

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
STRATEGIES AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT IN NAMANVE, WAKISO, UGANDA**

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**ABSTRACT**

*This study examined the relationship between community participation and Local Government Administration environmental protection strategy for sustainable development in Namanve, Wakiso District. The objective of this study was to establish the relationship between community participation in environmental protection and sustainable development. A correlation research design was used and a total sample of 307 respondents was selected from the total population 1079. Using a questionnaire, data was collected, analyzed and the study findings indicated that community participation when combined with observation of environmental laws and policies with Pearson correlation at .975 and a significance value of 0.01. The study results indicated that local government strategy of involving community in environmental protection had a significant effect on sustainable development. The study concludes that community participation in implementing government strategy to protect environment for sustainable development is instrumental. Therefore, the study recommends that Local governments should put emphasis on community participatory approach to encourage community to observe environmental laws and policies aimed at environmental protection for sustainable development.*

**Introduction**

Over the last two decades, sustainable development has steadily become one of the leading themes of urban policy. Most European cities now have some sustainable development policies and have included sustainability as a meta-objective in their urban and economic redevelopment strategies. This omni-presence may appear to contradict the spread of urban entrepreneurialism (Hall and Hubbard, 1996). Over the last two decades, sustainable development has steadily become one of the leading themes of urban policy. Most European cities now have some sustainable development policies and have included environmental sustainability as a meta-objective in their urban and economic redevelopment strategies. This omni-presence may appear to contradict the spread of urban entrepreneurialism (Alexandra et al.,

2011). In fact, the reappraisal of the Keynesian–Fordist compromise during the 1970s brought about dramatic changes in local government activities and in urban policies. Previously, the economy was regulated at the national scale: as regulations authors have pointed out, a specific state/economy relationship took place at that time, creating a stable accumulation regime. During the early 1990s, there was a shift in the treatment of urban environmental issues. Most European cities started to design entrepreneurial policies in this period (Bell, 2013). The hegemony of sustainable development objectives led to a dismantling of the grassroots framework of environmental management.

Africa’s desire to achieve its sustainable development objectives through heavy reliance on natural resources and the implications this might have on the environment could potentially leave adverse footprints for future generations (Bellamy et al., 2013). For instance, in Nigeria, the roll-out environmentalism phase began in 2005 and the Abuja city had already achieved an impressive – but uneven – physical transformation of its urban infrastructure. The city center had been repopulated and gentrified and it is considered – with its cultural industries, its café culture and its vibrant night-life – to be a model of urban renaissance and thus promote sustainable development. In this context, a new priority emerged for the Abuja City Council, in that it had to maintain and perpetuate the mobilization that gave birth to the influential public–private coalition that governs the city (Binning and Young, 2014).

In Uganda, local government sustainable development activities include sewage and trade waste treatment, solid waste management, recycling, and pollution prevention (Bell, 2013). Local governments in the country have the dual role of both regulator and operator in sustainable development. Their annual investment in sustainable development outweighs its spending in any other environmental area. Uganda’s heritage could be better protected by improving links between listings, planning schemes, and other systems that influence land use change (Binning, and Young, 2014). Local governments are critical players in improving these links because of their key planning role and connections to local places and communities. But improvements in current systems would also require practical support from other agencies. Such support could include resources to assist integration of listings with planning schemes, compensation for

resulting constraints on development, and leadership in promoting the options for and benefits of heritage protection.

Community participation has contributed environmental protection such as to stop cutting down forests which enhance sustainable development. Although observation of environmental laws and policies The Ugandan government has formulated a number of policies to regulate environmental protection and impacts on the sustainable development. However, the alarming rate at which natural resources are being depleted shows that these laws and policies are not enforced effectively. (Ampaire et al, 2017). Also Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has evolved and become part of major project requirements in many countries. However, its contribution to sustainable development wetlands is important for protecting the country's water sources and sustaining agricultural productivity. During the dry season, their fringes support the production of short-term crops like; vegetables and potatoes for household subsistence and pasture for animals and contribute sustainable development. (UNDP 2017).

