

**INFLUENCE OF REFUGEES' SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES ON
DEVELOPMENT OF HOST COMMUNITIES IN KAKUMA, TURKANA WEST SUB-
COUNTY, KENYA**

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Abstract

Refugee influx is a phenomenon with far reaching affects both positive and negative to host communities and with it the host communities. This research demonstrated how refugees in Kenya affect the socio-economic lives of the host population. It analyzed the influence of refugees' socio-economic activities on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County, Kenya. The study was guided by two objectives namely; to examine the influence of social activities and economic contribution on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County, Kenya. Besides, the study was based on Social Constructivism and Refugee Aid and Development theories. Both quantitative and qualitative approaches were used in the descriptive survey research design that was chosen for the study. Using Krejcie and Morgan's Table, a sample size of 136 respondents was selected from a target population of 205 individuals. Data was gathered using questionnaires and interview schedules. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used in the study's analysis, with regression and correlation analysis being crucial. socio-economic social activities jointly had statistically significant influence on development of host communities The Coefficient of Determination or R square stood at 0.742, which implied that 74.20% of the variation in the development of host communities was explained by variability in the variables under refugees' socio-economic (social activities, economic activities). The study recommends more pursuit of refugees' socio-economic as demonstrated in the Refugee Aid and Development Theories of refugees' socio-economic activities. Community leaders, refugees, and refugees' organizations are encouraged to embrace training, participation in community welfare, healthcare services and acquaint themselves to the host country policies in order to improve development of host communities.

Keywords: *Social Activities, Economic Contribution, Development of host Communities*

INTRODUCTION

There has been a growing crisis in the number of refugees across the world. In the last past decade, the world population of refugees increased significantly from 43.3 million in 2009 to 70.8 million in 2018 (UNHCR, 2019). It is reported that 4.4 million refugees are hosted within Africa, and Uganda hosts the largest refugee population, numbering 1,165,700, while Kenya hosts a total of 421,200 refugees (UNHCR, 2019; Kasozi, 2017). These figures continue to rise

with every fresh conflict making the issue of refugees; one of the biggest problems faced the world over since 1945. Precisely, in 2018 the number of new displacements was equivalent to an average of 37,000 people being forced to flee their homes every day (UNHCR, 2019).

The 1951 United Nations Convention, which relates to the Status of Refugees, is responsible for providing refugees with durable and formidable solutions. The primary purpose of the Convention is to ensure that the international community of states should accord refugees who have been failed by their respective states in terms of providing individual security protection. Emphasis has been put on providing durable and formidable solutions to these refugees to enable them to continue with normal life as soon as possible. According to the 1951 UN Convention, voluntary repatriation is ideal, especially when the conflict is short-lived so that people can return to their homes. However, many conflicts do not find quick solutions, and the refugee situations instead end up lasting for many years. For these refugees, the second solution is local socio-economic activities into their host country, where it is expected that they can settle down, create a livelihood, and continue with their lives as they did at home.

Veney (2005), argues that the African continent has been besieged by one refugee crisis after another during the post-independence period. She further argues that people have been forced from their homes and have had to seek asylum in neighboring countries for various reasons that range from civil wars, human rights abuses, ethnic conflict and strife, and environmental disasters. It must be noted that the refugee crises have affected the development of refugee-producing countries and receiving-receiving countries. This happens because countries that generate them lose access to the refugees' human region skills in various sectors like agriculture, business-related activities, education, health sector, and other economic sectors (Veney, 2005). Countries and communities that host refugees are further affected by their influx in terms of the burden on the environment as well as infrastructure.

Burundian refugees (Whitaker, 2001). However, this changed in the early to mid-1990s when the genocide in Rwanda saw a mass refugee influx into the country. There was no improvement in the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) because, by 1996, Tanzania was no longer in a position to welcome the refugees whose numbers had risen to 1.3 million. Intercommunity assistance was no longer enough to sustain the refugees as new emergencies that required urgent attention emerged in other parts of the world. Without financial and material assistance for the refugees from the international community, Tanzania abandoned its open-door policy and even began rounding up refugees to repatriate them.

