

Contribution of Non Governmental Organisations Projects Intervention on Social Economic Growth in Rural Areas. A Case of World Vision Rwanda 2019-2022 Kivuruga Sector, Gakenke District, Northern Rwanda.

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Abstract

This research is basically done to assess contribution of Non-Governmental Organizations projects intervention on socio economic growth of in rural areas a case study of World Vision Rwanda project in Kivuruga sector. This study had the following specific objectives: to find out the contribution of NGOs on socio economic growth in Kivuruga sector, to elaborate socio economic impacts of NGOs in rural areas especially in Kivuruga sector, to identify the relationship between activities of WVR and socioeconomic growth of its beneficiaries in Kivuruga sector and to give suggestions and recommendation on NGOs activities in rural areas. Due to financial means, time constraints and the need of precision of results, it was impossible to study all population. Target population of this study was 127 beneficiaries of World Vision Rwanda project in Kivuruga sector. A sample of 56 respondents was selected and cluster sampling was used for selecting groups, or clusters, of participants from the population. The clusters were chosen based on distribution of World Vision Rwanda project's respondents in cells. The study also employed purposive sampling as the sampling technique. Questionnaire, interview and a documentation research were used as tools of data collection. The statistical analysis of the collected data was conducted using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). This study assessed the Contribution of WVR in socio-economic growth where the findings indicated that great extent and very great extent make 73.2%. Therefore, the WVR played a big role in economic growth of Rwanda especially in Kivuruga Sector. As conclusion, it has been revealed that the capacity of the beneficiaries to cover basic expenditure and need (such as food, clothing, transport, education and housing, etc.) has been improved over the program/project period. Likewise, the programs executed by WORLD VISION Rwanda have enabled beneficiaries to engage in small businesses, different income generating activities, developing markets through a systems approach and market linkage, promote and increase the saving practice. As a result, beneficiaries of the programs have their source of income and they become self-reliance and empowered. The recommendations to future action

planners are to improve livelihood, socio-economic conditions and then to reduce poverty the participation of women.

Keywords: Non-Governmental Organizations, projects intervention, construction of schools, construction of health posts, allocation and distribution of clean water, sponsorship of children, Social Economic Growth.

1. Introduction

According to Hedayat and Ma'rof (2016), many countries in world have witnessed a significant rise in the number of NGOs, providing welfare services within their communities. Most of the services provided by these NGOs are those often promised by the State to the people. To be more specific, these NGOs have continued to engage in a range of activities, from education and health, infrastructural development and environmental protection or conservation. For example, in Papua New Guinea, a project was implemented and the vital part of the project is to establish partnerships between the provincial governments and the NGOs and civil society to effectively conduct health promotion activities in local communities which was an attempt to facilitate a policy environment for collaboration. The initiative was designed to enhance the capacity of the government in developing and implementing community health policies; enhance the capacity of the government in developing and implementing community health policies and formalizing partnerships between the government and non-state service providers including churches and NGOs to develop and implement ways to monitor and evaluate the community health outcomes (Ferguson, 2015).

In some developing countries, such as South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republican, Ghana and Somalia, non-government stakeholders cover a major component of health care to avoid clashes, the healthcare providers in these countries must collaborate. For example, in South Sudan, the government and NGOs work together in some capacity to offer health care, particularly to vulnerable groups such women, children and the poor. Within such collaborations, the government still has influence over the creation and execution of policies, as well as the management of human resources and the budget. NGOs concentrate on assisting projects that align with national policy and World Vision. (Boboya, 2015).