In Uganda, the impacts of climate change are heavy rains, flooding, landslides, drought, and disease. It was likely that in a warmer climate, heavy rainfall increased. So far, any impact that climate change may have had generally on regional rainfall cannot be distinguished from natural variations Uganda's policy of rapid industrialization and growth in the recent years has been realised with poor resource efficiency that results in environmental problems. The Uganda government's failure to regulate big carbon-emitting businesses inflates the country's contribution to climate change. (Basudde, 2015)

Namanve which was a forest reserve has been gradually turned into an industry park. Unplanned urban growth has caused strained infrastructure, environmental degradation, traffic problems and high cost of living in Namanve and deteriorated sustainable development within the area. All these has led to extensive local pollution and environmental degradation in the area. Environmental imprints of Namanve also extend much beyond their urban border. The area has an extraordinary impact on the neighboring rural, and Uganda ecosystems(Magala, 2015). Urban environmental problems above all include unsuitable water supply, waste water, solid waste, energy supply, loss of green and natural areas, expansion of Kampala city area, soil and air pollution, traffic, noise, etc. It was against this that the study aimed at examining the relationship

between urban local government environmental Protection strategies and sustainable Development in Namanve, Wakiso District.

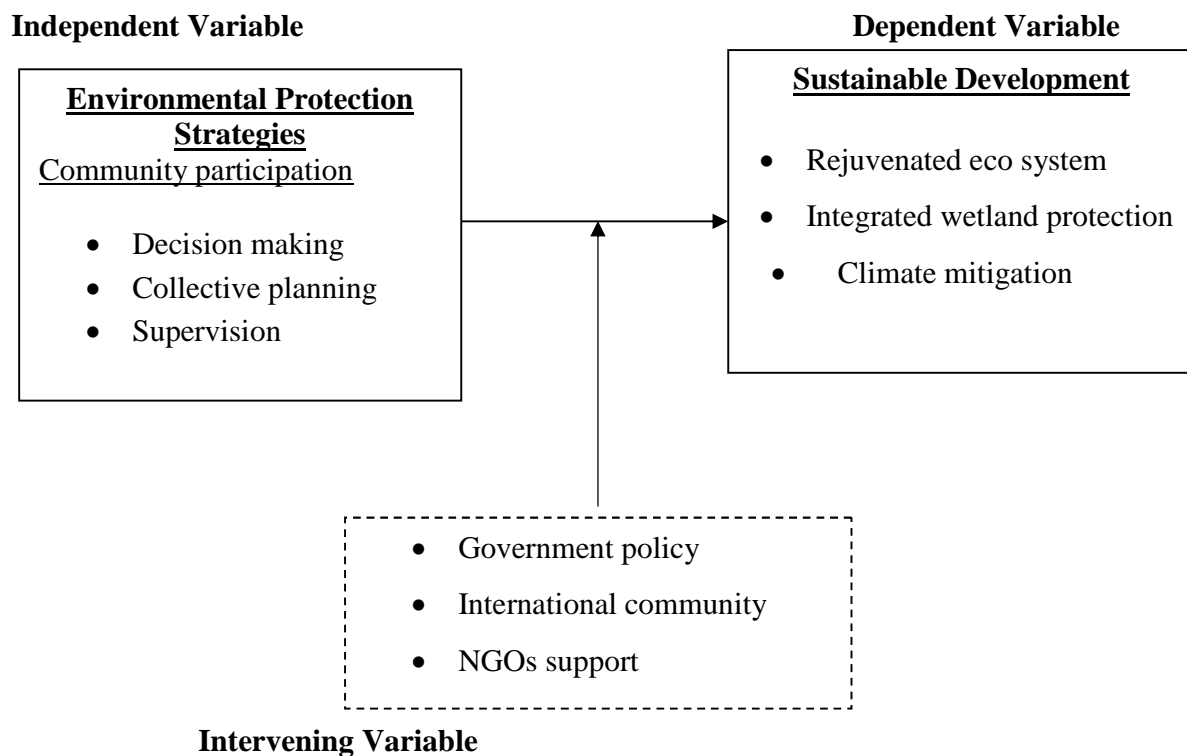
### **Statement of the Problem**

Local governments have a vital responsibility of protecting the environment. They play an important role of advocating and sensitizing the public about the sustainable development (NEMA, 2015). The Local Government Act (1997) states” government or local government as determined by parliament by law shall hold in trust for the people and protect natural lakes, rivers, wetland, forest reserve, national parks”.Currently, the rate of deforestation in Uganda has sky rocketed and Uganda’s forests are disappearing, Uganda will not have forest in next 40 years. This has ushered in a number of environmental problems such as devastating impacts of climate change, soil degradation reduced biodiversity, and degradation of water sheds, food insecurity due to exacerbated drought, loss of recreation, Loss of biological diversity and floods along Coca-Cola Namanve (Magala, 2015). Uganda government as a response to the predicament in her aptitude put forward various policies, regulations, laws, statutes, among others that would regulate forests and natural resources exploitation. Ibid). As a result, Namanve which was a forest reserve has been turned into a building environment mainly industries which causes massive water and air pollution, climate change and damage of ecosystem since the Wakiso Local Government has totally failed to effectively protect the environment. It was against this that the study attempted to examine urban local government environmental protection strategies and sustainable development in Namanve, Wakiso District. Against this background, the objective of this study is to establish the relationship between community participation in environmental protection and sustainable development in Namanve, Wakiso District. To achieve this objective this hypothesis stating that there was no statistically significant relationship between community participation and sustainable development in Namanve, Wakiso District was tested.