The third solution proposed to the refugee problem is third-country resettlement. This is the solution that is perceived to work in protecting the refugees who can neither return home nor become locally integrated into the host countries. There are millions of people whose only solution is third-country resettlement, but the UNHCR is only capable of resettling two percent of the total resettlement needs annually. Dewey (2003), argues that the occurrence of conflict in several African countries has led to forced migration in the African region. For instance, the conflict in Sudan and South Sudan has seen refugees from these countries moving to Kenya and Uganda, while the majority remain internally displaced. The conflict in Eritrea has seen Eritreans move across the border to Ethiopia, which also hosts a large number of Somali refugees. Uganda, on the other hand, hosts refugees from DRC due to a conflict in the North Kivu region and the Eastern region of the country.

Permanent resettlement to a third country may be the only viable solution to many refugees who are escaping war and persecution in their countries of origin. Western Liberal Democratic States (WLDS), because of their economic advancement and influential institutions of justice, have

worked with refugee host countries to resettle these refugees. For many years since the end of World War II, these countries have admitted refugees from all parts of the world, in keeping with the 1951 Convention on refugee protection. The rising number of refugees in recent years has naturally translated to a rise in the numbers who need protection through resettlement to a third country and local socio-economic activities. What one would expect to see, therefore, is the WLDs accepting more refugees to be admitted into their territories. Instead, in recent years, stricter measures have been put into place to prevent an influx of refugees into these states, with many of them citing global insecurity and terrorism as a cause for concern (Dewey,2003). WLDs have been the leading advocates of democracy, freedom, and human rights.

Gibney (2005), looks at the history of refugee admission into the US since the end of WW II. Between 1952 and 1961, a total of 125,000 Cubans was allowed into the US as refugees. This was followed by the aerial bridge of 1965-1973, in which the Cuba-US air space was reopened to enable more Cubans to immigrate to the US. In this period, a total of 465,000 Cubans was accepted into the United States. This expansion of refugee admissions into the United States was a clear indication of political interests at the time, which was to deter the spread of communism in the world. According to liberalism and intercommunitarianism as Intercommunity Relations (IR) theories, countries have shown that they are capable of adjusting their refugee policies to achieve political and foreign policy goals (Kagwanja, 2020).

Local socio-economic activities may be described as merely a step-by-step procedure whereby a state of original residence offers refugees similar privileges as host citizens (Robinson, Zimmerman & Checchi, 2014). There may be three primary approaches by which countries offer local socio-economic activities to refugees. Secondly, it is through a permanent residence method. In such an approach, refugees are granted permanent resident status, which implies that they get all privileges comparable to indigenous citizens within the state of asylum, except for certain democratic rights, like involvement in electoral processes (Maina, 2019). Thirdly, refugees can be integrated locally through development aided socio-economic activities (DAI). This method bases on the idea that state regulatory incorporation may not be possible. Thus, rather than refugees getting grouped in encampments, they are granted accessibility to a variety of privileges, such as accessibility to productive resources like property (Robinson, Zimmerman & Checchi, 2014).

Local inclusion scholarly works are confined, especially in the communities of asylum throughout the African sub-Saharan, such as Kenya. Nevertheless, the minimal scholarly works available about local inclusion within Kenya concurs that a laissez-faire asylum policy came into existence before 1991 (Maina, 2019). Throughout that timespan, refugees used to have greater freedom of moving from one place to another and access to local inclusion. This policy was modified when a large number of immigrants arrived in the communities in 1991.

The Kenyan Government was dealing entirely with asylum seeker management before the massive influx of refugees in the year 1991. During this duration, asylum seekers would request for a local legal socio-economic activity by making an application (Mukira & Nguru, 2016). However, there is no quotation or evaluation of how that was able to be achieved, and there is no other research about this particular matter which substantiates this specific discovery. Thus, it is hard to assess if the refugees at that particular time truly sought asylum as a lasting resort to their marginalization or even establish the process that they used when applying for socio-economic activities.

