

# Donor Funded Projects and Social Economic Welfare in Rural Communities in Hiiraan-Somalia

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## Abstract

The study sought to establish the relationship between extent of Donor Funded Projects and social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. The study was guided by three specific objectives, that include ( i) determining the extent of donor funded projects;( ii) level of social economic welfare and (iii) the relationship between donor funded projects and social economic welfare in rural communities in hiiraan, Somalia, the study used a total population of 200 and a sample size of 133 respondents, and the questionnaire was used as the research instrument. Descriptive statistics used in this study included frequencies, means and PLCC on correlation of variables. The findings revealed the following: majority of respondents in this sample ranged between 31-40 years and these were male (68.4%) and had only attained diploma as their highest academic qualification (60.9%) and had an experience of 6-9 years (33.8%). Data analysis using means showed that extent of donor funded projects in rural communities in hiiraan, Somalia was found to be satisfactory (over all mean=2.88), and the level of social economic welfare was found to be high, and this was indicated by the overall mean (mean=2.74). The extents of donor funded projects and social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia are positive and significantly correlated.

The researcher recommended that; the agriculture officers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia should always start with identifying the agricultural needs in relation the activities, this will lead to smooth performance of donor funded projects in Hiiraan, Somalia. The researcher still recommended that FAO should always provide high breed agricultural seeds to farmers in Hiiran ,Somalia, since majority of farmers rated this item as unsatisfactory in the questionnaire, and this will help them to come up with high quality agricultural products, donor funded projects such as FAO should provide dams for rain water harvesting to farmers, and this will help them to continue farming even during dry seasons, the interest rate on credits provided by FAO should be favoring the growth of farmers' agricultural investments, and this will help them improve on their social economic welfare; and the donor funded projects such as FAO should always send many agricultural facilitators to the farmers in Hiiran ,Somalia, and this will help the farmers learn the modern agricultural methods hence coming up with high quality products. Prospective researchers and even students are encouraged to research on the following areas: Capacity building by training and social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia; Donor Funded Projects and quality of agricultural products in rural communities of Hiiraan.

**Keywords:** Donor Fund, Credit Support, Social Welfare, Rural Community.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This study investigated Donor funded projects and social economic welfare on rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. “Social economic welfare denotes the full range of organized activities of voluntary and governmental agencies that seek to prevent, alleviate, or contribute to the solution of recognized social problems, or to improve the well-being of individuals, groups, or communities. (Yang, C.-J., & Jackson, R. B., 2011). The expansion of social welfare in advanced capitalist countries following the Second World War has been phenomenal. Concomitant to this is the mushrooming of comparative social research devoted to the analysis of welfare states. The central question in comparative policy discourse has been the search for the determinants of social welfare development. There is no consensus over the structural determinants for welfare efforts. However, the literature on comparative social policy has identified a considerable number of variables which spur social policy development: industrialization, urbanization, modernization, working-class mobilization, union strength, state and its structure, open economy, diffusion, military spending, and national ideology (Wilensky & Lebeaux, 1965).

Despite being a middle-income country, by international standards South Africa has an extensive and progressively targeted social security system. But is the scheme genuinely contributing to declining levels of poverty and inequality in the country? In 1980, the South African government committed itself to removing racial barriers in terms of many of its social benefits programs. By 1993, all individuals in need were receiving the same grant level per beneficiary. This investment in the people of South Africa was well worth ensuring a better quality of life than any would have experienced without access to a grant, as well as the assistance given in terms of access to health services and education. South Africa’s social grant network has since grown to be among the largest in the developing world and, for this financial year, the scheme’s expenditure is projected to reach \$12 billion, (Hicks, 1994). So now, in Somalia after the collapse of central government, the social economic welfare is somehow better, fortunately Somalia people are depending on their private business, and economically are good, although Somalia farmers are suffering some donors like WFP, because WFP brings the maize as a donor the season that farmers are getting their crop production that causes farmers to be disappointment to produce again. Finally, the current situation of standard living in Somalia is now better than past years.

### *1.1. Conceptual Perspective.*

Donor aided projects are defined as those projects sponsored by external donations normally provided by international aid or development agencies (Andrews, N. 2009). Social economic welfare as "any service or activity designed to promote the welfare of the community and the individual, as through counseling services, health clinics, recreation halls and playgrounds, in short, 'social welfare' is the well-being of persons as a community. In its narrowest sense, social welfare includes those nonprofit functions of society, public or voluntary, which clearly aimed at alleviating distress and poverty or at ameliorating the conditions of the casualties of society (Ahmed, S. M., & Palermo, A.-G. S., 2010). According to (Hilbert, M., 2011). social economic welfare is “All social interventions intended to enhance or maintain the social functioning of human beings. According to (Jimu, I. M. 2010), social economic welfare denotes the full range of organized activities of voluntary and governmental agencies that seek to prevent, alleviate, or contribute to the solution of recognized social problems, or to improve the well-being of individuals,

groups, or communities.

According to (Khwaja, A. I. 2009), Social welfare as an organized function is regarded as a body of activities designed to enable individuals, families, groups, and communities to cope with the social problems of changing conditions. But in addition to and extending beyond the range of its responsibilities for specific services, social welfare has a further function within the broad area of a country's social development. In this larger sense, social welfare should play a key role in contributing to the effective mobilization and deployment of human and material resources of the country to deal successfully with the social requirements of change, thereby participating in nation-building. According to (Stoddard, A., 2009). Social welfare services, in common with education, medical, housing, and other parallel services, form a part of the social services which most developed communities have come to require and expect ...Social welfare services are required by those who are not capable without help and support of standing on their own feet as fully independent or 'self-directing' members of the community "Used in its broadest sense the term 'social economic welfare' can embrace all efforts aimed at improving health, education, employment, housing, recreational and cultural services for the community at large. However, for the purpose of the White Paper, 'social welfare' will be used in a narrower sense as the range of services provided by Social Welfare Department and the voluntary welfare sector (Ochieng, F. O., & Ruth, T., 2013). According to (Banks, G., & UP, T., 2009). social economic welfare embraces laws, benefits, and services which address social needs accepted as essential to the well-being of a society. It focuses on personal and social problems, both existing and potential. It also plays an important developmental role by providing an organized system of services and institutions which are designed to aid individuals and groups to achieve satisfying roles in life and personal relationships which permit them to develop their full capacities and to promote their well0being in harmony with the needs and aspirations of their families and the community (Titus, M. K., 2013).

