to many poor people. (Nyong’o, 2007)

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1) To find out the level of accountability on poverty reduction
- 2) To determine the level of responsiveness on poverty reduction
- 3) To examine the significant of community participation on poverty reduction

## LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Professor P. Anyang’ Nyong’o discussed the research titled the Governance and Poverty Reduction in Africa where his objectives were to the state played an extremely important role in financing social welfare during the first decade after the independence of most African countries, this role has declined with time. Malnutrition, high child mortality, lack of access to basic education, homelessness, and various types of social indignity have been dominant features of the decline of human development standards in Africa while this researcher uses to collect data interview with questionnaire and the result was hence the principal indicators of poverty reduction need to begin by looking at improvements of the standards of living of the people given the above human needs fundamentals. (P.Anyang’Nyong’o, 2007)

In the study made by Thomas M. Mogale the research titled Local governance and poverty reduction in South Africa and the objective was Local government in South Africa is undergoing a process of transformation from apartheid’s highly unequal, racially classified local administrative apparatus towards a more integrated, developmental, equitable and sustainable sphere of government and the data collection method was interview and questionnaire and the result concluded after more than a decade of democracy, the country still holds the odious distinction of having one of the highest income disparities in the world, second only to Brazil. (Mogale, 2005)

The paper describes the key challenges and compelling realities confronting the implementation of good local governance and poverty reduction initiatives, such as the prevailing tensions between local administrations and traditional authorities. It concludes with recommendations for more effective policies, strategies and approaches in development cooperation for promoting good local governance and rural poverty reduction. The search for effective poverty reduction strategies has become more poignant in recent years after clear links could be established between worsening poverty in developing countries and the rise in illegal immigration, human trafficking, international terrorism and various forms of violence in the domestic front. (HAILU, 2012)

A research made by Angelo Bonfiglioli named Empowering the Poor Local Governance for Poverty Reduction Without efficient, accountable and democratic institutions, the voice of the poor will not be heard, poverty reduction and economic growth will not be possible, and gender discrimination will not be eradicated. An adequate institutional framework will allow the poor to participate fully in decision-making processes concerning local development and will address the exclusion of politically marginal groups,

particularly women, from decision making and from the benefits of collective action; Efficient capacity building will allow the poor to improve and/or get basic education. Without education, economic growth will not be sustainable, and participation in local politics will not be durable; Adequate access of the poor to locally-based and managed, efficient social services and basic infrastructure, especially in the area of health, will reduce child mortality and incidence of major diseases which cripple local livelihoods and hamper local economies; The promotion of economic development and growth through a number of interrelated measures is designed to promote environmental sustainability to protect renewable productive natural resources and to improve their productivity, to identify household economic opportunities (farm and non-farm) to generate income. The objectives are the improvement of secure access to food for the poor and the enhancement of household food security. Thus, attacking hunger at the local level essentially necessitates higher agricultural productivity, an improved supply system and increased purchasing power for farm and non-farm households. (Bonfiglioli, 2003)

This paper is an exploration of the roles of local government leadership in wealth creation and poverty reduction. The study was motivated by the strategic position of local government as the closest tier of government to the people. This position was seen as the most vantage to create wealth and reduce poverty in Nigeria. Effective local government leadership was explored and seen to be a statesman with resolute will and spirit as well as consistency to turn the fortunes of the people around. This is against a demagogue who is interested only in personal aggrandizement. We examined the primacy of agriculture in wealth creation and poverty reduction and found that if local government leadership can take the lead in agriculture through modernization and diversification of agricultural production enormous wealth would be

created and poverty drastically reduced. The leader of the local government leadership should never beat the neglect of the people. The people should be supported and assisted. This will remove more people from the farm but still improve the value of agricultural produce in the economy (Professor Okoli, 2013)

**METHODOLOGY**

The researcher adopted this study through correlation research design. The main purpose is to examine the effects of employee commitment on organizational effectiveness. Quantitative was designed to best suit quick collection of data. The Sample size of this study was 80 respondents.

The researcher used non-probability sampling, especially purposive /subjective or judgmental sampling procedure. The researcher also used this procedure to get more informant respondents about relationship between local governance and poverty reduction in Mogadishu Somalia. Therefore, purposive sampling enables the researcher to decide who to include the sample and it uses to collect the focus information.