According to the UNHCR (2004), Kenya borders five countries within East Africa and in the Great Lakes region, and it has been considered to be the third leading refugee-hosting state in

East Africa. Tanzania was the leading refugee host country as it hosted the highest number of refugees before it integrated the Burundian refugees who had fled to Tanzania in 1972. Uganda, was also considered and is still considered to host the highest number of refugees in the East Africa region. UNHCR's (2004) report, further provides that there was over 485,524 refugees in Kenya, and the majority was from Somalia and they lived in Kakuma.

Problem Statement

Refugees like all human beings have skills, talents, and aspirations. They have the potential to contribute to their host societies, economically, socially, and culturally. Additionally, for example, Sudanese, Somali and other refugees brought assets to the hosting area, which enabled the host to benefit from the skills and knowledge brought about by the influx of refugees into Kakuma. These skills vary, but do often include those of the more educated group, such as health professionals and teachers, who, even in limited numbers, can make a significant contribution in remote areas.

However, despite those benefits, on the other side the presence of refugees in Kakuma have led to increment in the prices of basic commodities inconsistently, with the prices of some products tripling or quadrupling in the years to come. Therefore it's not evident whether, by and large their presence and the associated relief operation had improved or worsened the local hosts' livelihoods. Besides, information around the world especially global news suggests that there are new refugee crises every year, and the trend has been on the increase since the end of the Second World War. For instance, in 1980 the official global count of refugees and internally displaced people were 5.7 million. By 2011 the refugee statistics from United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) indicated that the number had risen to over 15 million, with over 4 million in Africa alone (UNHCR, 2015).

Similarly, UNHCR reports show that globally, there are an estimated 70.8 million people who have fled their homes either as refugees (25.9 million), internally displaced persons (41.3 million), or asylum seekers as a result of conflict and persecution (UNHCR Global Trends, 2018). Countries producing the largest numbers of refugees include Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Sudan, and Somalia, respectively.

Accordingly, more than half, (56%) of the world's refugees in 2018 came from these six countries. The number of refugees from Syria, South Sudan, and Myanmar has increased rapidly over the last couple of years. Sub-Saharan Africa bears a disproportionate share of the refugee burden, with 29% of the officially recognized global refugee burden. By 2007, Africa is still home to approximately 9.7 million of the world's 32.8 million refugees (UNHCR, 2018). However, host states continue to face refugee crises, and the response to this has been keeping them in camps as seen in Kenya. This is because the refugees have an impact on the socio-economic development of a country as well as on the security of a communities. UNHCR has proposed three ways that can help host countries such as Kenya and Turkey, among many others, to ease the burden of hosting refugees. The proposed ways include: third-country resettlement, deportation voluntary and local socio-economic activities. Although not much preferred by states, the option of regional socio-economic activities may help solve the refugee burden. Several refugees in Kenya have been permitted to integrate locally. This study, therefore, investigates the influence of the process of socio-economic activities of refugees in Kenya within the context of evaluating the influence of those refugees who have been locally integrated on the socio-economic development of Kenya's region city, Kakuma. The main question that emanated was what kind of socio-economic activities they engaged in? What was the contributions of these activities on the social and economic sectors of Kakuma County?

Research Objectives

- i. To examine the influence of social activities on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County, Kenya.
- ii. To assess the influence of economic contribution of refugee socio-economic activities on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County, Kenya.

Hypotheses

The study was guided by the following hypotheses;

H₀₁: Social activities has no statistically significant influence on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County, Kenya

H₀₂: Economic contributions has no statistically significant influence on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County, Kenya

LITERATURE REVIEW

Theoretical Framework

Social Constructivism Theory

The social constructivism theory is traced back to the 18th Century writings of the Italian philosopher Vico who argued that God made the natural world and human-made the ancient world (Jackson & Moller, 2019). Immanuel Kant, another philosopher, argues that our knowledge about the world is not objective but subjective because it is indeed through human consciousness (Jackson & Moller, 2019).

The emergence of refugees can also be seen as a social construct because refugees result from human-induced conflicts. It is the thought of survival that informs a population to flee their country. The Social Constructivism theory further expands on the notion that social realities are a result of ideas, norms, and principles followed. The world is a social construct; hence threats are also regarded as social constructs. The argument here is that the refugee-host relationship, negative or positive, is a social construct that ultimately affects the implementation of local socio-economic activities principles. The refuge-host country relationship is dependent on the ideas that parties have about one another and how that affects that relationship and the future of refugees.