### *1.2 Contextual Perspective*

Donor funded projects in Somalia has both advantage and disadvantages of social welfare stimulating economic development in the receiver's country (better in infrastructure and quality education) that will leads to economic growth. It can also create jobs as increased investment leads to more employment and more taxes revenues from the increase in taxable income. The disadvantage of social welfare is that some donors are bringing their donors like WFP when Somali farmers are willing to get their crop production, so it leads to famers to be disappointed as well as it disrupts local social and economic systems, particularly agriculture and trading. Food aid is normally distributed in big camps, so people must abandon their villages and move into the camps. If people are being given free food, there isn't point in growing food locally or in traders bringing in food from outside (Andrews, N., 2009).

So, local farmers and traders go bust. It is then very difficult to re-establish the normal patterns of life when the problem which causes the famine - perhaps war or drought - goes away, Donation agency is therefore seriously addictive - once a community has got used to it, it cannot give it up. Therefore, it should be treated like a dangerous but valuable drug - given out to the most serious cases but only with massive precautions and reduced as soon as it is safe to do so. Unfortunately, it is too easy for rich Western countries with food surpluses caused by subsidized farming to give themselves a warm feeling by dumping those surpluses on the needy in the name of charity. And once started, it is difficult to tell someone who is hungry

(but not starving) that they need to find their own food. But it is the only way to re-establish normal society (Neba, N. E., 2009).

### *1.3 Statement of the Problem*

Despite the increase in donor funding from the government and NGOs for poverty reduction programs, while the state of poverty in Somalia and the Hiiraan region has been on the increase. Welfare monitoring survey indicates that 40% of the poor reside in the rural areas in Hiiraan. To this end, several projects and programs through NGOs and the government have been implemented and financed by various donors to improve social economic welfare conditions for people in the rural community in Hiiraan province. However, the social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan are suffering from lack of sufficient income, health as well as poor educational quality. So, this research investigates the effects of donor funded projects on social economic welfare of rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. Further, some donors namely WFP brings foods like those produced by Somali farmers during harvesting seasons and prices of crop production go down demotivating the farmers and makes the farmers not to produce again. This study also establishes whether there is a relationship between these programs and the overall social-economic wellbeing of people living in the Hiiraan region.

### *1.4 Significance of the Study*

This study was based on the donor funded projects and social economic welfare; therefore, it was benefited for government to know the impact of donor of social economic welfare by their negative as well as the positive side of donors, also this study will be so important the researchers specially students those want to write their graduation thesis, and finally it will be important for NGOs.

### *1.5 Operational definitions*

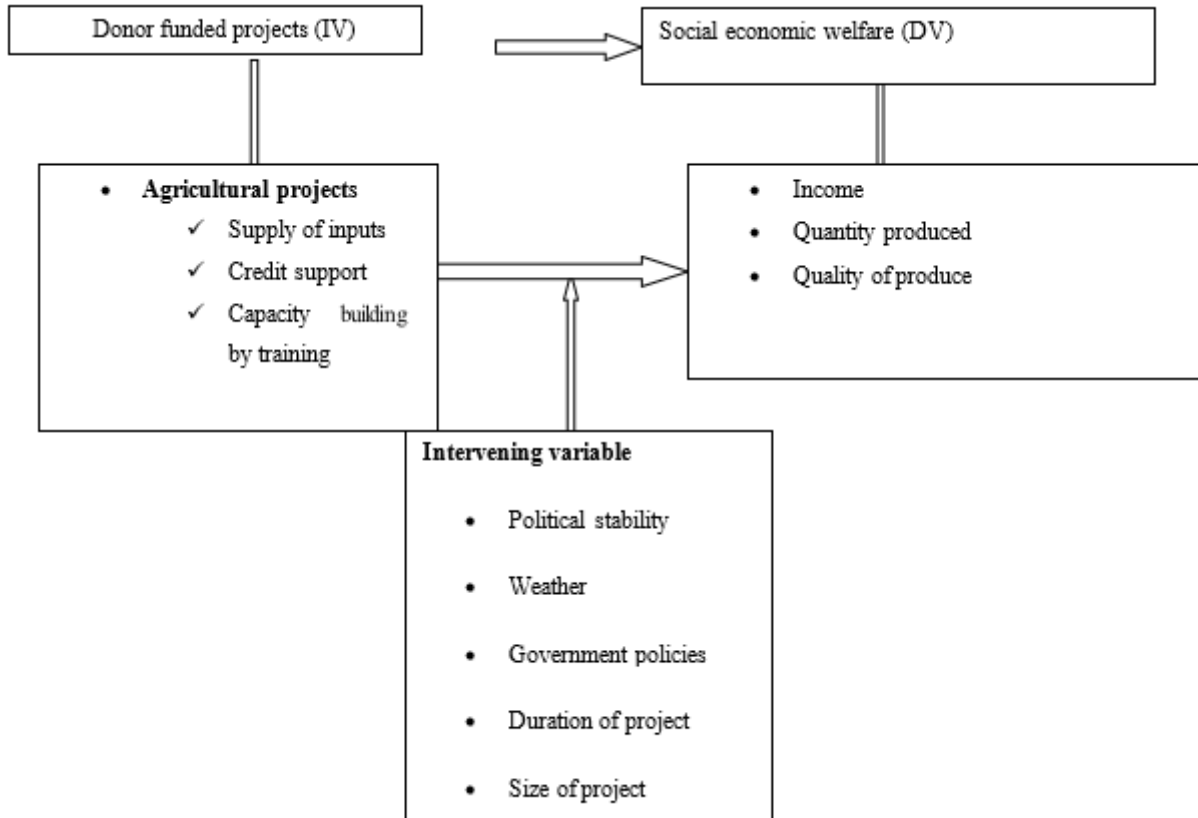
Donor aided projects are defined as those projects sponsored by external donations normally provided by international aid or development agencies. Social welfare services, in common with education, medical, housing, and other parallel services, form a part of the social services which most developed communities have come to require and expect

...Social welfare services are required by those who are not capable without help and support of standing on their own feet as fully independent or 'self-directing' members of the community.

## **2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW**

The conceptual framework illustrates the relationship between donor funded projects and social economic welfare. Donor funded projects in which is independent variable was measured as agricultural projects in terms of supply inputs, credit, and capacity building by training. On the other hand, social economic welfare which is dependent variable was measured in terms of income, quantity produced and quality of produce. Therefore, there is intervening variable those are: Political stability, Weather, Government policies and Duration of project Which affects both donors funded projects and social economic welfare (Developed by the researcher, 2015).