The East African countries are the region where NGOs are welcomed. This is showed by their increasing number during the time. For instance, Kenya has seen a significant growth in the number of NGOs, from 125 in 1974 to over 4200 in 2016 (World Bank, 2018). Rwanda for example, the World Vision Rwanda (WVR) fights poverty through in Agriculture, water, education, health, and small income-generating activities. The WVR provides different types of assistance to the communities subject to the areas of interventions in which it is committed. The WVR implements its activities through Area Programs (APs). In the aftermath of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, Rwandans identified their fundamental problems as poverty where 57% of the population remaining below the national poverty line, assessed in terms of food needs and nonfood essentials and also Rwanda has one of the worst rates of severe poverty in the globe, Across the world, 37% of the populace depended on earnings that fell short of fulfilling the fundamental calorie needs outlined in MDG 1. (MINECOFIN, 2016).

The Government of Rwanda welcome many NGOs like World Vision, USAID, and other NGOs which have been largely responsible for funding agriculture rehabilitation programs, promoting education programs, promoting health programs and supporting human rights initiatives in reconstruction of the

justice system with aims to improve socioeconomic development in Rwanda (MINECOFIN, 2016). This study research will focus on the contribution of NGOs on socio-economic growth in Kivuruga sector, Gakenke District North Rwanda. We will focus on World Vision Rwanda as a Non- Governmental Organization which operates in Kivuruga sector for improving socio-economic wellbeing of local vulnerable people. So, the researcher seeks to assess contribution of NGOs on Socio-Economic growth in rural areas, a case of WVR Project in Kivuruga sector.

Problem statement

Even though there has been a rise in the presence of NGOs operating in Rwanda with the intention of fostering socioeconomic growth and diminishing poverty, the prevalence of poverty remains substantial within the country. According to the fifth Integrated Household Living Condition Survey (EICV5) the levels of poverty was at 38.2%, 32 % of all households in Rwanda did not own any type of livestock, 43.2% of land of Rwanda is not protected against soil erosion, 13% of population did not have access to improved drinking water sources (NISR, 2018). In Gakenke district where the Kivuruga sector is located, people faced by more problems where 26.7% of peoples were chronically poor and vulnerable to poverty. 29.4% of people in Gakenke district did not have access to improve water source, 37% of all households didn't not own any type of livestock. The persistence of the problem of poverty in Gakenke district would raises concern regarding whether NGOs (WVR) contribute towards socioeconomic development in Kivuruga sector. Hence, this study intends to assess the contributions of NGOs on socio economic growth in Kivuruga sector with reference WVR. The major concern of this study will be to assess activities of WVR in Kivuruga sector which lead to socio economic growth during 2019 -2022; to analyze the level of socio-economic growth of beneficiaries of WVR in Kivuruga sector during 2019-2022 and to find out the relationship between activities of WVR and socioeconomic growth of its beneficiaries. (Niyibizi & Semana, 2021)

This research was conducted to assess the contribution of WVR on socio economic growth in rural area and to evaluate the extent to which the social economic factors have impact on rural area.

This research is constructed on the following starting questions: 1.What is the contribution of WVR on education to raise social Economic growth in rural areas in Kivuruga Sector? 2. What is the contribution of WVR on health to raise social economic growth in rural areas in Kivuruga sector? 3. What is the contribution of WVR on hygiene and sanitation to raise social economic growth in rural areas in Kivuruga sector? 4. What is the contribution of WVR on sponsorship to raise social economic growth in rural areas in Kivuruga sector?.

Research objectives

The primary goal of this study is to evaluate the impacts of non-governmental organizations on the socioeconomic advancement in rural areas.

The study will be guided by the following specific objectives:

- To examine effect of construction of schools by NGOs on social Economic growth in rural area Kivuruga Sector.
- To assess the effect of construction of health posts by NGOs on social economic growth in rural area Kivuruga sector.
- To assess the effect of allocation and distribution of clean water by NGOs on social economic growth in rural area Kivuruga sector.
- To examine the effect of sponsorship of children by NGOs on social economic growth in rural area Kivuruga sector.

Research hypotheses

The study intends to evaluate the validity of the following hypotheses:

Ha. WVR contributes on construction of schools to raise socio economic growth in Kivuruga.