The origin of refugee rights has been argued to be a social construct that came about due to refugees facing discrimination in their countries of asylum. The idea of non-discrimination and equality has guided the principles of refugee rights. Once a population enters a foreign environment with an already established community, it can either be accepted or rejected. Turkana was once fully accepted in Kenya because they seemed to pose no threat to hosting communities. However, once resources started becoming scarce, and insecurity was heightened, the host community developed negative perceptions. It is the thoughts and ideas of this host community in the country that has informed and continues to inform advocacy for or against local socio-economic activities.

The international community advocates for refugee rights as prescribed by the humanitarian agencies. It is these same humanitarian organizations that shed light on the world on the atrocities that are committed in violent conflicts with the results of vast numbers of refugees. As a result, the international community bought into the idea of having UN agencies such as UNHCR to develop durable solutions for governments to pursue to deal with the refugee crisis. Policies are developed from a set of ideas to solve a particular problem. The creation of the Kenya Refugee Act is an excellent example of such. It was adopted after identifying the areas of improvement in the refugee-host relationship and the process of local socio-economic activities in Kenya. The Social Constructivism theory demonstrates that the local socio-economic activities somewhat determines the identities and interests of the host community and refugees as policy.

The means of achieving regional socio-economic activities represents the interests of the refugees. How these interests are achieved is dependent on the thought and ideas of the host community on the importance of pursuing them.

Empirical Review

Social Activities and Development of Host Communities

The effect of asylum seekers could be assessed by their effect on the host community in which the existence of asylum seekers raises the requirement for all products and facilities on the demand part. However, from just the point of view of distribution, asylum seeker inflows influence food and job market circumstances, as assistance provided by organizations and NGOs improves food distribution, primarily since displaced persons sometimes exchange food and medicine from aid organizations in regional economies to purchase non-aid products (Robinson, Zimmerman & Checchi, 2014).

The review indicates that there is still a powerful relationship between the view of inhabitants living close to the Kakuma facility, who have been engaged in the economy as well as the distribution of the facility, as well as the understanding of what? Of individuals living too far away (Robinson, Zimmerman & Checchi, 2014). This review as well found that coordination, partnership, and shared gain, mainly via the distribution of jobs, products, facilities, and the existence of the business sector, could reduce the distrust which individuals may have regarding refugees. That is why some of the operations are oriented towards fostering communication between the asylum seekers and Turkana communities by putting them nearer around each other (Robinson, Zimmerman & Checchi, 2014).

When refugees are relying on relief, the populations that host them are sometimes neglected. Among the remarkable features of the Kakuma encampment is the obvious difference in life circumstances between the refugees and the host community (Maina, 2019). The Turkana experience the most exceptional rates of poverty in Kenya, and indeed the asylum program hasn't been substantial to handle the urgent problems of the very communities offering refugees safety. As a consequence of hardship, some members of the hosting community live on the outskirts of the facility and become day-to-day workers hired by asylum seekers (Robinson, Zimmerman & Checchi, 2014).

Apart from being demeaning, the encamping-based maintenance approach of the refugees in Kenya is not anymore financially feasible. The basket of "charitable cash" utilized to cater to charitable concerns across the globe is not any more adequate as new conflicts emerge, and previous ones worsen (Maina, 2019). Offering refuge—several of the earliest customs of civilization—has been about accepting individuals escaping danger and providing a place to reside usually in peace with one another until the choice was taken to leave or stay.

In order to close the analysis gap on this topic, the review's findings challenged conventional wisdom by showing that asylum seekers have improved the host community's overall financial situation and are associated with better dietary outcomes. The review is significant because it uses correlated data to present a far more insightful perspective than a specific effect evaluation. For example, it has a positive economic impact on farming and construction, but it has a negative impact on livestock (Maina, 2019).