## 2.1 Conceptual Framework



## 2.2 Donor Funded Projects

Donor aided projects are defined as those projects sponsored by external donations normally provided by international aid or development agencies (Andrews, N. (2009)). So, donors funded projects those existing in rural communities are considering agricultural projects because in rural communities are depends on by agricultural.

### 2.2.1 Agricultural Projects in Rural Area

The development objective of the Agriculture and Rural Development Project is to assist the Recipient to promote competitiveness and growth in the livestock and horticulture sub-sectors over the next decade through implementation of selected measures of its agricultural strategy and institutional development. The objective of agricultural projects is to improve the productivity and incomes of small-scale subsistence farmers in a region where rainfall is very irregular and agricultural work must carefully conserve soil moisture and prevent erosion. This objective reflected the agricultural policy of the former government, which had the aim of developing under-utilized resources, creating employment opportunities, and increasing self-sufficiency in food production.

### 2.2.2 Supply of Inputs and Social Economic Welfare

One of the most difficult challenges for smallholder farmers is a reliable source of high-quality agricultural inputs, such as seed, fertilizer, farm equipment, veterinary supplies and services, and sustainable extension

services. Access to these farm services results in higher quality and quantity production, which in turn yields higher profits and promotes increased on-farm investment. Local retail access to inputs and services is the first step in this intervention. FAO has developed a series of input supply models, all of which are driven by and adapted to local production, markets, entrepreneurs, and context. FAO input retailers act as “one-stop-shops” for local smallholder farmers, demonstrating a profitable business model that is based on a large volume of individually small transactions with small farmer clients (Jimu, 2010).

To strengthen the commercial viability of the Farm Store network, FAO assisted member stores to establish a buying cooperative, Agrostoc, to meet their wholesale inventory supply needs. Founded by 15 Farm Store members, Agrostoc provided the link to international input manufacturers and wholesalers, allowing retailers to pool resources and access volume discounts, source inputs in appropriate packaging for their clients and extending trade credit to members. Today, Agrostoc has 108 members, including retailers and commercial farms, sells approximately \$17 million in goods and services per year, including marketing of farmer outputs, and is the largest wholesaler input supplier in Somalia. The Farm Stores created 761 new jobs in rural areas, and generated sales of over \$9 million. As a result of the Farm Store network, over 1.3 million farmers improved their production and increased incomes between 15-20% (Kimani, 2009).

### 2.2.3 Credit Support and Social Economic Welfare

Steady household borrowing masks diverging underlying agricultural growth trends. An increase in demand for credit and non-mortgage loans offset a marginal slowing in mortgage debt accumulation to keep the rate of overall household credit growth unchanged in September. The 2.6% rise in the former predominantly reflected continued gains in personal loan borrowing from chartered banks (which reflects financing for the acquisition of consumer goods and services) while personal lines of credit edged higher for the third consecutive month. In contrast, residential mortgage borrowing eased; albeit the 5.1% annual rise in September represented only a minimal slowing from the 5.2% year- over-year increase recorded in August (Gollin, 2009).

### 2.2.4 Capacity Building by Training and Social Economic Welfare

The achievement of M.D.G and other international and national development targets in Developing countries hinges in capacities of individuals, organizations, and societies to transform to reach their designed objectives. United Nation Development Program (UNDP) defines capacity building as the ability to perform functions effectively, efficiently, and sustainably. Capacity building is regarded as the enhancement of the competency of individuals and local communities to engage in activities in a sustainable manner for positive development, poverty reduction and meeting the MDGs, (Hope, 2009). Capacity building involves strengthening performance capabilities by empowering those who are most marginalized by providing equal chances for community to access resources. In the implementation of community projects, the beneficiaries need the ability to perform many functions to ensure they maximize on the outputs of the projects.

A study conducted by (Webbs Rogers, 2003) for instance, shows that to produce more nutritious food the beneficiaries have to use agricultural knowledge and farming skills which are technical assets. Capacity building is not only a stand- alone training intervention but rather a strategically coordinated set of

activities aimed at improving the abilities of skills of individuals for a better performance. According to (Kistern, 1998), capacity development and skills training are determinants of successful developments. For a project to realize its objectives, the guidelines of the project cycle must be vigorously implemented. The cycle should however further incorporate participative process, social integration, capacity development and economic diversity. Kistern insists that human capacity development and skills training are important determinants of successful development.

Economic transformation therefore focuses on Human Capital Development (HCD), broadly defined as expanding choices and the ability to react to changes. Neglect to human development would often feature to failures, and various studies illustrate the value of human capacity development in enabling efficient resource use and productive farming (Mac Calla, 1999). Low production could be explained to a significant extent as resulting from low investment in human capital development. From this observation, it is concluded that organization of project stakeholders and participants and facilitation of interaction and networking are very crucial to the successful implementation and sustainability of any development projects. During this process, skill limitations can be addressed through focused training programs which would capacitate project participants to make informed decisions. Building functional capacities at the community level remains important in global approaches to participatory development. In Cambodia (Asia), local capacity remains particularly important.

An assessment by the World Bank (2006) shows that, to provide sustainable flat form for Cambodia's future growth, development agencies has adopted an interlinked approach that provides a critical role for local level capacity building. This emphasis reflects the importance of supporting community level growth, bottom-up development initiatives in a predominantly rural society that remains largely organized around the village and where rural- urban linkages remain weak. Studies on implementation of health programs by the community health workers show that in India such community health workers receive training for about three months, while in other countries such as Brazil they receive training for about six to eight months at the beginning of their career (Campos, 2004).

In Rwanda as noted by Malinga, (2008, pp.185) the government by 2005 had realized that capacity entailed more than training and to be comprehensively addressed using a multi-sector and multi-dimensional approach. The same study reports that one fundamental developmental change agenda that the Rwandan government undertook was the establishment of a Multi-Sector Capacity Building Program (MSCBP). This program was designed to guide capacity initiatives in the public, private and other organizations to make them more effective, efficient, and transparent in the implementation of their development projects as indicated by Malinga.

### *2.2.5 Social Economic Welfare*

According to (Jimu, I. M., 2010), social economic welfare generally denotes the full range of organized activities of voluntary and governmental agencies that seek to prevent, alleviate, or contribute to the solution of recognized social problems, or to improve the well-being of individuals, groups, or communities.

