

**THE EFFECTS OF MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES ON  
PEOPLE'S SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: A CASE OF SAURI  
MILLENNIUM VILLAGE IN SIAYA COUNTY, KENYA.**

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## DECLARATION

### Declaration by the candidate

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## DEDICATION

This research thesis is dedicated to my mother Mary and Ester, Joseph, Emma and Flora for their financial support and encouragement they gave me in my studies.

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## ABSTRACT

The key challenge facing many developing countries is to reduce poverty and achieve sustained economic growth and development. Poverty is multidimensional as it includes inadequacies of income and deprivation of basic needs and rights, lack of access to productive assets as well as social infrastructure and market. The question of poverty has led to several intervention programmes by the government and development agencies to reduce poverty. Despite these efforts the poverty rates have continued to increase day by day. The introduction of millennium villages to accelerate development has been embraced due to its ambitious eight millennium development goals. It is assumed that the Sauri millennium village project will trigger desired development. However this has not been the case since millennium development goals were not ambitious enough going little beyond 2015 and the eight goals were not prioritized like reduction of hunger may leverage achievement of health and education targets. On the other hand the socio-economic development in the country seems to be growing by day. This study was conceived out of increasing rate of poverty in Kenya due to poor development strategies. This study intends to establish the effects of millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development in Kenya using a case of Sauri millennium village. The study objectives were: to identify strategies used by millennium villages to enhance development, assess the effects of millennium villages on people's socio-economic development, establish challenges faced by millennium villages in promoting people's socio-economic development and to explore ways of enhancing millennium villages to improve people's socioeconomic development. Descriptive methods were employed in the study. The main data collection instruments used were questionnaires, interview schedule and document analysis. The target population was 300 who composed of project managers, employees and households of Sauri millennium village in Kenya. The sample size of 90 was drawn to represent the target population because it was 30% of the selected population. The research used stratified sampling and simple random sampling to select sample size. Data was analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. The data was presented in form of frequency distribution tables, graphs and pie charts. The anticipated benefits from the study included: the current development strategies used in development, significance of millennium development initiatives, the challenges faced while undertaking development and the best ways of strengthening millennium villages to improve people's socioeconomic development. Based on the findings the study concluded that the strategies used by the millennium village included community involvement in leadership and planning, use of appropriate science based technology and local knowledge, capacity building, adequate funding, provision of agricultural subsidies, gender mainstreaming and partnering with private sector, national and international development partners. The effects of millennium village on people's socioeconomic development included: reduction of absolute poverty and hunger, improvement of primary school enrollment, reduction of child mortality, improvement in maternal health, promotion of gender equality, reduction of spread of malaria and HIV/AIDS, environmental sustainability and partnering with other local and global development agencies. The challenges facing millennium village included: inadequate funding, too much community expectations, government bureaucracy, corruption and lack of transparency. The ways of enhancing millennium village to improve people's socioeconomic development included: adequate funding, use of scientific validated interventions, use of science based technology, inclusion of all stakeholders, accountability, transparency and visionary leadership. The targeted beneficiaries of the findings included: institutions, policy makers, regional development authorities, development agencies, county and central government.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<a href="#">DECLARATION</a> .....	1
<a href="#">DEDICATION</a> .....	1
<a href="#">ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</a> .....	2
<a href="#">ABSTRACT</a> .....	3
<a href="#">TABLE OF CONTENTS</a> .....	4
<a href="#">LIST OF TABLES</a> .....	6
<a href="#">LIST OF FIGURES</a> .....	8
<a href="#">OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS</a> .....	10
<a href="#">LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS</a> .....	11
<a href="#">CHAPTER ONE</a> .....	1
<a href="#">INTRODUCTION</a> .....	1
<a href="#">1.1 Overview</a> .....	1
<a href="#">1.2 Background</a> .....	1
<a href="#">1.3 Statement of the problem</a> .....	7
<a href="#">1.4.0 The purpose of the study</a> .....	7
<a href="#">1.5.1 Objectives of the study were to:</a> .....	8
<a href="#">1.5.2 Research questions</a> .....	9
<a href="#">1.6.1 Justification of the study</a> .....	9
<a href="#">1.6.2 Significance of the study</a> .....	10
<a href="#">1.6.3 Limitation of the study</a> .....	11
<a href="#">1.7 Assumptions</a> .....	12
<a href="#">1.8 The Scope of the study</a> .....	12
<a href="#">1.9 Theoretical framework</a> .....	12
<a href="#">CHAPTER TWO</a> .....	16
<a href="#">LITERAURE REVIEW</a> .....	16
<a href="#">2.1 Overview</a> .....	16
<a href="#">2.2 Concept of Millennium Development Goals</a> .....	16
<a href="#">2.3 Millennium Development Goals and Rural Development</a> .....	18
<a href="#">2.4 Poverty and Rural livelihood</a> .....	22
<a href="#">2.5 The Africa's Development Challenge</a> .....	24