The number of refugees residing in urban areas has increased over the past few decades. The UNHCR estimates that over half of global refugees are urban with many concentrated in large cities, such as Kakuma, that hosts over 100,000 urban refugees (Campbell et al., 2011 and UNHCR, 2014). Many of the long-standing procedures in refugee protection and service delivery have been put to the test by this population growth, which has forced the development of new

policies and programmatic approaches to address their particular needs. Historically, this population has lived in sizable non-urban camps.

Economic Activity and Development of Host Communities

The socioeconomic activities and settlement of refugees in urban areas can have varying effects on the host country. The economy of the host country is among the areas where refugees have an impact on it. Research on refugees suggests that welcoming refugees could have a positive economic impact (Rubin, 2017). Syrian refugees can create some economic strain when they first arrive, but they are also consumers and economic actors who can eventually strengthen host community markets, according to research by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) (IRC, 2016). Similarly, the Brookings Institution contends that Syrian refugees typically replace low-skilled foreign workers in Jordan's construction, agricultural, and retail industries rather than Jordanians (Karasapan, 2015). In addition to the \$1 billion that Syrians invested in Jordan in 2013, Syrian refugee entrepreneurs have contributed to the country's economic growth by establishing new businesses, jobs, and goods and services (Karasapan, 2015). Even in Jordan's vast Zaatari camp, Syrian business people have established a variety of enterprises, including barbershops, pizza joints, travel agencies, vegetable stands, and wedding rental businesses (Gavlack, 2014). According to a study on Congolese camps in Rwanda, both monetary and in-kind aid boost Rwandan economies by enabling refugees in their host communities to spend more money (Taylor et al., 2016). (Gomez and Christensen, 2010; Landau, 2008; Miller, 2017; Milner, 2009; Harrell-Bond, 1986; Harrell-Bond, 2002; Long, 2013; Jacobsen and Fratzke, 2016) Other literature cites instances in Malawi, Albania, Macedonia, Jordan, Pakistan, and Tanzania where refugees have had positive effects, either by attracting international organizations that help bring resources, technology, and jobs to an otherwise impoverished or remote area, or by stimulating host community economies with higher demand. Research on refugees in Kenya has also shown that they can contribute to the economy by drawing in foreign aid. The presence of refugees in Kakuma, Kenya, increased employment by roughly 3% and the gross regional product by more than 3%. The presence of refugees led to development in the Turkana region as well, and socioeconomic activities increased per capita host incomes by 6% (Sanghi, Onder, and Vermuru, 2016). Research on refugees shows their potential benefits; however, most of the studies concentrate on refugees in camps and ignore the integrated refugees who live among the host community. According to Miller (2018), refugees are believed to strain on available resources; overwhelm health facilities and schools; strain infrastructures such as roads, bridges, warehousing facilities, and the availability of land; and place a burden on social and administrative services. There is also concern that refugees take jobs from nationals and drive up the cost of housing, goods, and other services.

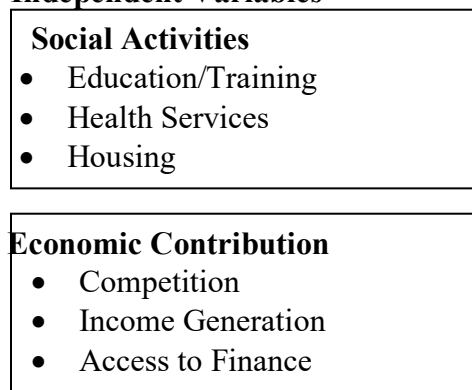
As soon as they arrive, refugees begin to vie with locals in the host communities for scarce resources such as housing, food, water, property, and basic amenities. Their presence eventually leads to a rise in the demand for important resources, infrastructure for healthcare and education, fuel, transportation, social services, and employment opportunities (Robinson, Zimmerman & Checchi, 2014). One example of a business disruption was the mandate to lease office space for business purposes in response to the refugee crisis, which applied to both foreign workers and employees of the host community (Mukira and Nguru, 2016). Increased housing construction results in higher rents, which benefits property owners but has a detrimental effect on the poor and those with low incomes, such as public officials. While generating economic effects, purchasing large quantities of construction materials could make it unavailable or prohibitively expensive for the residents of the host community (Robinson, Zimmerman & Checchi, 2014).