### 2.2.6 Food Quality and Safety

According to Hilbert (2011), this refers to the quality characteristics of food that is acceptable to the World Food Program. This includes external factors as appearance (size, shape, colour, gloss, and consistency), texture, and flavour; factors such as federal grade standards (e.g. of eggs) and internal (chemical, physical, microbial). A common concern surrounds farmers' capacity to satisfy food quality and safety standards. PVO contracts with the USDA included commodity-specific standards, and Somali commodities have to meet additional standards specified by the local government and by the PVO headquarters. The millet and cowpeas in Somalia are sampled at each supplier's warehouse prior to delivery to schools. A few of the samples are found non-compliant with the government standards. In the case of millet, the single violation is a sample containing a live insect. The FBO supplier then treats and cleans the stock prior to delivery. Non-compliance in the cowpea procurements is related mainly to the presence of dirt and broken beans, criteria not required by the USDA and/or not involving health risks. The laboratory always recommends that the product is safe and could be sorted by recipients. US-sourced commodities are subjected in testing by the national laboratory as well, and none of this delivered fail to meet product quality and safety standards. However, 3% of the bulgur wheat and 5% of the lentils intended for Hiiran region do not arrive or rejected on arrival at the port. The food supply commodities clearly match or surpass the US-sourced commodities in terms of food quality and safety (Hilbert, 2011).

### 2.2.7 Quantity produced

Titus (2013) noted that in traditional cropping systems where crops are grown primarily for subsistence, farmers produce a broad range of crops and varieties not only to meet their subsistence needs, but also to avoid the risk of total crop failure that can result from the many existing biotic and a biotic stress. It is estimated that 90% of the rain-fed area in is planted to sorghum, the remaining 10% being divided between cowpeas and maize. The farmer survey undertaken as part of the study further revealed that there were only five different named varieties of maize and six of sorghum. This indicates that the cropping systems are not very diversified, suggesting that the farmers are not well buffered against adverse biotic and a biotic stress. Several factors determine the choice of crops grown in Somalia, including the importance of fodder, the degree of commercialization, and relative geographical isolation from other cropping systems, as explained in the following paragraphs (Titus, 2013).

According to Nichols (2011), Canada singularly contributes a relatively significant amount of funds for the combined purchase and delivery of 104,937 metric tons (WFP, 2009). This level of contribution was possible because in April 2008, the Canadian government untied its food aid budget with the aim of enhancing local markets in developing countries and to meet the needs of the food security more effectively: "Untying food helps promote the development of food markets and helps to ensure the food assistance needs of vulnerable populations are met in a timely manner" (Government of Canada, 2009). Indeed, throughout the world most smallholder producers are net food buyers, not net food sellers. Therefore, pricing policies that aim to increase prices to induce greater production can harm the most households that on net buy the same product (Kirchoff, 2011).



### 2.3 The Relationship Between Donor Funded Projects and Social Economic Welfare

The previous studies indicate that the aid has a positive impact on growth in developing countries with good financial system and trade policies but has negligible impact on countries with poor policies. Aid itself has small and insignificant impact on growth but aid interacting with good policy has a positive impact on growth. Policy seems more important on aid effectiveness in lower income countries (Vu Minh Duc, 2002). On the contrary (Gong and Zou 2001), stated that foreign aid depresses domestic savings, and mostly channels it into consumption and has no relationship with investment and growth in developing countries. Aided projects are likely to have little or no substantial impact in poor sector-policy environment and where projects are not well integrated. Unfortunately, a donor is more likely to ignore the potential negative externalities on recipient country systems (Stephen Knack, 2006). Part of the problem of aid ineffectiveness has lots to do with the fragmentation of donor program/projects. The real effects of donor fragmentation among others include each recipient must contend with many small projects from many different donors which breeds duplication, take much time of government ministers in aid intensive countries (William Easterly and Tobias Pfitze, 2008). Accordingly, the enhanced role of NGOs in the development process presumed efficiency and effectiveness in terms of program delivery and meeting the needs of the poor. This is compared favorably with the failures of the state, the private sector, and multilateral efforts to promote development. NGOs possess development capacities and capabilities that states, and governments lack and are acceptable as a necessary part of the development process (Iain Attack, 1999).

Although scholars like, (Gerald M. Steinberg, *ibid*) argue that NGOs aren't democratic institutions and have no democratic accountability, literature also suggests, NGOs have a comparative advantage in; local accountability, independent assessment of issues and problems, expertise and advise-reaching important constituencies, provision and dissemination of information, awareness raising and proximity to their clients (African Recovery, 1999). The challenge that stands in the way for most organizations is the fact that, their legitimacy is being questionable. The cost of development services they provide is not met by the incomes from the clients they serve- the poor, marginalized, oppressed, and deprived inhabitants of the South (Alan Fowler, 1992).

Iain Attack (1999) will no doubt question the legitimacy and the interventions of such dependent NGOs. Nevertheless, NGO involvement in development reflects private initiative and voluntary Action and it also follows an increase in popularity of NGOs with government official aid Agencies and the willingness of donors to make funds available to them. There are two main reasons to explain why funds to NGOs; one is that official funding agencies support NGOs in providing welfare services because of their cost effectiveness in reaching the poor, and secondly, they are seen as representatives of the poor and most vulnerable and their relationship with the people gives them greater public legitimacy than some governments (Gilles Nancy et al, 2006). Ravi Kanbur (2000) would disagree with this argument of effectiveness, and counter argue that "representatives of aid agencies in Africa, those who "parachute in" for missions of a few days and those who are resident are symbols of power of donor agencies, they stay in big hotels, big houses and are driven around in big cars and demand to see policy makers at the drop of the hat. As they travel in conveyors of four-wheel drives to inspect projects funded by their agencies and as they mingle on the diplomatic cocktail, the resentment they evoke should not be underestimated". The

NGOs/donor aided programs do reduce some of the worst forms of poverty, although a modest achievement, for the people helped it can be significant. Donor aided programs focused on credit and agriculture in Latin America have led to an increase in employment, growth in income, and production (Alan Fowler and Rick James, 1994).