**Theoretical review**

This study made its reference to the Resource Mobilization theory. According to Akbar & Abbas (2016), Resource mobilization is the process of getting resource from resource provider. The resource mobilization theory was developed in the early 1970s to challenge social breakdown and relative deprivation theories that identify individual grievances as the primary stimulus for collective action (Curti, 2008) Resource Mobilization theorists argued that grievances are necessary but not sufficient to stimulate the rise of a movement because grievances and social conflict are inherent and enduring in every society. Rather, the formation of social movement organizations and the ability of these organizations to mobilize resources from potential supporters, both labour and money, are theoretical factors in movement mobilization (Mann, & Schreibman, 2015). At the Local level, a number of Local governments adopted the recommendations put forth, and used the findings to address issues pertaining urban local government environmental protection strategies and sustainable development.

**Figure 1: Conceptual Framework**



*Source: Modified by the researcher.*

The independent variable is perceived as the urban local government environmental protection strategies and the dependent variable is sustainable urban development. The independent variable focuses on; community participation, environmental laws and policies and Environmental Impact Assessment whereas the dependent variable concerns; rejuvenated eco system, integrated wetland protection and climate mitigation. The intervening variables are; Government intervention, international community, NGOs support and community attitude. The conceptual frame work indicates that for sustainable development to occur, environmental protection strategies should be properly put in place that is community participation, observation of environmental laws and policies and environmental impact assessment and thus there will be rejuvenated eco system, integrated wetland system and climate mitigation. However, these can properly interplay only when the intervening variables are constant as they represent resources that can be used in the implementation process. Resource Mobilisation theory suggests that the formation of social movement organizations and the ability of these organizations to mobilize resources from potential supporters, both labour and money, are the critical factors in movement mobilization (Mann, & Schreibman, 2015). Therefore, this study considered mobilization of resources from government, international community, NGOs and Namanve community to facilitate the interplay of environmental protection strategies and sustainable development.

### **Community Participation and Sustainable Development**

Community participation calls for people to participate in planning, implementing and managing their local environment (Armeni, 2016). According to community participation influences community owner-ship of water project and its sustainability. In Nigeria, for example, a large proportion of both urban and rural population do not have access to safe drinking water. The study established that due to low economic base of the Millennium Village, low financial and local materials were contributed towards the water project development. It was found that 84.2% of the population in the Millennium Village was willing to contribute less than ₦1000 for the maintenance of the various water facilities. However, the study only focused on maintaining water facilities as part of the environment and did not comment on maintaining forests, swamps and even conducive air. Therefore, this study focused more on maintaining the environment as one of the cardinal roles of local governments to promote sustainability.

Meadowcroft (2016), released on participation and sustainable development indicates that sustainable development tasks in the industrialized states relate to moderating environmental impacts, experience with participation in environmental decision-making provides a good starting point to explore participation in environmental protection for sustainable development. He further noted that community participation has been a recurrent phenomenon with instant sensitization of citizens about the environmental risks to which they were subject, and had a right to play a more direct role in decisions on environmental issues affecting their interests. Therefore, this study was specific on Namaanve in Uganda, considering the recent events on community participation on environmental protection and sustainable development.

