

## ANALYSIS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES ON HOUSEHOLD'S SOCIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN LUWEERO: A CASE STUDY OF VEDCO IN KATIKAMU SUB-COUNTY

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### ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Katikamu Sub-county, Luwero district on Non Governmental Organizations intervention and their perceived impact on households' socio-economic status. The specific objectives were; to assess the VEDCO interventions to households, to establish the perceived level of household socio-economic status, and to determine the perceived relationship between VEDCO interventions and the level of households' socio-economic status in Katikamu Sub-county. The study hypothesized that; there is no significant perceived relationship between VEDCO interventions and the level of household's socio-economic status in Katikamu Sub-county. The study applied descriptive and correlational research design using qualitative and quantitative research approaches. Data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics in form of frequencies; mean, percentages, standard deviation for easy understanding. Findings reveal that there have been high levels of intervention of VEDCO interventions in Katikamu Sub-county revealed ( $\mu = 3.92$ ;  $SD = 1.09$ ). The perceived level of household socio-economic status in Katikamu Sub-county revealed a high level of socio-economic status ( $\mu = 3.61$ ;  $SD = 1.14$ ). There is significant relationship between VEDCO interventions and perceived socio-economic status of households in Katikamu Sub-county ( $r = 0.598$ ,  $P = 0.04$ ). It was recommended that; there is a need to improve more on the agricultural sector of the organization according to people complains forwarded to those in charge of the activities. More emphasis should be put on income generating projects than just lending money to groups and NGO leaders should continue to sensitize households on hygiene and sanitation.

**Keywords:** *Non-Government organization activities, Households, Socio-Economic development, Katikamu Sub-County*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are high-profile actors in the field of both local and international development both as providers of services to vulnerable individuals and communities. According to Riddell, (2011), globally it is impossible to say how many NGOs are in the world, since there is no comprehensive or reliable statistics. In any case, definitions of what actually constitutes an NGO vary; some estimates put the figure at one million, if both formal and informal organizations are included, while the number of registered NGOs receiving international aid is probably closer to 'a few hundred thousand. It is however instructive to note that the existence of NGOs are not only pronounced in developing countries but those that cut across developed and

developing nations where they adopt varying degrees of strategies, objectives and missions to fulfill their developmental agenda. According to (Lewis and Kanji, 2009).

In Africa, Non-government organizations have played a major role in pushing for protection of human rights at the international level. Increasingly, existence of NGOs is proving to be a necessity rather than a luxury in societies throughout the modern world. In many developing countries, the role of NGOs has evolved in response to market gaps left by government. Compelled with inadequacies of state and the market, citizens across the world have developed NGOs to deal with a diversity of social needs (Gaist, 2009). NGOs have frequently been regarded as very important for democracy since they have a strong support at

grassroots level and their ability to develop and empower poor communities. This is a well-needed attribute in Zimbabwe as most of the communities are beyond being poor. Nzimakwe (2002) also supported the work of NGOs saying that they are enormously vital mechanisms in rural development as they benefit from the goodwill and reception of the community; consequently the NGOs have become very crucial players in the field of social development.

Dicklitch, (2009) indicated that NGOs in Uganda during the colonial period most of their activities were restricted to humanitarian and missionary causes. There was, however, a formalization of voluntary services led by churches, primarily in education and health care. During the early post-colonial era, local NGOs were not very active. It was noticed that there has been a rapid proliferation of both indigenous and international NGOs in Uganda. By 1995, more than 1200 NGOs had been registered with the Ministry of Internal Affairs; NGOs that include locally constituted agencies, locally based international agencies and external organizations (Kwesiga and Ratter, 2003). The report from Barton and Bizimana, (2009) stated that NGOs provide many forms of support to communities, including religious, educational, literary, agricultural, social or charitable. NGO contributions can also be classified as technical (capacity building, skill and knowledge); resources (equipment, supplies and funds); liaison/linkages with other agencies and advocacy. In the period of relative peace since 1986, there has been a shift in focus of the NGO activity from relief to development.