Globally, development assistance has increased but lacks ability to reach out to the poor. Concerns have been voiced about the impact of donor funding to NGOs. Although their funding has increased enormously, their visibility with the public has never been higher. Their legitimacy and relationship with funding agencies is in question. There is increasing debate that NGOs have become implementers of donor policies and their relationship with donor's compromises the work of Civil Society Organizations (Gilles Nancy et al, 2006). An NGO is only accountable to its funding organizations or its members (Gerald M. Steinberg, 2003). Schneider (1985) quoted in Alan Fowler and Rick James (1994); says that "NGOs play a unique and a successful role in assisting and strengthening local groups and associations. Referring to a UNDP report (n.d), Schneider points to several cases where projects strengthen the capacity of communities to improve their bargaining positions with government as well as having a significant impact in empowering the poor, especially women.

Further, mobilization aspect of development in the sense of forming strong groups and civic associations appears successful but there is little in sight as to their durability or impact in altering the power structures of society. More so, Alan Fowler and Rick James, (ibid) have suggested a growing role for NGOs in monitoring government adherence to its own policies and The implementation of international agreements Credit programs by NGOs in Bangladesh and in India successfully shifted productive resources into poor women's hands and they in turn were demonstrating how women's enhanced Incomes were applied to raise household nutrition levels and improve the health and education status of their children.

The borrowers from these organizations were mostly women. However, the women are also victims of loan failures used by their husbands and groups created by the NGOS are used to recover the loans and this sometimes results in selling of property or any other valuable item of the family (Lamia Karim & William Muhumuza, 2005) research on Credit organizations in Uganda found out that, credit organizations targeting mostly women focused on the active poor and discriminated against those in the absolute poor state because they considered them risky and a threat to future access to credit. In several cases, it has been concluded that the not so poor have benefited from NGO programs (Alan Fowler & Rick James 1994). Mary Kaldor ( 2007/08) in the Global civil Society further argues that Aid Money may lead to the formation of artificial NGOs, which squeeze the space for genuine grassroots initiatives and may foster corruption or train people who then use their new skills to find jobs elsewhere For development NGOs, the cost of development services they provide are not met by the incomes from the clients they serve- the poor, marginalized, oppressed and deprived inhabitants of the South. The cost is paid by surpluses generated by the for-profit capitalists, market economy that is displacing all others as it expands across the world and penetrating deeper into countries of Eastern Europe and the South. The work of NGOs is critically dependent on economic processes external to the client group (Alan Fowler, 1992). While reviewing development partnerships in Nepal (Tumusiime Mutebile, 2002) found Out that, "donor dominance in Nepal's development efforts and the impact of aid programs and over all development effort was not generating satisfactory and sustainable results on the ground. He further adds that without strong

collaboration with national institutions, the sustainability and the reliability of many programs were uncertain”. Scholarly literature has shown that, when international assistance ends, the activities initiated on the ground also die with little left to show for the effort. The lack of sustainable impact is widely seen as a key threat to continued flow of international development assistance (David W. Chapman et al, 2006). Inadvertently, there will Be a move away from comparative advantage to competitive advantage between NGOs as access to external aid becomes more critical for their functioning (Alan Fowler, 1999).

### 3.0 METHODOLOGY

The study conducted using descriptive correlation design. Descriptive studies are *non-experimental* research that describe the characteristics of a particular individual, or of a group. It deals with the relationship between variables, testing of hypothesis and development of generalizations and use of theories that have universal validity. It also involves events that have already taken place and may be related to present conditions (Kothari, 2004). Further, descriptive surveys are used to discover causal relationships (descriptive correlational), differences (descriptive comparative), to provide precise *quantitative* description and to observe behavior (Treece and Treece, 1973).

#### 3.1 Research Population

The target population of this study was: 30 managers of FAO, 150 of rural famers and 20 of community leaders in rural communities in Hiiraan that making total population in this study to be 200.

**Table1: Respondents of the study**

Category	Population	Sample size
FAO managers	30	20
Rural famers	150	100
Rural community leaders	20	13
Total	200	133

Source: primary data, 2015

#### 3.2 Sample Size

The sample size of the study was consisting of 133 respondents; this sample size arrived by using Slovene’s formula for calculating sample sizes, stated as follows.

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}; \quad = 200 / (1 + 200 * 0.0025) = 133$$

Where,

$n$  = the required sample size,

$N$  = target population and

$e$  = significance level, given by 0.05.

### 3.3 Sampling Procedure

The respondents to the study was selecting using stratified sampling technique where the researcher was divided the entire population into different subgroups or strata, and then the researcher was randomly selected the final subjects proportionally from the different strata. Here a list of construction workers was obtained from Hiiraan, Somalia.

### 3.4 Validity of Instruments

To test the content validity, the researcher was used a panel of ten experienced researchers in the domain to assess their suitability and relevancy of the research objectives of the study and research questions. They were asked to assess the validity of the questions in the questionnaire by ranking them from 1 to 4 against objectives of the study and the research questions. 1-representing strongly disagree, 2-Disagree, 3-Agree, and 4 for strongly agree. From there, a Content Validity Ratio (CVR) and Content Validity Index (CVI) was calculated. CVR was calculated by subtracting the total number of items judged to strongly disagree (1) and disagree (2) from the total number of items judged to strongly agree (4) and agree (3), thereby dividing them to a half of people asked to judge the questionnaire. Then a content validity index (CVI) will be computed using the following formula,

$$CVI = \frac{\text{No. of questions declared valid}}{\text{total No. of questions in the questionnaire}} = 30/35=0.85, \text{ Since } 0.85 \text{ is greater than } 0.75, \text{ therefore it was accepted.}$$

### 3.5 Reliability of the research instruments

To test the reliability of the questionnaire, the researcher was conducted a preliminary testing of the questionnaire before constructing the final copies to be distributed in the field for actual data collection. The questionnaire was tested to a selected sample, which the researcher plans to use in the study. Eight people was selected, 2 from each category of respondents and was given by questions for testing which was enabled the researcher to improve the questions. To ensure the reliability of the instrument, the researcher used Test-Retest method. The questionnaire was given to 10 people and after two weeks the questionnaire was given to the same people. Cronbatch Alpha was used, computed using SPSS. Therefore, the Cronbatch Alpha is 0.85 and was accepted since 0.85 is greater than 0.75

### 3.6 Data Analysis

The statistical package which was used for analysis of data in this study was collected SPSS version 16.0. Different statistical techniques were used namely: Data on profile of respondents was analyzed using simple frequencies and percentage distributions. Means and standard deviations was used to determine the extent of Donor funded projects and social economic welfare. An item analysis will help to identify the strengths and weaknesses of respondents in terms of donor funded projects social economic welfare from which conclusions was derived. The following numerical values and response modes was used to interpret the means.