In a study conducted in Italy on improving an urban sustainability environment through community participation indicated that political status-co had influenced the citizen decision making on environmental protection. Local governments were found with high levels of weakness in the planning processes due to political control (Proli,2011). However, this study was done in Italy where the level of development is higher than those of Uganda, and it only mentioned political influence as a factor influencing local government planning on environmental protection but did not clearly show how political influence can eventually affect sustainable development. Therefore, this study related political influence in local government and sustainable development in Namanve and found out that there was no relationship.

Kadurenge et.al (2016) focused on community participation management of public projects in Kenya and stated that community participation was highly seen in the form of involvement in identification of problems, design and application of solutions, monitoring of results, or evaluation o of performance and also providing resources. However, the study findings described the role of community participation in project management but did not relate it to sustainable development. The issues of the environment were less addressed and even how local government can involve community participation in sustainable development. Therefore, this study focused on how local government involved community participation in sustainable development in Namanve.

According to Laah, (2013) Community participation has long been associated with sustainable development. National developers believe that for projects to succeed, communities needed to

actively partake in designing, implementing and sustaining the projects that affect their condition of living. The study revealed that community participation was confined to receiving information and some consultation thereby showing lower level of participation. The infrastructures were being sustained by mounting local security guards, established central maintenance committee and raising funds towards the repair of damaged infrastructure study conducted that the role of participation in community development couldn't be over emphasized. It was obvious that community participation can be successful in cases where the community had genuinely been part of the process.

Study released on Community Participation and Sustainable Development of Ecotourism indicates sustainable development as a strategy for enhancing the local people's involvement in the management of such projects for their own benefits. Many developing countries have supported the use of environmentally-sound tourism or ecotourism as a means of achieving development as well as environmental protection at the community level. Ecotourism is tourism that incorporates conservation responsibilities of the tourist, and/or linkages to sustainable development of communities. Community participation had assumed an increasingly important role in development philosophy in recent time. Communities have both the right and responsibility to be involved in the planning, administration and management of their own projects or in the provision of services in their own community(Dar, 2012).

The study conducted in Uganda, participation is associated with the current decentralization policy, which was adopted in 1992. The argument raised in favor of decentralization was that it could promote democratic local governance and sustainable development through popular participation in local elections, improved representation and empowerment, which would spearhead effective planning, decision making and implementation of development projects that can increase benefits for all. The study examined the existing participatory framework in Uganda's local governments, to establish how far such mechanisms gave support to the socio economic, environmental protection and political aspects of sustainable development to communities(Kakumba, 2016).



### **Research Design**

This study used a correlation research design. According to Simon and Goes (2013) correlation researcher investigates one or more characteristics of a group to discover the extent to which the characteristics vary together. Therefore, in this study, investigation was put on local government environmental protection strategies and sustainable development in Namanve with a specific discovery in community participation, observation environmental laws and policies and Environmental Impact Assessment on sustainable development in Namanve and later was related to the three aspects to come up with a uniform conclusion. This is because urban local government environmental protection strategies are assumed to bring a positive sustainable development as well as rejuvenated ecosystem, integrated wetland protection and climate mitigation. The conceptual model between the independent and dependent variables in this study is mathematically illustrated below;

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1x_1 + \beta_2x_2 + \beta_3x_3 + \epsilon$$

Where by:-

Y is the dependent variable, in this case sustainable development

$x_1, x_2$  and  $x_3$  are the independent variables in this case urban local government environmental protection strategies (community participation, observation environmental laws and policies and Environmental Impact Assessment)

$\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2$  and  $\beta_3$  are regression coefficients

$\epsilon$  is the error term.

A mixed methods research approaches were used in this study. According to Wisdom (2013), this involves a systematic intergration of quantitative and qualitative data within a single investigation. This permitted a complete and synergistic utilization of data. Qualitative data was used to explore quantitative findings in that quantitative data was collected on urban local government environmental protection strategies and sustainable development followed by

qualitative data collection and the qualitative results were used to explain in more details the quantitative results.

### **Sample Size and Sampling Technique**

A sample is a collection of some elements of a population (Amin, 2005). The study involved sampling of respondents and it considered a 99% confidence and a marginal error 5.0% (Krejcie & Morgan, 1970) to select the sample size from the population using sampling technique. A sample of 307 respondents was used. This sample was used because it involved all the categories directly affected by the local government environmental protection and sustainable development. Sampling techniques provide a range of methods that enable one to reduce the amount of data needed to be collected, by considering only data from a sub-group rather than all possible cases or elements (Saunders, 2000). Sampling is the use of a subset of the population to represent the whole population (Amin 2005).