LUNGOF annual reports of (2011, 2013) show that in Katikamu national programs for socio-economic development have been supported by various NGOs such as national development program (NDP), national agriculture advisory service (NAADs), universal primary education (UPE), universal secondary education (USE) and international policies that have been adopted in Uganda's social economic development for example World Bank (WoB) programs and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), sponsored Structural Adjustment Policies (SAPs), all these development programs have been brought down to develop the social economic status of the community members. Many organizations like ADRA- Uganda, Plan International, AMREF, ACTION AID, CARE Uganda have provided household with social economic services (educational literary, agricultural, capacity building,

skill and knowledge development, project funding, liaison/linkages with other agencies) and advocacy targeting the social economic development of Katikamu.

VEDCO hand book (2010) describes that the NGO under study is an Independent Non-government, non-patrician and not for profit agricultural organization founded in 1986 in response to challenges of poverty, which was a result of the social and economic disruptions caused by military conflicts of 1980-86. VEDCO started as a self-help organization working with other relief organizations operating in Luwero, where there was insecurity as a cause of poverty at the time. There were relief operations then, coupled with the trauma of the war, the people in the area had developed a relief mentality. VEDCO's goal was therefore developed to improve the living conditions of the population and decided to do this by promoting food security, economic activity for increased household income and strengthen grassroots organizations to advance the interests of the marginalized communities in Uganda.

Uganda has adopted international policies following the World Bank (WB) programs, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs), and initiating her own programs like national development program (NDP), national agriculture advisory service NAADs, Universal Primary Education (UPE), Universal Secondary Education (USE) and working with many organizations like ADRA- Uganda, Plan International, AMREF, ACTION AID, CARE Uganda and many other companies and investors to improve the socio-economic welfare of her people (World Bank, 2013). Despite policies adopted, it is evident that 68% of the population still lives under poor social economic conditions in Katikamu, Luweero District in Uganda (UNHS, 2012, LUNGOF, 2013). This study therefore, intended to establish whether there is any perceived impact out of the interventions by the NGOs in improving the household socio-economic status of the communities in Katikamu.

## General Objectives

This study aimed to assess the impact of nongovernmental organization activities on household's socio-economic development in Katikamu Sub-county Luwero District in the Republic of Uganda. The following objectives were analyzed:

- To assess the VEDCO activities towards households in Katikamu Sub-county.
- To find out the level of household socio-economic development in Katikamu Sub-county.
- To establish the relationship between VEDCO activities and the level of households' socio-economic development in Katikamu Sub-county.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

### a. Non-Government Organization Activities

Non-governmental organizations activities (NGOs) are high-profile actors in the field of international development, both as providers of services to vulnerable individuals and communities and as campaigning policy advocates (Lewis and Kanji 2009). According to Johnson (2012) and Harvey (2011) stated that NGOs are regarded as part of market-based solutions to policy problems. Theory of political economic practices that proposes that human well being can best be advanced by liberating individual entrepreneurial freedoms and skills within an institutional framework characterized by strong private property rights, free markets and free trade. We consider the ways in which NGOs have come to be associated with the dominant forms of thinking about development that are currently influential, as well as with other, 'alternative' sets of ideas about and approaches to development.

### b. Social Activities

#### Food Security Projects

Food security has been taken seriously world over to improve the quality of people's life especially at household level. It has been observed that most people in developing countries still have food insecurity and this has caused many problems counting to under development of most communities. The majority of people with food security challenges find their social and economic situation affected and their chances of accessing services and possessing material (assets) and other development projects remain impossible for them to enjoy family life and participate equally in social and economic life (Leonardo, 2013).