Mean range	Response range	Interpretation
3.26 - 4.00	strongly agree	Very high
2.51 - 3.25	Agree	High
1.76 - 2.50	Disagree	Low
1.00 - 1.75	strongly disagree	Very low

The Pearson’s Linear Correlation Coefficient (PLCC) was used to determine the significant relationship between donor funded projects and social economic welfare, and to test the null hypothesis of the study. Regression analysis was also be used to determine the extent to which donor funded projects and social economic welfare.

### 4.0 DATA ANALYSIS, AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

This paper shows the profile information of respondents, the extent of donor funded projects, level of social economic welfare and the significant relationship between the extent of Donor Funded Projects and social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. Respondents were asked to provide information regarding their gender, age, education level and number of years spent in farming, and their responses were summarized using frequencies and percentage distributions as indicated in table1 below.

**Table 1: Profile of Respondents**

Category	Frequency	Percent
Gender		
Male	91	68.4
Female	42	31.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>100</b>
Age		
below 19 years	16	12.0
20-30 years	36	27.1
31-40 years	53	39.8
41-50 years	28	21.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>100</b>

Educational qualification		
Certificate	1	8
Diploma	81	60.9
Bachelor’s degree	41	30.8
Masters’ degree	10	7.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>100</b>
Number of years spent in the business		
Below 1 year	18	13.5
2-5 years	40	30.1
6-9 years	45	33.8
10 years and above	<b>30</b>	<b>22.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	133	100

Source: Primary data

Table 1 revealed majority of the respondents in this sample were male (68.4%) as compared to 42 (31.6%) who were female, hence observing that majority of farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia, are mainly men. Concerning age, results in table 1 indicated that majority of respondents in this sample ranged between 31-40 years of age, this also implied that majority of farmers in this sample were in their middle adulthood and constituted 39.8%, these were followed by those between 20-30 years of age constituting 27.1%, hence indicating that these were in their early adulthood. With respect to education qualification, the study further showed that diploma holders (60.9%) dominated the study, bachelor’s degree (30.8%) and these were followed by master’s degree holders (7.5%), hence observing that majority of farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia are relatively qualified in academics. Concerning number of years spent in the business, results in table 1 indicated that majority of farmers in this sample had an experience of 6-9 years (33.8%), these were followed by those between 2-5 years (30.1%), hence implying that the farmers in this sample are highly experienced in different fields of farming.

The independent variable in this study was donor funded projects, this variable (IV) was broken into three constructs, and these are Supply of inputs (with five items/questions), Credit supply (with five questions) and Capacity building by training (with four questions). Each of these questions was based on a four-point Likert scale where farmers were asked to rate the extent of donor funded projects by indicating the extent to which they agree or disagree with each question, and their responses were analyzed using SPSS and summarized using means and ranks as indicated in table 2.

**Table 2: Extent of Donor Funded Projects**

Items on Donor Funded Projects	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
Supply of inputs	3.41	Very Satisfactory	1
Fertilizers and seeds have been provided by FAO to farmers			
FAO has provided high quality pesticides to farmers	2.93	Satisfactory	2

Ponds and wells have been constructed by FAO to farmers in Hiiran region, Somalia	2.87	Satisfactory	3
FAO has always provided high breed agricultural seeds to farmers in Hiiran, Somalia	2.75	Satisfactory	4
FAO has provided dams for rainwater harvesting to farmers	2.41	Unsatisfactory	5
<b>Average mean</b>	<b>2.87</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	
Credit supply	3.34		
FAO has provided credit facilities to the farmers in Hiiran, Somalia		Very Satisfactory	1
The timeliness of loan processing from FAO meets your agricultural investments needs	3.27	Very Satisfactory	2
FAO is very strict with collaterals when it comes to access credit	2.77	Satisfactory	3
You're always charged a fine by FAO whenever you fail to meet the repayment date	2.55	Satisfactory	4
The interest rate on credits provided by FAO favors the growth of your agricultural investments	2.33	Unsatisfactory	5
<b>Average mean</b>	<b>2.85</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	
Capacity building by training	3.31		
FAO has trained majority of farmers the way to conduct agricultural activities		Very satisfactory	1
FAO has always conducted enough research on different diseases attacking the farmers' agricultural products	3.21	Very satisfactory	2
FAO has set up a good local team of trainers to increase farmers' agricultural skills	2.60	Satisfactory	3
FAO has always sent many agricultural facilitators to the farmers in Hiiran, Somalia	2.57	Satisfactory	4
<b>Average mean</b>	<b>2.92</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	
<b>Overall mean</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	

Source: Primary Data

Mean range	Response range	Interpretation
3.26 - 4.00	strongly agree	Very satisfactory
2.51 - 3.25	agree	Satisfactory
1.76 - 2.50	disagree	Unsatisfactory
1.00 - 1.75	strongly disagree	Very unsatisfactory

Results in table 2 denoted that the extent of Donor Funded Projects in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia is satisfactory, and this was indicated by the overall mean of 2.88, implying that the Donor Funded Projects have always provided fertilizers and seeds to farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. For Supply of inputs, results indicated that the supply of inputs was rated as satisfactory and this was indicated by the average mean (mean=2.87), implying that FAO has provided high quality pesticides to farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. With respect to Credit supply, results in table 2 indicated that four items were used to measure this construct and it was also rated satisfactory on average and this was indicated by the average mean of 2.85, implying that FAO has always provided credit facilities to the farmers in Hiiran, Somalia in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. For Capacity building by training, results in table two connoted that Capacity building by training as the last construct on donor funded projects was also measured using four items (questions) and it was rated satisfactory on average (mean=2.85), implying that majority of farmers have been trained by FAO the way to carry out agricultural activities and this has helped them increase their agricultural outputs.

Social economic welfare is the dependent variable in this study and was broken into three constructs and these are income (with four questions), Quantity produced (with six items) and Quality produced (with five questions). Each of these questions was based on a four-point Likert scale and respondents were asked to rate the social economic welfare by indicating the extent to which they agree or disagree with each question, their responses were analyzed using SPSS and summarized using means as indicated in tables 3.