Hb. WVR contributes on construction of health posts to raise socio economic growth in Kivuruga

Hc. WVR contributes on allocation and distribution of clean water to raise socio economic growth in Kivuruga

Hd. WVR contributes on sponsorship of children to raise socio economic growth in Kivuruga.

2. Literature Review

Types of NGO Activities

Even while observers would like to define various NGOs into distinct categories in order to better understand them, this is not practical. Even though we can discriminate between various activities, certain NGOs frequently alter the proportion of activities they pursue. The divide between operational and campaigning NGOs is the most prevalent. This could be interpreted as a decision between achieving extensive transformation through indirect influence on the political system and attaining limited-scale transformation through direct initiatives (Edwards and Gaventa, 2001).

Significant efforts to secure funding necessitate expertise in managing media relationships, executing advertising campaigns, and motivating potential donors. Hence, beyond having field operatives, operational non-governmental organizations (NGOs) must establish efficient administrative structures at their headquarters. Similarly, advocacy-focused NGOs engage in analogous activities, but with variations in how responsibilities are distributed. Despite the scale being smaller, fundraising remains crucial and can symbolically enhance donors' affinity for the cause. While encouraging individuals to volunteer their time holds importance, the ability to rally large crowds for short periods is also valuable, alongside a minority who can contribute substantial time. While stringent administrative demands are not accepted from external funders, supporters should still receive consistent and informative updates. Major events will prioritize raising awareness over monetary gains (Peter, 1996).

Various types of structures among NGOs

NGOs are organized in a diverse array of different methods. The traditional paradigm is that of a membership-based institution that is governed by a hierarchy that is determined by location. Individuals operate in small groups that coordinate in the provinces, followed by national headquarters in the nation's capital. Nationwide NGOs are institutions that operate on a nationwide scale. The international NGO, sometimes known as an INGO, may include regional groups of and culminate in a global organization, frequently combines the national NGOs. It's not necessary for the hierarchy to have every level. There are several nations that are too tiny to establish provincial government. Smaller, more niche NGOs can simply sign up individuals without any local counterparts at the national chapters. On occasion, people will enlist at the worldwide level. In contrast, even within large organizations, the global level often appears distant and doesn't receive significant focus. The entity responsible for a local family planning clinic might lack awareness of the actions representing the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) at the United Nations' Beijing World Conference on Women (Fisher, 2012).

Since that time, the name "INGO" has less frequently been used, and the term "NGO" has come to refer to both domestic and foreign NGOs. Then, a number of terminology for local NGOs became commonplace caused by the new politics. Community-based organizations (CBOs), civil society

organizations (CSOs) and grassroots collectives experienced a surge in popularity. However, there remains uncertainty about whether these newer terms exclusively encompass locally functioning groups or if they also encompass local branches of international entities. Community and grassroots associations primarily pertain to the local community level, while civil society holds relevance across all strata within a single country. Undoubtedly, referring to the global civil society has gained considerable traction. (Josselin & Wallace, 2001).

NGOs and Governments

The major challenging problem about the autonomy of NGOs is if or not they are subject to political influence. Occasionally, individual governments do make an effort to sway the NGO scene in a specific area by forming organizations that support their political agendas. It has been acknowledged by the relatively widespread usage of the abbreviation GONGO to designate a government-organized NGO. Additionally, NGOs may discover it extremely challenging to work freely in more authoritarian nations, and even when they do, they might not be acknowledged by other political players (Fisher, 2012).

Apart from these unique situations, there is a widely held misconception that accepting government funding entails government influence. Amnesty International upholds strict principles, refraining from accepting direct government funds for regular activities due to concerns that such a perception could undermine the organization's credibility in matters of human rights. However, NGOs engaged in development and humanitarian efforts often find it acceptable to receive official funding in order to execute their operational strategies. Governments typically express interest in financially supporting on-the-ground project costs, even though these NGOs would prefer a predictable framework to cover their administrative overhead (O'Brien *et al.*, 2000).