Evidence from Kenya shows that refugees are, in essence, substantial financial resources for the host community, which contradicts the notion that they are a problem. This is especially true given that they are primarily funded internationally (Mukira and Nguru, 2016). However, the benefits are not distributed equally, and the limited economic engagement with the encamping markets suggests that there is no intention to distribute the benefits more fairly among the indigenous populations. The Kenyan government does not realize the potential income benefits due to the ambiguity of encamping economies (Mukira and Nguru, 2016). Few studies have looked at how Kenya's public and private economic systems are affected by asylum seekers. Furthermore, nearly every economic scholarly work focuses on the impact of Turkana, so it does not quantify among Somali asylum seekers and native Somali ethnic groups (Kenyan Turkana) (Robinson, Zimmerman & Checchi, 2014). Economic growth has increased as a result of developments in the Kakuma region; however, precise statistics are not readily available. According to one estimate, Somali money transfers and investments in Kenya total \$780 million a year; however, it is unclear how much of this can be linked to asylum seekers. Elliott (2014). According to Mukira and Nguru's (2016) research, there were periods of severe financial development and development in Kakuma during the late 1990s and starting in 2006, when large numbers of Somali refugees arrived in Kenya. However, the exact relationship between these events has not yet been thoroughly examined. Multinational immigration has benefited Turkana in Kenya; low-cost international trade has been made possible by the absence of national laws between Somalia and Kenya. A financial renaissance has occurred in Kakuma as a result of the hawala model's accessibility and distribution of money, as well as Kenya's lack of exchange regulations, which have led to what he refers to as "small-end globalization"—the purchase and sale of inexpensive consumer goods (Elliot, 2014).

Conceptual Framework

The study's independent and dependent variables are mapped out in the conceptual framework. A conceptual framework "lays out the key factors, constructs, or variables, and presumes relationships among them," according to Miles (2007). The conceptual framework is crucial to the current study because it shows how the socioeconomic activities of the refugees in the host community of Kakuma are linked to the social and economic impacts as well as the host communities' overall perception of the refugees.

Independent Variables



Dependent Variable

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

Source: Researcher, (2024)

METHODOLOGY

The research design used was descriptive. The descriptive design is recommended because it enables the researcher to describe, record, analyze, and report conditions that exist or have existed.

A target population for a study is the group of individuals or subjects that are affected by the survey (Norris et al., 2015). Targeted groups for interviews and questionnaire comprised of both refugees and host population including community leaders, refugees, and refugees' organizations. Respondents was selected using stratified random sampling in order to achieve a desired representation from various subgroups in the population of Kakuma. The study used the Krejcie and Morgan's (1970) Table for determining sample sizes. This table shows that for a population of 445, the corresponding sample size is 205. Thus, a sample of 205 respondents was adopted in this study.

The study utilized both primary and secondary data. In collecting data from respondents, self-administered questionnaires and interviews was employed. All gathered data was organized, and checked for consistency and entered into an SPSS spreadsheet. The statistical packages for the social sciences (SPSS, 26) software was then used to process the data. Following that, descriptive and inferential statistics was used to analyze the data.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Response Rate

The response rate, is the number of people who answered the survey divided by the number of people in the sample. The study distributed 205 questionnaires from which 149 questionnaires were satisfactorily filled and returned. This represented a response rate of 72.68% which was considered sufficient enough to make conclusions as per the study objectives. A survey response rate of 50% or higher should be considered excellent in most circumstances (Hendra & Hill, 2019).

Descriptive Statistics

Social Activities and Development of Host Communities

The researcher sought to examine the level of agreement to various aspects of social activities and development of host communities. Five response items were used to examine the prevailing status of social activities and development of host communities in Kakuma refugee camp.