Most families with food security challenges are ashamed of it and tends to hide the situation from

other people and often do not any opportunities for development like leadership, projects, education and employment neither do they have equal chances to enjoying public and private services. Food security is an important issue, which should be the design of the development interventions from the very beginning. Development projects which do not target both social and economic situations are not only excluding poor people from the potential development projects offered but also reinforcing society's perception of poor as not part of the main stream community. Food insecurity exists when people lack adequate, quality cost effective and nutritious food at all times due to social political and economic, strife. The World Health Organization report (December, 2012) reported that Food security refers to the availability of food and one's access to it. A household is considered food-secure when its occupants do not live in hunger or fear of starvation. It is a measure of resilience to future disruption or unavailability of critical food supply due to various risk factors including droughts, shipping disruptions, fuel shortages, economic instability, wars, and others.

WHO report (December, 2012) indicated that The World Food Summit of 1996 defined food security as existing "when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life". Commonly, the concept of food security is defined as including both physical and economic access to food that meets people's dietary needs as well as their food preferences. WFP report (2012) indicated that before intervening in a country, the first priority for WFP is to understand the food security situation of the population. The WFP's unique network of food security analysts works closely with national governments, UN partners and NGOs. Their work informs the policies and programs that WFP and its partners adopt in order to fight hunger in different circumstances.

#### Water Projects

The United Nations report (2012) stated that the status and progress of the management of water resources in UN Member States and reports on the outcomes and impacts of improved water resources management. Based on the evidence emerging from the report, there are a number of achievable immediate steps that countries, external support agencies and other stakeholders can undertake to continue extending sanitation and drinking water provision, while sustaining services already in

place. WHO report (2012). WHO works on aspects of water, sanitation and hygiene where the health burden is high, where interventions could make a major difference and where the present state of knowledge is poor. Our work is divided into six core activities; Drinking-water quality management; Water supply and sanitation monitoring; Cholera surveillance and prevention; Water and sanitation in different settings; Water resources management; other activities (including economic aspects, climate change, and the Millennium Development Goals).

Kampala, Uganda Water safety conference papers (November, 2012): In order to develop effective mechanisms to encourage and sustain correct use of household water treatment and safe storage (HWTS), there is a need to monitor and evaluate uptake. To date, there has been a lack of harmonized relevant tools and indicators to assist in the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of HWTS programs. This document is intended to address this need. One of the key features of the Toolkit is the presentation, for the first time, of 20 harmonized, global indicators to assess correct and consistent use of household water treatment and safe storage by those most at risk.

### **Health Services**

Education of adults is more likely to be the foundation of health of people for their better ability to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. The education of women is a powerful means of sustaining improved health and education in the long term. The education of women also reduces fertility rates and improves the health of women, infants and children (Hanushek, 2010)

### **Education Support**

Hanushek (2010) indicated that an educated adult population is vital for strong economic development. It also lays the foundations for greater overall economic productivity, and the full use of new technologies for development. A system of compulsory schooling helps fight child labor. Wobmann (2011) directs that the importance of education should be emphasized by society, Oskar and Robert (2012) Education as a discipline is concerned with methods of teaching and learning in society.

### **c. Economic Interventions**

Agricultural Marketing Resource Center at Iowa State University and to Penn State University (2010). Agricultural services involve moving an agricultural product from the farm to the consumer. Mosley (2010) Microenterprise finance has generated enormous enthusiasm among aid donors and nongovernment organizations (NGOs) as an instrument for reducing poverty in a manner that is financially self-sustaining. John (2009) microfinance institutions have innovated a mechanism under which credit can be provided to the poorest on a group liability basis instead of any collateral. Zeller, and Meyer (2011) show how microfinance services bring together critical empirical work done by credit lenders. Outreach and sustainability microfinance services focuses on the problem of helping the poor at the household level. One of the major components of the government poverty alleviation strategy is to ensure that the rural poor have access to credit and financial services. The government concluded that improving access to microfinance in rural areas was one of the most tangible ways of assisting low-income households. However, the outreach of formal banking sector to rural areas is limited.