In the case of this study, LCI, II, III, district councilors and district environmental officer was selected using census sampling technique. This is because a census is a study of every unit, everyone or everything, in a population. It is known as a complete enumeration, which means a complete count. Therefore, census was used in this case because the total number of the population is equal to the sample size. Community members were selected using simple random sampling. All members of the sample are chosen at random and have the same chance of being in the sample. The researcher used this technique because it's considered as the best convenient technique of selecting a representative sample and the sample is readily available and it gives chance to every element of the population to be included in the study.

**Table 1: Shows Sample size and Sampling Techniques**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Sampling Techniques</b>
LCI and II	12	12	Census
Chairperson	1	1	Census
District councilors	8	8	Census
District Environmental officer	1	1	Census
Community members	1059	287	Simple random sampling
<b>Total</b>	<b>1079</b>	<b>307</b>	

**Source:**UBOS population census (2014)

### **Data Collection Method and Instruments**

The study used a triangulation technique to collect data. That is a combination of different data collection methods and instruments were combined to collect the data. The study used questionnaire of data collection to collect data. A survey is a method of gathering information from a sample of people, traditionally with the intention of generating the results to a large population (Amin, 2005). The study used a survey design because it provides a quantitative or numeric description of trends, attitudes or opinions of a population by studying a sample of that population (Creswell, 2014). According to Amin (2005), questionnaires are popular with researchers because information can be obtained fairly, easily and the questionnaire responses are easily coded. There were closed ended questionnaire which was directed to respondents.

### **Validity and Reliability**

Validity is the degree to which any measurement approach or instrument succeeds in describing or quantifying what it is designed to measure (Jonathan, 2007). Validity is important in determining whether the statements in the questionnaire instrument and interview manuals are relevant to the study. According to Gay (1996) validity of an instrument is refined based on expert advice. Validity test involved identification of individuals with knowledge and experience

in the aspects of urban local government environmental protection strategies and sustainable development to read through the questionnaire and interview guide and verify the authenticity of the tools to the purpose and objectives of the study. The following formula was used to test validity index (Denise Polit and Cheryl, 2006).

$$\text{CVI} = \frac{\text{Number of Items Regarded Relevant by Judges}}{\text{Total Number of Items}} = 0.9$$

$$\text{CVI} = \frac{24}{27} = 0.9$$

The instruments were valid because 0.9 is far above 0.5, which is the minimum requirement as according to Amin, (2005).According to Jonathan, (2007), reliability is the degree to which a measurement technique can be depended upon to secure consistent results upon repeated application. Reliability aimed at testing for how reliable is the instrument to the study (i.e. ability of instrument to test for the same results over time), established using data entered in the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS). Reliability test involved printing of 30 copies of questionnaires which was presented to community members in Makindye division along the industrial area who have similar environmental protection strategies like those in Namanve.

### **Reliability Statistics**

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.995	24

The reliability of the study indicated that the questionnaire used in this study was reliable with a Cronbach's Alpha at .995 which was greater than the recommend percentage by Cronbach's Alpha which was 70%.

### **Data Analysis**

Data gathered from the field was edited, categorized and entered into compute and later analyzed quantitatively using Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) where correlation was used to establish the relationship between urban local governmental environmental protection strategies and sustainable development. Data from questionnaires for each of the study variables

was presented in form of frequency tables and percentages to give meaningful interpretation of the study basing on descriptive statistical analysis method. The variables of the study were related using Pearson Correlation Co-efficient Index since the study variables were numerical in nature.

## **Study Findings and Discussion**

### **Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents**

**Table 2: Showing the response according to gender of respondents**

		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Male	169	55.0
	Female	138	45.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Age</b>	18 – 35 yrs	77	25.1
	35 – 45 yrs	94	30.6
	46- 55 yrs	55	17.9
	Above 55 years	81	26.4
<b>Total</b>		<b>307</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Education</b>	Certificate and below	117	38.1
	Diploma	77	25.1
	Degree	74	24.1
	Masters and above	39	12.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>307</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: primary data, 2019*

Data in table 4.1 above indicate that 169 (55%) of the respondents were males and 138(45%) were respondents. This means that majority of the respondents in this according to gender were males and an implication that more male respondents were approached than females in Namanve. But it should be noted that according to UBOS population census statistics (2014), the majority in gender of the area are more females than male. However, the numbers of the gender in this study did not affect the ultimate intentions of the study.