NGOs might initially present themselves as independent entities when formulating their programs; however, as they structure these programs to enhance the likelihood of securing government funds or contracts, government influence may become evident. Conversely, well-established and adept NGOs could seek financial support for innovative strategies, prompting policymakers to reassess their approaches. The Worldwide Planned Parenthood Federation's capability to exert pressure on nations to adopt population control policies serves as a prime example of this dynamic. Without a comprehensive grasp of the interplay between a government and an NGO, the direction of influence remains uncertain. Both forms of financial association are feasible for environmental NGOs. Government funding is accessible for conservation and research groups, spanning those with innovative initiatives and others that lack such innovation. Outside of these scenarios, radical advocacy organizations might encounter challenges or show reluctance in obtaining government funding. (Fisher, 2012).

Accountability in NGOs

Non-governmental organizations play an indispensable role in national development. Given the fact that governments often encounter insurmountable issues which transcend their unilateralism, NGOs step in and mobilize resources to compliment the state to bridge the gap of limited capacity. They are seen across all sectors of national development in health, education, environment, gender, peacebuilding and gender empowerment activities. These non-profit organizations are lauded for their effectiveness in carrying out projects that respond to people's needs. (Mooketsane *et al.*, 2018). Traditionally, NGOs are accountable to donors and this is referred to as downward accountability (Agyemang *et al.*, 2017). Given the evolving dynamics of NGOs operations, they are getting demands to shift from traditional way of accounting towards a blended mode of accountability whereby beneficiaries are also entitled to control these NGOs through downward accountability (Quaicoo, 2006).

Keating and Thrandardottir (2017) observed that a wide host of non-governmental organizations have been experiencing a decrease in terms of their size, and their level of professionalism and political importance waned as there has been a growing uproar on the degree to which these organizations are complying with the agenda of accountability. Their study found that accountability within NGOs reiterates the essence of channeling transparent processes and allowing external scrutiny as well as oversight within these NGOs.

NGOs in Rwanda

The purview and presence of non-profit organizations' operations in Rwanda are best mirrored in their unabated contribution in post-conflict reconstruction. Areas of interventions of these organizations have covered a wide array of issues ranging from healthcare, agriculture, education, unity and reconciliation, capacity building and empowerment. Through their multifaceted interventions, these organizations have remained key supporting pillars and strategic partners to the government to comprehensively achieve the World Vision's enshrined in the national strategy for transformation (MINECOFIN, 2016)

HDP (2020) maintains that as a non-governmental organization, it ensures that healthcare providers get financial support in a bid to improve quality service delivery. It embarked on a project on sexual reproductive health and rights whose main achievements has been the adoption of the school health policy and the establishment of functional youth corners in the districts of interventions. Pro-Femmes/Twese Hamwe (2020) has set a quintessential benchmark in bringing about equitable and sustainable socio-economic transformation. The hallmarks of its interventions have included building capacity for women in leadership, public policy information and advocacy, economic empowerment of women, fighting against sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) and HIV/AIDS, inclusive engagement for change, gender equality, and women empowerment (Fisher, 2012).

2.1 Theoretical framework

In the context of this study, the theoretical framework involves a comprehensive examination and evaluation of established theories and concepts related to the subject of investigation.

Theory of Change

The Theory of Change (ToC) is a management and planning approach that describes how change happens and what actions are needed to achieve specific World Vision's objectives. Tracing the origins of the Theory of Change can be challenging, but it is believed to have been first used in the 1960s by the social science community in the United States. In recent years, the Theory of Change has gained popularity as a planning and evaluation tool in the fields of international development, social innovation, and philanthropy. The ToC approach helps organizations and communities to clarify their World Vision's, identify the necessary steps to achieve them, and measure progress towards their desired outcomes (Edwards & Gaventa, 2001).