The majority of rural borrowing is from informal sources and often at interest rates that are many times higher than those charged by formal institutions. Micro credit has contributions to the improvement and poverty reduction for millions of the poorest people of Bangladesh. Micro credit has a huge impact on the lives of millions of poor people particularly to women. Numerous scholars and NGOs have been working with micro credit to reach poor people, who are still not benefited by the conventional financial system. Suna (2013) The concept "microfinance" covers broad spectrums from traditional business for which social objectives are only a by-product, to traditional social service organizations, for whom reaching the poorest is the prime objective. Microfinance credit are best poverty alleviation approaches to development history, women empowerment and money lending are highlights to some critical questions which were asked that whether the microfinance mechanism freed the poorest of the poor from the poverty?

#### 4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

##### Research Design

The research employed descriptive and correlation research designs. Descriptive design enabled one to gather data and information. Correlation design was used because the researcher wanted to establish the relationship between two variables that is the independent and dependent variable. Qualitative research helped the researcher to analyze phenomenon without the use of mathematical and statistical numbers. Quantitative research helped the researcher to analyze phenomenon with the use of mathematical and statistical numbers.

##### Population and Sampling Methods

273 Farmers under VEDCO, 7 parish leaders, 15 VEDCO officials, 7 Group leaders, 5 LUNGOF officials and 5 Sub-County officials constituted the population of the study. Sample random sampling technique was used to select the sample size of 31 respondents as sample size represented as follows: 14 VEDCO famers, 4 Group leaders, 2 Parish leaders, 2 Sub-County Leaders, 2 LUNGOF officials, 7 VEDCO officials. Findings show that males represented 52.4% and female 47.6%.

##### Data Collection Instrument

Questionnaires were administered and information was best collected. The questionnaire was composed of three sections. Section A was about the demographic characteristics of the respondents; Section B was on perceived services VEDCO provide to households in Katikamu and Section C was on the perceived level of household social economic status in Katikamu Sub-county, Luwero district Uganda. The scoring of the questionnaires was based on scales with option of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Undecided (UD), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), and developing a questionnaire for all the respondents properly indicated the scores alongside the scale.

##### Data analysis and procedure

Data was analyzed using a computer package called SPSS where frequency distribution and percentages were used for data analysis to determine the number of respondents responding to the research questions and thereafter results were presented in figures, percentages, graphs and tables. Pearson

Correlation was run to determine the relationship between the independent and dependent variables.

#### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

##### NGO activities at Katikamu Sub-County

##### Participation into NGO activities

Findings in table 1 revealed that 29 (90.5%) agreed to have participated into NGOs activities while only 2 (9.5%) disagreed to have participated into NGOs activities. Lewis (2009) supports this idea stating that Non-governmental organizations activities (NGOs) are high-profile actors in the field of international development, both as providers of services to vulnerable individuals and communities and as campaigning policy advocates for projects and development activities implementation.

##### NGOs in Katikamu

Result in table 2 shows that the NGOs which have existed in Katikamu Sub-county; Majority of respondents (71.4%) pointed out VEDCO as an existed NGO in Katikamu Sub-County, 19.6% mentioned Plan International, while 4.8% represented world vision and 3.2% only pointed out the existence of Kitovu Mobile AIDS Organization. This mean that majority (71.4%) of respondents have participated in VEDCO activities in Katikamu Sub-county. This implies that the ways in which NGOs have come to be associated with the beneficiaries in dominant forms of thinking about development that are currently influential, as well as with other, alternative sets of ideas about and approaches to the socio-economic development.

##### VEDCO Interventions in Katikamu Sub-County

Result in table 2 shows VEDCO interventions in Katikamu Sub-county. The result show that the level at which VEDCO intervened in **food security** projects is high ( $\mu = 4.00$ ,  $SD = 1.12$ ). The findings are in line with Leonardo (2013) who argues that food security has been taken seriously worldwide to improve the quality of people's life especially at household level. Findings indicate that VEDCO intervention in **water projects** in Katikamu Sub-county is high ( $\mu = 3.89$ ;  $SD = 1.11$ ). WHO report (2012) support this result indicating that works on aspects of water, sanitation and hygiene where the