Table 1: Social Activities

Responses	SD	D%	UD%	A%	SA%	MEAN	SD
	%						
That the locals and refugees are given equal opportunities in terms of education and training	34.9	41.6	10.1	10.7	2.7	3.95	1.061
That the locals and refugees are given equal opportunities in terms of health services	49.0	20.1	18.1	8.1	4.7	3.87	1.339
That the locals and refugees are given equal housing opportunities	49.0	24.8	20.1	6.0	0.0	4.17	.954
That the refugees interact well with the locals in social activities around Kakuma	40.9	24.8	26.2	4.7	3.4	3.95	1.080
Refugees are discriminated by the government and host communities in social activities	0.0	4.7	16.8	41.6	36.9	4.11	.847

Source: Field Data, (2024)

According to the findings presented in Table 1, 76.5% of the respondents disagreed and strongly disagreed that the locals and refugees are given equal opportunities in terms of education and training (M=3.95 SD=1.061), 13.4 % were in agreement and 10.1% were undecided. In addition, 67.1% of the respondents both disagreed and strongly disagreed that the locals and refugees are given equal opportunities in terms of health services (M=3.87 SD=1.331) while 24.8% and 8.1% were in agreement and undecided respectively. Besides, a majority of the employees both disagreed and strongly disagreed (73.8%) that the locals and refugees are given equal housing opportunities (M=4.17 SD=.954), 6.0 % agreed while 20.1% were undecided. In addition, 65.7% of the respondents were in disagreement that the refugees interact well with the locals in social activities around Kakuma (M=3.95 SD=1.080), 8.1% were in agreement while 26.2% undecided. Lastly 78.5% respondents agreed and strongly agreed that refugees are discriminated by the government and host communities in social activities (M=4.11 SD=.847), 4.7% disagreed while 16.8% were undecided.

Economic Activities and Development of Host Communities

The researcher sought to assess the level of agreement to various aspects of economic activities and development of host communities. Five response items were used to examine the prevailing status of economic activities and development of host communities in Kakuma refugee camp.

Table 2: Economic Contributions

Responses	SD	D%	UD%	A%	SA%	MEAN	SD
	%						
That there is competition between the host communities and the refugees in terms of resources	0.0	.1	11.4	30.9	57.0	4.44	.720
That greater percentage of income generation is from the refugees	0.0	2.0	20.8	29.5	45.6	4.19	.857
That the host communities access to finance than the refugees	0.0	6.7	24.2	31.5	37.6	4.00	.944
The refugees living around Kakuma have generated the economy than the locals around	0.0	0.7	28.2	27.5	43.6	4.14	.854
The refugee presence in Kakuma, has boosted the gross regional product and increased employment	0.0	2.7	26.8	52.3	18.1	3.86	.735

Source: Field Data, (2024)

According to the findings presented in Table 2, 87.9% of the respondents agreed and strongly agreed that there is competition between the host communities and the refugees in terms of resources (M=4.44 SD=.720), .7 % were in disagreement and 11.4% were undecided. In addition, 75.1% of the respondents both agreed and strongly agreed that greater percentage of income generation is from the refugees (M=4.19 SD=.857) while 2.0% and 22.8% were in disagreement and undecided respectively. Besides, a majority of the employees both agreed and strongly agreed (69.1%) that the host communities access to finance than the refugees (M=4.00 SD=.944), 6.7 % disagreed while 24.2% were undecided. In addition, 71.1% of the respondents were in agreement that refugees living around Kakuma have generated the economy than the locals around (M=4.14 SD=.854), .7% disagreed while 28.2% undecided. Lastly 70.4% respondents agreed and strongly agreed that the refugee presence in Kakuma, has boosted the

gross regional product and increased employment (M=3.86 SD=.735), 2.7% disagreed while 26.8% were undecided.

Regression Analysis

The study used multiple regression analysis to establish the relationship of independent variables and dependent variable that is the influence of refugees' socio-economic activities on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County, Kenya.