**Table 3: Level of Social Economic Welfare**

Items on social economic welfare	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
Income	3.72		
Your major source of income is farming		Very high	1
You always have enough income to enable you meet your needs	2.79	High	2
Income from wage and salaries has always contributed a lot on your standard of living	2.56	High	3
You always get your income from both agricultural and non-agricultural enterprises such as small shops	2.31	Low	4
<b>Average mean</b>	<b>2.85</b>	<b>High</b>	



Quantity produced			
You always apply fertilizers to increase food production	3.47	Very high	1
You even expect to increase your land size in order to produce more food for home use	3.29	Very high	2
You always produce food consistently	2.62	High	3
You have plans to increase on the amount of food produced/ harvested	2.59	High	4
You sell food products every year season	2.45	Low	5

Items on social economic welfare	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
Income	3.72		
Your major source of income is farming		Very high	1
You always have enough income to enable you meet your needs	2.79	High	2
Income from wage and salaries has always contributed a lot on your standard of living	2.56	High	3
You always get your income from both agricultural and non-agricultural enterprises such as small shops	2.31	Low	4
Many citizens in your area are engaged in agricultural for food production	2.33	Low	6
<b>Average mean</b>	<b>2.79</b>	<b>High</b>	
Quality produced			
You always produce agricultural products recommended by FAO programs	2.98	High	1
You always produce agricultural products which are clean (with no dust, broke products)	2.74	High	2
You always supply food which meet production standards (less or no chemicals)	2.53	High	3
You always produce food which is of good and acceptable quality	2.48	Low	4
You always produce food which meets the standard specified by FAO	2.15	Low	5
<b>Average mean</b>	<b>2.58</b>	<b>High</b>	
<b>Overall mean</b>	<b>2.74</b>	<b>High</b>	

Source: Primary

Data

Mean range	Response range	Interpretation
3.26 - 4.00	strongly agree	Very high
2.51 - 3.25	agree	High
1.76 - 2.50	disagree	Low
1.00 - 1.75	strongly disagree	Very low

Results in table 3 indicated that the level of social economic welfare is generally high, and this was indicated by the overall mean of 2.74, which implies that FAO has always come up to prevent, alleviate, or contribute to the solution of recognized social problems, or to improve the well-being of farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. Income was the first construct on the dependent variable and was measured using four items/questions and it was rated high on average (mean=2.85), implying that the

farming is a major source of income among rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. Concerning Quantity produced, results in table 3 indicated that this construct was rated high on average, and this was indicated by the average mean of 2.79, implying that the farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia always apply fertilizers to increase the quantity of food production. Quality produced; this variable was measured using four questions and it was rated high on average (mean=2.58), hence implying that the farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia always produce agricultural products recommended by FAO programs.

The last objective in this study was to establish whether there is a significant relationship between the extent of donor funded projects and level of social economic welfare in rural communities in hiiraan, Somalia. The researcher stated a null hypothesis that there is a significant relationship between the extent of donor funded projects and level of social economic welfare in rural communities in hiiraan, Somalia. Therefore, to achieve this objective and to test this null hypothesis, the researcher correlated the means on both variables by using the Pearson's Linear Correlation Coefficient as indicated in table 4.

**Table 4: Significant relationship between Donor Funded Projects and social economic welfare**

Variables correlated	R-value	Sig	Interpretation	Decision on Ho
Donor Funded Projects Vs Social economic welfare	387	.000	Significant correlation	Rejected

Source: Primary Data

Results in table 4 indicated a positive significant relationship between the extent of donor funded projects and social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, somalia, since the sig. value (0.000) was less than 0.05 which is the maximum level of significance required to declare a significant relationship in social sciences, here the stated null hypothesis was rejected basing on these results and hence concluding that improvement in donor funded projects increases the level of social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, somalia.

**Table 5: Regression Analysis between social economic welfare (DV) and Donor Funded Projects (IV)**

Variables regressed	Adjusted r <sup>2</sup>	F-value	Sig.	Interpretation	Decision on Ho
Social economic welfare VS Donor Funded Projects	.534	25.812	.000	Significant effect	Rejected
Coefficients	Beta	t-value	Sig		
(Constant)	2.146	4.034	.000	Significant effect	
Supply of inputs	.638	6.484	.003	Significant effect	
Credit supply	.483	4.651	.000	Significant effect	
Capacity building by training	.522	6.289	.000	Significant effect	

Source: Primary Data

Regression analysis results in table 5 above revealed that donor funded projects accounted for 53.4% on social economic welfare of farmers and this was indicated by adjusted r squared of 0.534 leading to a conclusion that donor funded projects significantly affect the level of social economic welfare of farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. The coefficients table indicated that of all the aspects of donor funded projects, supply of inputs accounted for the biggest influence on social economic welfare of farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia ( $\beta=0.638$ , Sig=0.000).

## DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 Discussions

This study was set to find out the relationship between extent of donor funded projects and social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia, three specific objectives guided this study, and these were i) determining the extent of donor funded projects; ii) level of social economic welfare and (iii) the relationship between donor funded projects and social economic welfare in rural communities in hiiraan, Somalia. The findings of the study indicated that majority of respondents in this sample ranged between 31-40 years, and these were male (68.4%) and had only attained diploma as their highest academic qualification (60.9%) and had an experience of 6-9 years (33.8%).

Data analysis using means indicated that the extent of donor funded projects in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia was rated satisfactory on average (overall mean=2.88), implying that the donor funded projects have always provided fertilizers and seeds to farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. Supply of inputs was rated high on average (mean=2.87), implying that agricultural inputs such as seed, fertilizer, farm equipment, veterinary supplies and services, and sustainable extension services have been provided to farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, this is also in line with Jimu (2010) who noted that access to these farm services results in higher quality and quantity production, which in turn yields higher profits and promotes increased on-farm investment. Local retail access to inputs and services is the first step in this intervention. FAO has developed a series of input supply models, all of which are driven by and adapted to local production, markets, entrepreneurs, and context. FAO input retailers act as “one-stop-shops” for local smallholder farmers, demonstrating a profitable business model that is based on a large volume of individually small transactions with small farmer clients (Jimu, 2010).

The extent of Credit supply; this construct was measured using four items (questions) and results indicated that it was rated satisfactory on average (mean=2.85), hence confirming that FAO has always provided credit facilities to the farmers in Hiiran, Somalia in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia, this also agrees with (Gollin, 2009) who denoted that an increase in demand for credit and non-mortgage loans offset a marginal slowing in mortgage debt accumulation to keep the rate of overall household credit growth unchanged. The 2.6% rise in the former predominantly reflected continued gains in personal loan borrowing from chartered banks (which reflects financing for the acquisition of consumer goods and services) while personal lines of credit edged higher for the third consecutive month (Gollin, 2009).