**FINDINGS**

**DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF RESPONDENTS**

This part presents the background information of the respondents who participated in this study the purpose of this background information is to find out the characteristics of the respondents. Furthermore, the respondents have also given the promise that all the data they provided will be used for the purpose of Academic research and the identities of the respondents will remain confidential. In total, 80 respondents filled the questionnaire from the Mogadishu municipalities. The shape of the questionnaire in the demographic section is looked upon in terms of Gender, Age, Marital status, Level of education and Work experience of the respondents.

**1.1 Respondents Gender**

Classification	Frequency	Percentage
Male	57	71.2
Female	23	28.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 1.1 shows 71.2% of the respondents of this study are male while 28.8% of the respondents are female. Based on data gathered, the majority of the respondents of this study are male, the

female responders were the second in ranking. Thus, male have significantly dominated in poverty reduction due to local governance.

**1.2 Respondent's Age**

Classification	Frequency	Percentage
20-25 years	62	77.5
25-30	10	12.5
Above 40 years	8	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 1.2 illustrates that Most of respondents aged 20-25 years old (77.5%) which had relatively greater than the percentage of respondents aged in 25-30 years

(12.5%), above 40 years (10%) this implies, that majority of mortify of the respondents in this study aged between 20-25 years old.

**1.3 Respondent's level of education**

Classification	Frequency	Percentage
Secondary	7	8.8
Bachelor	60	75
Master	8	10
PhD	5	6.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100</b>

1.3 shows that the majority of the respondents of this research were Bachelor level (75%), the Master level

were (10%), the secondary level were (8.8%) while the PhD level were (6.2%).

**1.4 Respondent's marital status**

Classification	Frequency	Percentage
Single	63	78.8
Married	17	21.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 1.4 shows that most of the respondents of this study 78.8% are single and 21.2% are married. This result showed that the majority of the respondents of this study are married due to their not getting employed & family support.

**1.5 DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS**

After background information, the researcher went ahead to present the descriptive analysis from the opinions of the respondents. The researcher selected based on municipalities departments the result from this sample can be generalize to all local governance institutions.

**Table 1.5 Descriptive for local governance items**

No.	Items	Mean	St. Deviation	Interpretation
<b>Accountability</b>				
1	Local governance directly contributes to reduce poverty in Somalia.	3.7	1.4	<b>Agree</b>
		0	8	
2	Local governance is major contributor of economic Growth and development in Somalia.	3.4	1.2	<b>Agree</b>
		9	6	
3	Local governance improves the standard of living of the society.	3.4	1.3	<b>Agree</b>
		1	5	
<b>Mean index</b>		<b>3.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>Agree</b>
		<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>Responsive</b>				
1	To respond local needs of society can decrease the poverty of the country.	3.6	1.5	<b>Agree</b>
		0	0	
2	Local governance as whole contributes to social wealth by creating new jobs and training opportunities for people in need.	3.5	1.3	<b>Agree</b>
		0	5	
3	Local governance allows people to reduce the poverty in local areas.	3.5	1.3	<b>Agree</b>
		6	3	
<b>Mean index</b>		<b>3.5</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>Agree</b>
		<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	

No.	Items	Mean	St. Deviation	Interpretation
<b>Community participation</b>				
1	Local community participation reduces poverty in Somalia.	3.75	1.35	Agree
2	Community participation increases equal opportunities of all society.	3.59	1.29	Agree
3	Community participation causes prosperity in Mogadishu Somalia.	3.48	1.35	Agree
<b>Mean index</b>		<b>3.60</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>Agree</b>

Source: primary data, 2018

The above table 1.5 presented the mean index, Standard deviation, and interpretation of the result for the all question asked for the respondent with the Independent variable (IV), researcher analysed here the interpretation of the respondent’s answers. So far, the first question has mean index 3.70 and Standard deviation 1.48 which shows that respondents indicated that they agree in this question. The second question obtained mean 3.49, standard deviation of 1.26 and interpretation of this question was agree. The third question has 3.41 mean index and standard deviation 1.35 for interpreting that they agree for this question. The mean index for 4th question was 3.60; standard deviation of 1.50 and the respondents denotes agree in this question. The 5th question was scored mean of 3.50 and standard deviation of 1.35 in according of the

interpretation respondents denotes agree. The 6<sup>th</sup> question obtained mean 3.56, standard deviation of 1.33 and interpretation of this question were agree. The 7<sup>th</sup> question has 3.75 mean index and standard deviation 1.35 for interpreting that they response for agree in this question. The mean index for 8<sup>th</sup> question was 3.59; standard deviation of 1.29 and the respondents denotes agree in this question. The 9<sup>th</sup> question was scored mean 3.48 and standard deviation of 1.35 in according of the interpretation respondents denotes agree.