The age brackets of the respondents revealed that 94 (30.6%) of the respondents were aged between 35-45 years, 81(26.4%) were aged 55 years and above, 77(25.1%) were aged between 18-35 years and 55(17.9%) were aged between 46-55 years. Therefore, majority of the respondents in this study were aged between 35-45 years. This means that they were mature and

could give responses in accordance to the experience of staying long in Namanve. Thus, these could trace the state of Namanve before and after Namanve industrialization. According to Hippolyte & Fabrice (2013), measures of population aging are important because they shape our perception of demographic trends. Therefore, this considered respondents age brackets because of the intentions to understand the respondent's demographic trends.

The educational levels of the respondents indicated 117(38.1%) of the respondents were at certificate and below, 77(25.1%) were at a diploma, 74(24.1%) were at a degree level and 39(12.7%) were at masters and above. Therefore, majority of the respondents were at certificate and below level of education. This means that the study featured literate population that was able to read and write and so these could easily understand the language used in the data collection instruments so as to provide primary data. According to Sivakumar and Sarvalingam, (2010) education is one of the basic needs for human development and to escape from poverty and so it is necessary for national development and a prosperous society. Therefore, in this study, level of education of respondents was considered because it is a basic need for sustainable development.

### **Community Participation in Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development**

The study findings showed that and 146(47.6%) of the respondents agreed, 78(25.4%) strongly agreed, but 46(15%) strongly disagreed and 31(10.1%) disagreed that there were consultation of community members when planning for the environment protection. Whereas, 6(2%) were not sure whether or not there was community members were no consulted when planning for the environment. This means that majority of the respondents agreed that community members were not consulted when planning for the environment. An implication that the concerned authorities plan for the environment in isolation of the community members despite the fact the community members live in the same environment and could be responsible for the destruction or preservation of the environment. This was contrary to Olajuyigbe, (2016) whose argument was on community ownership and concluded that local authorities should consult community members in case of initiating a new developmental projects as this will quicken the success of the project. Therefore, this study concluded that is important to consult community members whenever there is a new development project.

The study indicated 92(30%) of the respondents agreed, 74(24.1%) strongly agreed but 77(25.7%) strongly disagreed and 55(17.9%) disagreed there was encouragement of community members to promote environment preservation. Whereas, 9(2.9%) were not sure whether or not community members were encouraged to promote environmental preservation. This means that majority of the respondent in this study agreed that community members were encouraged to promote environmental preservation. This implied that concerned authorities had put up strategies such as sensitization on the advantages of preserving the environmental which were encouraging community members to preserve environment. This is in line with Meadowcroft (2016) who also noted that for a successful sustainable development, community members play a vital role most especially when it comes to preserving environment. Therefore, this study concluded that community members should always be encouraged to promote environmental preservation.

Also, findings showed that 108(35.2%) disagreed, 92(30%) strongly disagreed but 61(19.9%) agreed and 43(14%) strongly agreed that there was involvement of community members in the discussion of the environmental problems, whereas, 3(1%) were not sure whether or not community members were involved in the discussion of environmental problems. This means that majority of the respondents in this study disagreed hence community members were not involved in the discussion of environmental problems. This implied that concerned authorities only engage other stakeholders and isolate the community members when discussing environmental problems even when community members are the direct victims of the environment problems and also could be agent of the environmental problems in their area. This is in agreement with Ofuoku (2011), who argued that community members play a paramount role in identifying environmental problems as these members could be the agents of the problem or are nearer to the environment than the concerned authorities. Therefore, this study concluded that community members should involve in discussions of environmental problems.