In this research, the Theory of Change (ToC) is employed for the purpose of aiding in planning, carry out, and evaluate projects. The ToC method is especially useful for big, complicated projects where it is important to know what changes are happening and why, as well as how they are happening.

Results Based Management Theory

Results-Based Management (RBM) theory emerged in the 1990s in response to a growing recognition of the need for more effective and accountable management of development programs and projects. The approach was developed in relation to international development organizations, such as the World Bank and the United Nations, but has since been adopted by a diverse array of organizations across both the

public and private sectors. The basic premise of RBM is that organizations should focus on achieving results and outcomes rather than simply implementing activities. RBM involves a systematic and continuous process of planning, monitoring, and evaluation to ensure that programs and projects are achieving their intended results and making progress towards their objectives (RALGA, 2017).

RBM emphasizes the importance of defining clear and measurable results and outcomes, and developing strategies and activities that are aligned with these objectives. It also emphasizes the importance of monitoring and evaluating progress towards these objectives, and using this information to adapt and improve programs and projects over time. RBM has evolved to include a range of tools and methodologies, such as logic models, performance indicators, and data systems. RBM is widely used by governments, non-profit organizations, and private sector firms around the world to improve the effectiveness and accountability of their programs and projects (World Bank, 2018).

3. Research methodology

Research design

This study adopts a descriptive and correlational research design. It is descriptive as it intends to describe the contribution of NGOs to social economic growth in Kivuruga sector. The study is also correlative design as it intends to assess the correlation as relationship between NGOs and socio-economic growth.

Population and sample size

Population of this study was 127 beneficiaries of NGOs operating in Kivuruga sector. Therefore, our population will be 127 people. A total of 56 workers and beneficiaries of WVR-Kivuruga AP was found in the research, based on the sample size calculated using the Solvin formula presented above. Both primary and secondary data sources were utilized, with primary data collected through questionnaires and key informant interviews. Secondary data were obtained through a documentary review process.

Data collection instruments

The research instruments were tested for validity and reliability. Questionnaires, as a primary data collection method, were designed to align with the research objectives, utilizing a mix of close-ended and open-ended questions, primarily based on a Likert scale. Documentary review supplemented the primary data collection process, enhancing the depth of information acquired. For reliability, the Cronbach's alpha values for various variables were calculated, all surpassing the acceptable threshold of 0.7, indicating strong internal consistency. Editing, coding, and tabulation processes were employed to ensure data quality, consistency, and organization.

Data analysis

Data analysis involved Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS V 21.0) for quantitative analysis. Inferential statistics, including Pearson correlation analysis and multiple regression analysis, were conducted to establish relationships between Non Governmental Organisations Projects Intervention and Social Economic Growth in Rural Areas. Ethical considerations were a priority, ensuring confidentiality by avoiding the disclosure of respondents' identities and maintaining strict confidentiality of sensitive information throughout the study.

4. Findings

This section shows the findings of this research by presenting it from analysis. Where this is required, interpretations are provided after each table, always taking into consideration the initial research

questions. This section thus establishes the ground up on the research questions were answered before drawing conclusion. The analysis was made on the responses obtained from 56 workers and beneficiaries of WVR-Kivuruga AP.

4.1 Impact of the project intervention in improving the assets of households

This study examines the contribution of non-governmental organizations projects on social economic growth in rural areas. This project implemented in Kivuruga Sector of Gakenke District, where the role of WVR on improving the livelihood and socio-economic conditions of beneficiary households (BHHs) was looked at. In this section the changes of the four forms of assets (Financial, social, human and physical) during the past and current practices are assessed. Today, livelihoods approaches are most useful as an analytical or heuristic tool (Clark and Carney, 2008).