health burden is high, where interventions could make a major difference and where the present state of knowledge is poor. The findings show that the level at which VEDCO intervened in **health services** is high ( $\mu = 3.99$ ;  $SD = 0.99$ ). Respondents indicated that **Education** support from VEDCO was very high at Katikamu Sub-county ( $\mu = 3.65$ ;  $SD = 1.14$ ). Armove, James Bowen (2009) study supports the result that providing free and quality education to children reflects the fact that every child is entitled to fundamental human rights and is to be treated with dignity. The results show that the level at which VEDCO intervenes in income generating activities in Katikamu Sub-county is high ( $\mu = 3.95$ ;  $SD = 1.13$ ). The findings are in line with Mosley (2010) Microenterprise finance has generated enormous enthusiasm among aid donors and nongovernment organizations (NGOs) as an instrument for reducing poverty in a manner that is financially self-sustaining.

The results show that the level at which VEDCO intervenes in **agricultural** is high ( $\mu = 3.89$ ;  $SD 1.17$ ). The findings support Agricultural Marketing Resource Center at Iowa State University and to Penn State University (2010), which reveals that agricultural marketing covers the services involved in moving an agricultural product from the farm to the consumer. The results show that the level at which VEDCO intervenes in microfinance credit saving training is high ( $\mu = 4.03$ ;  $SD = 1.00$ ). According to Zeller, M.; Meyer, R. L. (2011) explains how microfinance services bring together critical empirical work done by credit lenders.

The findings regarding VEDCO interventions in Katikamu Sub-county revealed a high level of intervention in activities/projects like food security, water, health services, education support, income generating activities, agricultural market information and microfinance credit saving training (**Grand  $\mu = 3.92$ ;  $SD = 1.09$** ) which is high with regard to the scale used in the study. The finding rejects the hypothesis which states that there is no significant perceived relationship between VEDCO interventions and the level of household's socio-economic status in Katikamu Sub-county.

### Findings on perceived Socio-economic status of people in Katikamu Sub-County

Findings in table 3 show the summary of the perceived level of household socio-economic

development in Katikamu Sub-county. The findings show that the perceived level of socio-economic status due to VEDCO interventions is high for household's food quantity ( $\mu = 3.74$ ;  $SD = 1.18$ ), **literacy** ( $\mu = 3.69$ ;  $SD = 1.01$ ); Wobmann (2011) support this result that the importance of education is emphasized by society. The findings show that the perceived level of **access to clean domestic water** is high ( $\mu = 3.60$ ;  $SD = 1.18$ ), Access to Health Services is high ( $\mu = 3.80$ ;  $SD = 1.05$ ), Household Income Development is high ( $\mu = 3.57$ ;  $SD = 1.12$ ), **Access to Rural Credit Facility** is high (**Aggregate  $\mu = 3.43$ ;  $SD = 1.28$** ) **Provision and Creation of Employment** is moderate ( $\mu = 3.33$ ;  $SD = 1.23$ ),

In Summary, the findings regarding the perceived level of household socio-economic status in Katikamu Sub-county revealed a high level of socio-economic status for example high household food quantities and qualities, high levels of literacy, high access to clean domestic water, high access to health services, high household income development, high provision and creation of employment, and high access to rural credit facility (**Grand  $\mu = 3.61$ ;  $SD = 1.14$** ) which is high socio-economic status with regard to the scale used in the study. The finding rejects the hypothesis, which states that there is no significant perceived relationship between VEDCO interventions and the level of household's socio-economic status in Katikamu Sub-county.

### Relationship between VEDCO interventions and Perceived Socio-Economic Status of Households in Katikamu Sub-County

Result in table 4 indicates that there is a strong linear relationship between VEDCO interventions and perceived socio-economic status of households in Katikamu Sub-county ( $r = 0.598$ ,  $P = 0.04$ ). Further analysis to determine the extent of the relationship of VEDCO interventions and perceived socio-economic status based on the coefficient of determination ( $r^2 = 0.358 \times 100$ ) implies that VEDCO interventions contribute **35.8%** to socio-economic status of people in Katikamu Sub-county. The remaining **64.2%** is as a result of other factors that were not considered in this study that needs to be established. This may mean that there are factors that inter relate/contribute much to the socio-economic status of households in Katikamu Sub-county. This is to say that there exist other factors

that affect socio-economic status of households in Katikamu Sub-county.