Further still, the noted that 123(40.1%) of the respondents disagrees, 61(19.9%) strongly disagreed but 71(23.1%) strongly agreed and 46(15%) agreed there was consideration of community member's opinions when designing sustainable development projects, respectively. Whereas, 6(2%) were not sure whether or not community member's opinions were considered

when designing sustainable development projects. This means that majority of the respondents in this study disagreed hence community member's opinions were not considered when designing sustainable development projects. This implied that the concerned authorities only consider opinions of other stakeholders and isolate opinions of the community members despite the fact that community members could in the best known of how sustainable development projects can be planned since they will be the direct beneficiaries. This is in agreement with Proli(2011), who argued that community members opinions play a paramount role in identifying environmental problems as these members could be the agents of the problem or are nearer to the environment than the concerned authorities. Therefore, this study concluded that community member's opinions should considered by authorities when designing sustainable development projects.

In addition, findings revealed that 133(43.3%) agreed and 66(21.5%) strongly agreed that community members were not involved in coming up with an implementation plan, but 55(17.9%) strongly disagreed and 41(13.4%) disagreed. 12(3.9%) were not sure whether or not on the involvement of community members in coming up with the implementation plan of the sustainable development project. This means that majority of the respondents in this study agreed that community members were not involve in coming up with an implementation plan of the sustainable development project. This implied that concerned authority's isolate community members and come up with the implementation plan with the technocrats yet the implementation directly affect community members and implementation can be more effective when community members are involved than when they are left out. This is in line with Kadurenge et al. (2016) who also noted that community participation is very important in the implementation phase of the project and so a direct engagement of community members in this phase can simplify the implementation process. Therefore, this study concluded that community members should be involved in coming up with the implementation plan of the sustainable development project.

In the same vein, the study finding showed that 133(43.3%) agreed, 97(31.6%) strongly agreed but 43(14%) disagreed and 31(10.1%) strongly disagreed that there was involvement of community members in making decisions on environmental preservation. Whereas, 3(1%) were not sure whether or not community members were fully involved in making decisions on environmental preservation. This means that majority of the respondent in this study agreed that



community members were fully involved in making decisions on environmental preservation. This implied that concerned authorities fully engage community members in making decisions on environmental preservation so as to have effective decision making and also due to the fact that community members are the direct victims of the preservation strategies. This is in line with Laah, (2013) who also concluded that the most effective decisions are the one where there has been full community participation as these promote collective ownership, responsibility and accountability. Therefore, this study concluded that community members should be involved in decision making processes on environmental preservation.

### **Relationship between Community Participation and Sustainable Development**

**Table 3: Results of Hypothesis Test**

		<b>Community Participation</b>	<b>Sustainable Development</b>
Community Participation	Pearson Correlation	1	.975**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	307	307
Sustainable Development	Pearson Correlation	.975**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	307	307

Table above indicate correlation results of the relationship between community participation and sustainable development and Pearson correlation was .975 with a significance of 0.01 level for 307 respondents. This means that significance was less than the P-value 0.05 and an indication of a positive effect thus community participation had a positive effect on sustainable development. This result implied that community participation was a key player in sustainable development thus it causes a positive effect on sustainable development in Namanve and so it should be given much attention when engaging sustainable development since community members are directly affected by the sustainable development projects and can determine a success and failure of sustainable development. This is line with Kakumba (2016), who also found a positive relationship between community participation and community development and recommended

that community members should be identified as the first stakeholders in any development project. Therefore, this study concluded that community participation had a positive significant relationship with sustainable development.

Table 3 above also show that community participation predicted but only when combined with observation of environmental laws and policies with a regression at .983 and at a significance level of .000 which was also less than the P-value .005. This means that also community participation predicted but when combined with observation of environmental laws and policies. This implied that community participation when combined with observation of environmental laws and policies had a high effect on sustainable development. This is in line with Kakumba (2016), who also found a positive relationship between community participation and community development and recommended that community members should be identified as the first stakeholders in any development project.

### **Conclusions**

The study concludes that it is important to involve community in decision making in order to effectively involve them in implementing these decision to achieve sustainable development. This is because when community participation in environmental protection variable was correlated with sustainable development and the regression statistical results indicated presence of the relationship between the two variables. This conclusion was based on the different conclusions from the field which included community members were not consulted when planning for the environment, were encouraged to promote environmental preservation, and were not involved in the discussion of environmental problems. community member's opinions were not considered when designing sustainable development projects, were not involve in coming up with an implementation plan of the sustainable development project and were fully involved in making decisions on environmental preservation. All in all, this study concluded that community participation can cause a positive effect sustainable development.

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