Concerning Capacity building by training ; results in table two indicated that Capacity building by training as the last construct on donor funded projects was measured using four items and it was rated satisfactory

on average (mean=2.85), implying that majority of farmers have been trained by FAO the way to carry out agricultural activities and this has helped them increase their agricultural outputs, this is also in agreement with (Kistern, 1998) who noted that capacity development and skills training are determinants of successful agricultural developments. For a project to realize its objectives, the guidelines of the project cycle must be vigorously implemented. The cycle should however further incorporate participative process, social integration, capacity development and economic diversity. Kistern insists that human capacity development and skills training are important determinants of successful development.

The level of social economic welfare mechanisms is generally high and this was indicated by the overall mean of 2.74, hence implying that FAO has always come up to prevent, alleviate, or contribute to the solution of recognized social problems, or to improve the well-being of farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia, this is in line with Jimu (2010) who noted that social economic welfare generally denotes the full range of organized activities of voluntary and governmental agencies that seek to prevent, alleviate, or contribute to the solution of recognized social problems, or to improve the well-being of individuals, groups, or communities.

The level of income was measured using four items/ questions and it was rated high on average (mean=2.85), hence implying that farming is a major source of income among rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia, this is also in line with Ahmed & Palermo (2010) who noted that per capita income is often used as average income; it can also be used as a measure of the wealth of the population of a nation, particularly in comparison to other nations. GDP per capita income is applied for measuring a country's standard of living. It is usually expressed in terms of a commonly used international currency such as the Euro or United States dollar, and is useful because it is widely known, easily calculated from readily-available GDP and population estimates, and produces a useful statistic for comparison of wealth between sovereign territories. This helps the country to know their development status (Ahmed & Palermo, 2010).

The level of Quantity produced was rated high on average and this was indicated by the average mean of 2.79, hence implying that the farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia always apply fertilizers in order to increase the quantity of food production, this finding is also in line with Titus (2013) who noted that in traditional cropping systems where crops are grown primarily for subsistence, farmers produce a broad range of crops and varieties not only to meet their subsistence needs, but also to avoid the risk of total crop failure that can result from the many existing biotic and abiotic stresses. It is estimated that 90% of the rain-fed area in is planted to sorghum, the remaining 10% being divided between cowpeas and maize (Titus, 2013).

The level of Quality produced was found to be high on average (mean=2.58), hence implying that the farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia always produce agricultural products recommended by FAO programs, this finding is also in line with Hilbert (2011) who denoted that the quality characteristics of food that is acceptable to the World Food Program includes external factors as appearance (size, shape, color, gloss, and consistency), texture, and flavour; factors such as federal grade standards (e.g. of eggs) and internal (chemical, physical, microbial). A common concern surrounds farmers' capacity to satisfy food quality and safety standards. PVO contracts with the USDA included commodity-specific standards, and Somali commodities have to meet additional standards specified by the local government and by the

PVO headquarters. The millet and cowpeas in Somalia are sampled at each supplier's warehouse prior to delivery to schools. A few of the samples are found non-compliant with the government standards. In the case of millet, the single violation is a sample containing a live insect (Hilbert, 2011).

The findings also indicated a positive and significant relationship between the extent of donor funded projects and social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, somalia ( $r=.389$  &  $\text{Sig}=0.000$  respectively), this is because the significant value was less than 0.05, which is the maximum level of significance required to declare a relationship significant. Findings from regression analysis revealed that donor funded projects accounted for 53.4% on social economic welfare and indicated the adjusted r squared of 0.534 leading to a conclusion that donor funded projects significantly affect the level of social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia.

## 5.2 Conclusions

From the findings of the study, the researcher concluded that majority of respondents in this sample ranged between 31-40 years, and these were male (68.4%) and had only attained diploma as their highest academic qualification (60.9%) and had an experience of 6-9 years (33.8%). The extent of donor funded projects in rural communities in hiiraan, Somalia was rated satisfactory on average (mean=2.88), hence concluding that donor funded projects have always provided fertilizers and seeds to farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia. The level of social economic welfare is high, and this was indicated by the overall mean of 2.74, hence concluding that FAO has always come up to prevent, alleviate, or contribute to the solution of recognized social problems, or to improve the well-being of farmers in rural communities in Hiiraan. There is a positive and significant relationship between the extent of donor funded projects and social economic welfare in rural communities in hiiraan, Somalia ( $r=.389$  &  $\text{Sig}=0.000$  respectively), hence concluding that increase in donor funded projects also increases the level of social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia, and a decrease reduces it. Donor funded projects significantly affect the level of social economic welfare in rural communities in hiiraan, Somalia, still the researcher concluded that of all the aspects of donor funded projects, supply input accounted for the biggest influence on social economic welfare among rural communities in hiiraan, Somalia ( $\beta=0.638$ ,  $\text{Sig}=0.000$ ).

## 5.3 Recommendation

1) The agriculture officers in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia should always start with identifying the agricultural needs in relation the activities, this will lead to smooth performance of donor funded projects in Hiiraan, Somalia.

- 2) The researcher recommends that FAO should always provide high breed agricultural seeds to farmers in Hiiran, Somalia, since majority of farmers rated this item as unsatisfactory in the questionnaire, and this will help them to come up with high quality agricultural products.
- 3) The researcher recommends donor funded projects such as FAO should provide dams for rainwater harvesting to farmers, and this will help them to continue farming even during dry seasons.
- 4) The researcher still recommends that the interest rate on credits provided by FAO should be favouring the growth of farmers' agricultural investments, and this will help them improve on their social economic welfare.
- 5) The donor funded projects such as FAO should always send many agricultural facilitators to the farmers in Hiiran, Somalia, and this will help the farmers learn the modern agricultural methods hence coming up with high quality products.

#### 5.4 Areas for further research

Prospective researchers and even students are encouraged to research on the following areas.

- 1) Capacity building by training and social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia.
- 2) Donor Funded Projects and quality of agricultural products in rural communities of Hiiraan, Somalia.
- 3) Credit support and social economic welfare in rural communities in Hiiraan, Somalia.

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