Table 3: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.862 ^a	.742	.735	.274	2.013

a. Dependent Variable: Development of Host Communities

b. Predictors: (Constant), Social Activities, Economic Activities

Table 4: ANOVA^a

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	31.260	4	7.815	103.739	.000 ^b
	Residual	10.848	144	.075		
	Total	42.108	148			

a. Dependent Variable: Development of Host Communities

b. Predictors: (Constant), Social Activities, Economic Activities, Social Contributions and Legal Status

Table 5: Coefficients^a

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	.435	.215		2.026	.045
	Social Activities	.500	.060	.542	8.283	.000
	Economic Activities	.070	.049	.074	2.217	.002
	Social Contributions	.178	.043	.234	4.132	.000
	Legal Status	.219	.040	.244	5.473	.000

a. Dependent Variable: Development of Host Communities

The model summary of multiple regressions showing that the predictors (social activities, economic activities) jointly explained 74.2 percent variation on development of host communities. This showed that considering the four independent study variables, there is a probability of 74.2 percent ($R^2=0.742$) in predicting development of host communities. The adjusted R^2 for the variables was .735. This implies that when the refugees' embrace socio-economic activities then development of host communities is likely to improve. The joint contribution of the independent variables was significant in predicting development of host communities. Therefore the refugees' socio-economic activities significantly influence the development of host communities. These findings are supported by Surucu et al., (2019) Baalbaki and Guzmán, (2016) who also found that refugees' socio-economic activities significantly affects organizational development of host communities. The findings are premised on the social constructivism theory. Therefore, the relationship between refugees and socio-economic activities significantly influences development of host communities.

Results of the multiple regression coefficients show the estimates of beta values and give an individual contribution of each predictor to the model. The magnitude of the beta coefficients

associated with the independent variables can be compared to determine the strongest independent variable in predicting the dependent variable (Zhao, Yan, Yu & Van Hentenryck, 2020). The beta value tells us about the relationship between developments of host communities with each predictor. The positive beta values indicate the positive relationship between the predictors and the outcome. The beta value for social activities (.500) and economic activities (.070), were all positive. The model can then be specified as:-

$$Y = .435 + .500X_1 + .070X_2 + \varepsilon$$

T-test was then used to identify whether the predictors were making a significant contribution to the model. The t-values test the hypothesis that the coefficient is different from 0. To reject this one needs a t-value greater than 1.96 for 95 percent level of confidence. T-values also show the significance of a variable in the model. When the t-test associated with Beta value is significant, it implies the predictor is making a significant contribution to the model.

H₀₁: Social activities have no statistically significant influence on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County, Kenya

The first hypothesis of the study stated that social activities have no statistically significant influence on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County, Kenya. However, findings showed that social activities had coefficients of estimate which were significant basing on $\beta_1 = .500$ ($t = 8.283$; $p\text{-value} = 0.000$ which is less than $\alpha = 0.05$). Thus, null hypothesis was rejected and the study concludes that social activities have a positive and statistically significant influence on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County. This suggests that there is up to 0.500 unit increase in development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County.

H₀₂: Economic activities have no statistically significant influence on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County.

The second hypothesis of the study stated that economic activities have no statistically significant influence on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County. However, findings showed that economic activities had coefficients of estimate which were significant basing on $\beta_1 = .070$ ($t = 2.217$; $p\text{-value} = 0.000$ which is less than $\alpha = 0.05$). Thus, null hypothesis was rejected and the study concludes that economic activities have a positive and statistically significant influence on development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County. This suggests that there is up to 0.070 unit increase in development of host communities in Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County associated with one unit increase of economic activities.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

The survey findings reveal a pervasive perception of inequality and discrimination against refugees in Kakuma. A majority of respondents believe that refugees face disparities in access to education, healthcare, housing, and social opportunities. These findings highlight the urgent need for interventions to address these issues and promote social cohesion between locals and refugees.

The survey results indicate that a significant portion of respondents perceive competition between host communities and refugees over resources. Many believe that refugees have a greater share of income-generating activities and access to finance. Additionally, a substantial number of respondents believe that the presence of refugees has positively impacted the local economy, leading to increased economic activity and employment opportunities.

Recommendations

The study recommends that effective social activities such as education/training, health services and housing are necessary for enhanced development of host communities. Therefore, the communities of Kakuma, Turkana West Sub-County should strive to embrace effective social activities to improve development of host communities.

Guided by findings and conclusions on economic activities, the study recommends an enhanced competition, income generation and access to finance. The application of economic activities would build a strong and continuous management collaboration platform to enhance development of host communities.

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