They provide a way to order information and understand not only the nature of poverty or socio-economic problem, but also the links between different aspects of people’s livelihoods. In this way, they help users to understand complex and changing situations. They broaden the policy dialogue and assist in identifying the relevance of program as well as where key constraints and opportunities lie. Furthermore, livelihoods approaches are still essential within social and economic research on poverty and food security, both as embedded in research strategies or as a research tool.

4.1.1. Contribution of WVR in socio-economic growth

This study assessed the Contribution of WVR in socio-economic growth where the findings indicated that great extent and very great extent make 73.2%. Therefore, the WVR played a big role in economic growth of Rwanda especially in Kivuruga Sector.

Table 1: Contribution of WVR in socio-economic growth

	Frequency	Percent
Very great extent	14	25
Great extent	27	48.2
Moderate extent	12	21.4
Small extent	3	5.4
Total	56	100.0

Source: *Primary data, 2023*

4.1.2. Change in financial assets

In order to identify the project impact in changing the financial assets of the household indicators have been used: Change in monthly real per capital income, change in the amount of saving and its source and access to credit. BHHs are compared using the before and after approach across different income categories. Change in income Households with higher income levels have more choices, can better meet their basic needs and enjoy broader opportunities.

The assumption is that the household is expected to benefit from the project in terms of improving and diversifying the source of income. As indicated in table 2 below the large majority of households (89%) had source of income before the project, while few households (11 %) hadn’t any source of income. As reported by the respondents, most of the household’s average income were 30.29 thousands of Rwandan francs per month before the project intervention, however, the majority of households reported that their average monthly income increased to 42.50 thousands of Rwandan francs per month after the project.

Moreover, more than 70 % of the households confirmed that there is an increase in the overall household income after the project. On the other hand, 19.3% of the respondents reported no change and 10.7 % of the respondent doesn't know the change. When the respondents were asked on why there is change in income, 43% of respondents reported that their income increase due to start a new business, 31.2 % business expansion and the remaining (9%) a family member managed to get a job. This implies that the project intervention resulted an increase in income as a result they started a new business and expanded the existing ones.

Table 2: Change of household income after the project

Description	Indicator	Total in %
Have source of income before the project	Yes	89%
	No	11 %
Reason for increment	Start a new business	43%
	Business expansion	31.2 %
	Got a job	19%
	Income from other sources	6.8%
Average income per month	Before the project (thousands of Rwandan francs)	30.29Frw
	After project (thousands of Rwandan francs)	42.50Frw

Source: *Primary data, 2023*

4.2. Change in savings

Saving is an alternative indicator to measure financial assets. The saving trend after the project shows improvement. The large majority of the respondents (75%) have increased their overall savings and the capacity to save. On the other hand, some of the respondents (8.3%) complained that their overall savings have shown no change and even showed a decreasing trend (10.4 %).

The findings of the survey revealed that households' income has increased and their source of income diversified as well as their savings practice improved due to the benefits they are getting from the project. 20% of the respondents save their money in bank, 12% in local micro finance, 17% in the form Village level Saving and Lending Association (VSLA) and 51% of the respondents save their money in other forms. From the below table the saving practice of the respondents increased, however, most of the respondents didn't save their money in financial institutions.

Table 3: Change of household saving

Description	Indicator	Total in %
What is the status of your saving trend after the project	Decreased	10.4
	No change	8.3
	Increased	75
	No answer	6.3
Where do you save?	In bank	20
	Local micro finance	12
	village level saving and lending	17

	association (VSLA =Ibimina)	
	Other forms	51

Source: Primary data,2023

4.2.1. Access to Cash/grain through Income Generating Activities

Informative data collected from the focus group discussion reveals that prior to the inception of the project most people borrow money from individual money lenders at expensive rate. During the project intervention 45% of the respondents have an access to cash through Income Generating Activities (IGA) 75.5% of the respondents said that the cash/grain received through IGA greatly increased their income and 19.5% reported as their income is increased. On the other hand, 5% of the respondents reported that the access to cash did not bring any change to their income.