The final Average means index of the all questions was **3.5644**, Stander deviation was **1.3622** and respondents were **agree** for their average answers.

**Table 1.6 Descriptive for poverty reduction items**

No.	Items	Mean	St. Deviation	Interpretation	
<b>Powerlessness</b>					
1	The poverty reduction programs improves the standard of living of people in local areas.	3.61	1.42	Agree	
2	The one way that can reduce poverty is local governance contributions	3.72	1.27	Agree	
3	Poverty is powerlessness and lack of basic needs of local people.	3.46	1.35	Agree	
4	Poverty is dangerous circle of poor health reduced working capacity	3.72	1.30	Agree	
<b>Mean index</b>			<b>3.62</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>Agree</b>

No.	Items	Mean	St. Deviation	Interpretation	
<b>Vulnerability</b>					
1	Poverty results the psychological problems and lack of hope.	3.79	1.34	Agree	
2	Due to absence of community employment and capacity building may result poverty on local people.	3.57	1.17	Agree	
3	The best way to reduce poverty is to encourage and support the development of strong local governance.	3.81	1.29	Agree	
<b>Mean index</b>			<b>3.72</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>Agree</b>

Source: primary data, 2018

The above table 1.6 presented the mean index, Standard deviation, and interpretation of the result with the all question asked for the respondent for the Dependent Variable (DV) and researcher analysed here the interpretation of the respondent’s answers. The first question has mean index 3.61 and Standard deviation 1.42 which shows that respondents denoted that they are Agree in this question. Second question obtained mean 3.72, standard deviation of 1.27 and interpretation of this question was Agree. Third question has 3.46 mean index and standard deviation 1.35 for interpreting that they agree for this question. The mean index for 4th question was 3.72; standard deviation of 1.30 and the respondents denotes agree in this question. The 5th question was scored mean 3.79 and standard deviation of 1.34 in according of the interpretation respondents denotes agree. The 6th question obtained mean 3.57, standard deviation of 1.17 and interpretation of this question was agree. The 7th question has 3.81 mean index and standard deviation 1.29 for interpreting that they response for agree in this question.

Therefore, the final Average means index of the all questions was **3.668**, Standard deviation was **1.305** and respondents were **agree** for their average answers.

**1.7 CORRELATION BETWEEN VARIABLES**

The first objective of this study was to describe the impact of accountability on the improvement of

poverty reduction in Banadir region. thereby the below table shows that there is positive strong relationship between accountability and poverty reduction indicated the result 0.678 which means the increase or decrease of one level for accountability may cause a change of 67.8% of poverty reduction. Therefore the correlation coefficient between accountability and poverty reduction is (r= .678 p<0.000).

The second objective of this study was to explore the role of responsive on poverty reduction in Banadir region. There by the below table shows that there is positive strong relationship between responsive and poverty reduction indicated the result 0.703 which means the increase or decrease of one level of responsive may cause a change of 70.3% of poverty reduction. Therefore the correlation coefficient between responsive and poverty reduction is (r=0.703 p<0.000).

The third objective of this study was to investigate the significance of community participation on poverty reduction in Banadir region. There by the below table shows that there is positive strong relationship between community participation and poverty reduction indicated the result 0.811 which means the increase or decrease of one level of community participation may cause a change of 81.1% of poverty reduction. Therefore the correlation coefficient between community participation and poverty reduction is (r=0.811 p<0.000).

**Correlated table 4.4.1**

No.	Variable	1	2	3	4
1	Accountability	1	.742**	.816**	.678**
2	Responsive	.742**	1	.715**	.703**
3	Comm. participation	.816**	.715**	1	.811**
4	Poverty reduction	.678**	.703**	.811**	1

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

**CONCLUSION**

The goal of this study was to investigate the relationship between the local governance and poverty reduction in Banadir. An empirical investigation was undertaken, using the simple correlation analytical technique, especially the Pearson product movement correlation coefficient (PPMC).

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and conclusions of the study, the research team offered the following recommendations:

- 1) Local governance should allow citizens to participate in their actions to reduce poverty in the region.
- 2) Educate local people to diminish illiteracy rate that is key part negatively contributing factor to more poverty
- 3) Train local people and provide skills to participate the poverty elimination program of the whole country.
- 4) Strength local governance institution to fight poverty in the region.
- 5) Community participation need to be increased for effective poverty reduction that means when local governance institutions try to take part poverty reduction the citizen must involve the action.

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