## CONCLUSION

Findings on VEDCO interventions in Katikamu Sub-county revealed a high level of intervention in activities/projects like food security, water, health services, education support, income generating activities, agricultural market information and microfinance credit saving training (Grand  $\mu = 3.92$ ;  $SD = 1.09$ ) that is high with regard to the scale used in the study. Regarding the perceived level of household socio-economic status in Katikamu Sub-county findings revealed a high level of household food quantities and qualities, high levels of literacy, high access to clean domestic water, high access to health services, high household income development, high provision and creation of employment, and high access to rural credit facility (Grand  $\mu = 3.61$ ;  $SD = 1.14$ ) which is high socio-economic status with regard to the scale used in the study. Observation from the Pearson's Correlation shows a positive significant relationship between VEDCO interventions and perceived socio-economic status of households in Katikamu Sub-county ( $r = 0.598$ ,  $P = 0.04$ ). Further analysis to determine the extent of the relationship of VEDCO interventions and perceived socio-economic status based on the coefficient of determination ( $r^2 = 0.358 \times 100$ ) implies that VEDCO interventions contribute 35.8% to socio-economic status of people in Katikamu Sub-county. The study revealed that VEDCO interventions in Katikamu Sub-County were high and also the perceived level of household socio-economic status in Katikamu Sub-County was also high. Therefore, findings revealed that there is a significant positive relationship between VEDCO interventions and perceived level of household socio-economic status.

## Recommendations

From the findings the researcher recommended the following

- There is a need to improve more on the organization of agricultural sector at Katikamu Sub-county to improve the production for food security
- People should always forward their complains to those in charge at NGOs level, Group leaders and Sub-county leadership for them to have quick response to their needs

- More emphasis should be put on income generating projects than just lending money to groups without facilitation
- NGO leaders should continue to sensitize households on hygiene and sanitation
- NGOs should give materials on time and in big quantities, advocate for massive extension of NGO operation to capture all areas needed for project implementation, and extend programmes that are to be driven in support of all community welfare development.
- Studies are to be done at Katikamu Sub-County to find out other factors that are contributing to the households' socio-economic development rather than interventions of VEDCO.

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## APPENDICES

Table 1: NGO Activities in Katikamu Sub-county

Item	Response	Frequency	Percentage
In the last 5 years have you ever participated in any NGO activity?	Yes	29	90.5
	No	2	9.5
NGOs in Katikamu Sub-County	VEDCO	22	71.4
	Plan International	6	19.6
	World Vision	2	4.8
	Kitovu Mobile AIDS Organization	1	3.2

Table 2: VEDCO Interventions in Katikamu Sub-county

Items	Mean	SD	Interpretation
<b>Social Interventions</b>			
<b>Food security projects</b>			
Organizing households in agricultural farmers' groups	4.33	0.86	Very High
Receiving relief food items	3.81	1.25	High
Attending and receiving agricultural related trainings By NGOs	4.19	1.03	High
Receiving agricultural planting materials	3.95	1.12	High
Supporting farmer founded agricultural projects	3.71	1.35	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>High</b>
.			
Construction of water harvesting tanks	3.95	1.12	High
Improving on the existing water sources	3.71	1.06	High
Conducting workshops and trainings on environmental and water resource conservation and management	4.00	1.18	High
Participation in the construction and Maintenance of water sources by NGOs	3.90	1.09	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.89</b>	<b>1.11</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Health services</b>			
Sensitization of household on the causes and spread of diseases	4.00	1.18	High
Conducting workshops and seminars on disease prevention	4.05	0.805	High
Linking and supporting household to health service providers	3.90	0.83	High
Sensitizing the general public on general hygiene and sanitation	4.00	1.14	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.99</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Education support</b>			