This implies that under income source diversification, for the respondent increased with the provision of cash/grain through Income generating activities and village level saving and lending association (VSLA). This off-farm activity Income generating activities contributed a lot in house hold asset protection i.e. reduced asset depletion, household asset creations.

Table 4: Access to Cash/grain through income generating activity

Description	Indicators	Total in %
Have you accessed cash or grain through Income Generating Activity (IGA)	Yes	45%
	No	55%
As a result of the access to the cash through IGA is your income	Increased greatly	75.5%
	Increased	19.5%
	Stayed the same	5%

Source: Own survey, 2023

In addition to the above, during interview and focus group discussions the majority of the respondents revealed that the program intervention increased household financial assets: income, improve saving practice and provide access to credit. Under income source diversification, the main approach promoted well was village level saving and lending association (VSLA). Poor rural women were addressed with awareness creation on saving, technically supported to organize themselves into village level groups.

Training on IGA, saving, cash box, registration book etc. and close follow up and technical support provided throughout the programme life. As a result of this approach, saving culture of the members' enhanced, social bondage among member groups increased, business skill and knowledge increased, moreover, enabled members to engage in income generating activities (IGAs). In addition to improving saving culture and creating access to loan, this off-farm activity (IGA) contributed a lot in household asset protection i.e. reduced asset depletion, household asset creation which confirmed by respondents.

4.3. Change in physical capital and wellbeing of Beneficiary Households (BHHs)

House ownership and improvements Ownership of houses and improvements increases households' material wealth and living standard. The assumption is that households may have better housing ownership and improve their houses with project support.

The results in table below reveal that most of the households (68%) had their own houses before the project. 66.6 % of the households live in medium and good houses, while 33.3 % live in poor houses even after the project support. Some households (47%) brought improvements on their houses, which cost more than birr 100. However, significant number of households (53%) did not bring improvements on their houses which cost more than birr 100. Improvements are mostly made on repairs of houses. Few

households (20%) expanded their houses. Based on the response from households, it is possible to say that the project support has limited impact on housing and improvements of the beneficiaries. Nevertheless, the impact is not significant.

Table 5: House ownership and housing improvements

Ownership and Status	Indicator	Total in%
Have your own house	Yes	68%
	No	32%
Quality of the house at present	Poor	33.3%
	Medium	53.3%
	Good	13.3%
Improvements on houses	Yes	47
	No	53%
Kind of improvements on houses	Repair	70
	Expansion	20
	Sanitation system	6.7
	Other improvements	6.7

Source: Own survey, 2023

4.4. Household health and access to medical facilities

Poverty and poor health have bi-directional relationship in which poor health leads to poverty and poverty leads to poor health conditions. Apart from lack of financial resources to pay for health services, food, clean water and good sanitation, the poor also suffer from poor health facilities (Daniel, 2004).

The households were asked on the status of their health conditions, medical treatments and the overall medical access. Table below reveals that about 77.1%, didn't have sickness or injury incidences in their householder sickness incident. 78.9% of the respondents had medical treatment. This implies that they had the capacity to pay medical expenses and there is also access for the service. 55.8% of the respondents covered their medical expenses from business profits 9% were covered from family and the remaining from other sources. About 84% of the respondents reported that the access to medical facilities increased. 13% reported as no change and 3% reported as decreased. It is assumed that project intervention improved the access to medical treatment and overall health conditions of respondents.

Table 6: Health status of households

Indicator	Response	Total in %
Any sickness in the household during the last 12 month	Yes	22.9%
	No	77.1%
Did you get medical treatment	Yes	78.9%
	No	21.1%
Source of money for medical Expenses	Business profit	55.8%
	From family	9%
	Others	35.2%
Over all medical access	Decrease	3%
	No change	13%
	Increase	84%

Source: Own survey, 2023

4.5. Change of beneficiary basic needs

Based on the data presented on the BELOW table below with the intervention of the project, the proportion of households who able to purchase minimum daily food requirement has shown a percentage change of 12.2%, and those who can afford to pay for clothing, health and education have shown a percentage change of 10, 11 and 5 respectively. Change in the proportion of income source is another viable indicator of the contribution of the projects.

Table7: Change of beneficiary basic needs

Indicators	Before	After	%change
Afford to cover daily food costs	53%	65.2%	12.2%
Afford to cover minimum clothing requirements	50.4%	60.6 %	10.2%
Afford to pay for educational costs	52.3 %	57.3%	5.0%
Afford to cover health expenses	58.7 %	69.2 %	10.5%
Afford to cover transport costs	45.1 %	54.4 %	9.2%
Afford to purchase new assets	31.6 %	37.9 %	6.3%
Afford to pay for social costs	38.8 %	47.9 %	9.1%
Contribute to voluntary & involuntary contribution	55.8 %	64.5 %	8.8%
Afford to pay for electricity and water expenses	75.1 %	79.9%	4.8%

Source: Own survey, 2023

As to the review result, changes in the proportion of the amount of income for the beneficiary households for most sources is positive, i.e., the percentage growth of income of beneficiary households as compared to the base year (pre project period) was increased. As a result, the net change attributed to the project is positive and therefore the contribution of the project to increased income and changes in income shares was positive for most of the income sources of the beneficiaries. All in all, WORLD VISION Rwanda has been able to increase income and diversify the income sources of the beneficiaries under its rural livelihood program.

5. Conclusion

This paper has tried to assess the contribution of non-governmental organizations projects on social economic growth in rural areas with a case study of World Vision Rwanda. The WVR organization is implementing programs which are capable of bringing viable change in the poverty status of target groups in its respective intervention areas. Accordingly, the key informant interview, focus group discussion and the overall document review shows that the livelihood of the beneficiaries has been improved after program intervention.

It has been revealed that the capacity of the beneficiaries to cover basic expenditure and need (such as food, clothing, transport, education and housing, etc.) has been improved over the program/project period. Likewise, the programs executed by WORLD VISION Rwanda have enabled beneficiaries to engage in small businesses, different income generating activities, developing markets through a systems approach and market linkage, promote and increase the saving practice. As a result, beneficiaries of the programs have their source of income and they become self-reliance and empowered. The programs

have brought positive contribution to diversification of income and employment. Strong focus on the social sectors is often an important step towards a poor orientation. Increases in employment and labor productivity provide the main link between economic growth and sustainability of livelihoods. In order to reduce poverty, it is essential both to enhance the capacity of the economy to generate productive employment and decent working conditions, and to strengthen the ability of the poor to access these opportunities.

The study revealed that the programs has increased the social support and solidarity and improve self-esteem and confidence. As per the respondents profile the majority of the beneficiaries are male, in order to reduce poverty, the participation of women has to be emphasized. The organization has also established different community institutions and provided technical and financial support to insure the sustainability of the program. Despite the achievements, WORLD VISION Rwanda have come across different challenges in their program implementation period. Lack of plot land for income generating activities and expansion of service provision has been the major problem for the organizations.

6. Recommendations

In the data analysis and interpretation as shown in above discussion, the study sought to come up with the following recommendations in line with the research objectives as given below.

As per the respondents profile the majority of the beneficiaries are male, in order to improve livelihood, socio-economic conditions and then to reduce poverty the participation of women has to be emphasized-more women has to be targeted. Since education development is one of the priority areas of poverty reduction strategy and as it plays an important role in increasing human potential and development at the individual and community level. WORLD VISION has to work on this sector as the main area of focus. Most of the respondents do not save their money in financial institutions. Therefore, continues awareness has to be created so that the money kept in financial institutions which is safe and generate interest. The researcher also recommends other researchers to use this study as stepping stone to see the contribution of NGO's in poverty reduction as well as development of the nation.

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