Supporting community based schools by either providing utilities or food	3.71	1.10	High
Supporting Functional Adult Literacy (FAL) classes.	3.57	1.21	High
Sending children to NGO-based schools or receiving education funding for children from NGOs	3.67	1.11	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.65</b>	<b>1.14</b>	<b>High</b>

### Economic Interventions

#### Income generating activities

Attending training, meeting by NGOs for creating Income Generating Activities.	4.14	1.31	High
Supporting in the identification of sustainable income generation activities	3.86	1.06	High
Supporting different income generating activities	3.86	1.01	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.95</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>High</b>

#### Agricultural market information

Developing and disseminating agricultural information to farmers	4.05	1.12	High
Searching for national and international agricultural marketing for famers' products	3.62	1.28	High
Sensitizing farmers on group marketing of their products	4.00	1.10	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.89</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>High</b>

#### Microfinance credit saving training

Conducting workshops and trainings on microcredit savings	4.10	1.14	High
Provision of funds for improving IGAs	3.81	0.93	High
Training members on how to start and manage village saving schemes	4.19	0.93	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>4.03</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Grand Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.92</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>High</b>

*Legend; 4.20-5.00 (Very high), 3.40-4.19 (High), 2.60-3.39 (Moderate), 1.80-2.59 (Low), and 1.00-1.79 (Very low)*

**Table 3: Socio-economic Status of People in Katikamu Sub-county**

Items	Mean	SD	Interpretation
<b>Perceived Social Status</b>			
<b>Household food quantities and qualities</b>			
People's access to food	4.14	0.96	High
Improved Quality of food consumed	3.62	1.20	High
Access to nutritious food consumed	3.52	1.33	High
Improved Quantity of food consumed	3.67	1.24	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.74</b>	<b>1.18</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Levels of literacy</b>			
Increased number of Education facilities by the NGOs	4.05	0.97	High
Enrollment in schools and institutions	3.38	1.02	Moderate
Number of graduates	3.90	1.00	High

Number of school drop outs	3.43	1.03	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.69</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Access to clean domestic water</b>			
Availability of clean water at household level	4.00	1.10	High
Cost of water bills	3.67	1.11	High
Spread of water bone disease infections	3.29	1.31	Moderate
Distance to water points	3.43	1.21	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.60</b>	<b>1.18</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Access to health services</b>			
Attendance and utilizing of immunizations programs	4.19	0.93	High
Medical facility centers	3.81	0.87	High
Community awareness of self hygiene and sanitation	3.95	1.02	High
Attendance of nutritional seminars for adults and children	3.76	1.09	High
Reduced ill-health cases	3.29	1.31	Moderate
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.80</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Economic Status</b>			
<b>House hold income development</b>			
Household investments	3.38	1.24	Moderate
Household assets and utilities	3.43	1.03	High
Agricultural production	3.90	1.09	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.57</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Provision and creation of employment</b>			
Number of self employed household	3.43	1.29	High
Employment opportunities available to the members	3.52	1.12	High
Reduced unemployment rates	3.05	1.28	Moderate
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.33</b>	<b>1.23</b>	<b>Moderate</b>
<b>Access to rural credit facility</b>			
Number of rural creditors	3.38	1.32	Moderate
Number of rural borrowers	3.43	1.40	High
Reduced bureaucracy and time in the process of loan attainment	3.48	1.12	High
<b>Aggregate Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.43</b>	<b>1.28</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Grand Mean &amp; SD</b>	<b>3.61</b>	<b>1.14</b>	<b>High</b>

*Legend; 4.20-5.00 (Very high), 3.40-4.19 (High), 2.60-3.39 (Moderate), 1.80-2.59 (Low), and 1.00-1.79 (Very low)*

**Table 4: Relationship between VEDCO Interventions and Perceived Socio-Economic Status of Households in Katikamu Sub-county**

Item	Description
Pearson correlation	0.598**
Sig (2-tailed)	0.04
Coefficient of determination ( $r^2$ )	0.358