<a href="#">2.6 Africa and Millennium Village Projects</a>	33
<a href="#">2.7 Kenya’s Development Agenda</a>	39
<a href="#">CHAPTER THREE</a>	44
<a href="#">RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY</a>	44
<a href="#">3.0 Overview</a>	44
<a href="#">3.1 Research design</a>	45
<a href="#">3.2 Study population</a>	46
<a href="#">3.3 Sample size and sampling design</a>	46
<a href="#">3.4 Data collection instruments</a>	48
<a href="#">3.5 Validity of the research instrument</a>	50
<a href="#">3.6 Reliability of the research instruments</a>	51
<a href="#">3.7 Administration of the research instruments</a>	52
<a href="#">3.8 Data analysis</a>	53
<a href="#">3.9 Ethical consideration</a>	54
<a href="#">CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION</a>	55
<a href="#">4.1 OVERVIEW</a>	55
<a href="#">4.1.0 Bio Data: Information of the Respondents</a>	55
<a href="#">4.3 Strategies used by millennium village to enhance development</a>	59
<a href="#">4.4 Effects of millennium village on people’s socioeconomic development</a>	64
<a href="#">4.5 The challenges faced by the millennium village in undertaking development</a>	87
<a href="#">4.6 Ways of enhancing millennium village to improve people’s socioeconomic development</a>	89
<a href="#">4.7 Analysis of the interview schedule</a>	91
<a href="#">4.8 Document analysis</a>	95
<a href="#">CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS</a>	102
<a href="#">5.1a Overview</a>	102
<a href="#">5.1b Discussion of results</a>	102
<a href="#">5.2 Bio-data information of the respondents</a>	102
<a href="#">5.3 Strategies used by millennium village to enhance development</a>	104
<a href="#">5.4 The effects of millennium village on peoples socioeconomic development</a>	105
<a href="#">5.5 Challenges faced by millennium village in undertaking development</a>	111
<a href="#">5.6 Ways of enhancing millennium village to improve people’s socioeconomic development</a>	111
<a href="#">5.7 Conclusion</a>	112
<a href="#">5.8 Recommendations</a>	114
<a href="#">REFERENCES</a>	119
<a href="#">APPENDICES</a>	124
<a href="#">Appendix i-Questionnaire</a>	124
<a href="#">Appendix ii-Interview Schedule</a>	129

Appendix iii - Informed consent letter .....	150
Appendix iv- research clearance permit from NACOSTI .....	151
Appendix v- Research authorization from NACOSTI.....	152
Appendix vi- Authorization from county commissioner .....	153
Appendix vii- Authorization from county director of education.....	154

## LIST OF TABLES

Table3.1 Sample Size .....	48
Table4.1.0: Bio data information of the respondents .....	56
Table 4.2.1: Strategies used by millennium village to enhance development.....	60
Table4.2.2a: Gender mainstreaming in strategies adopted.....	77
Table4.2.2b: If strategies used are outdated.....	63
Table4.3.1: Rating of MV on people’s socioeconomic development. ....	64
Table4.3.2: Best strategies used by MV to facilitate development .....	66
Table 4.3.3: Millennium village hastening development progress.....	66
Table4.3.4a: If there is better housing.....	68
Table 4.3.4b: If the cases of hunger have reduced.....	68
Table 4.3.4.c: If the literacy rate has increased .....	70
Table 4.3.4d: Number of pupils completing school .....	71
Table 4.3.4e: The elective positions held by women .....	73
Table4.3.5a: Influence of MVP on better access to maternal service.....	76
Table4.3.5b: The influence of MVP on the control of HIV/AIDS and malaria.....	77
Table4.3.5c: The influence of MVP on improvement of health care system .....	80
Table4.3.5d: The Influence of MVP on access to medication by HIV patients .....	80
Table4.3.5e: The influence of MVP on death reduction due to HIV .....	81
Table4.3.5f; Influence of MVP in increased access to mobile phones and internet.....	83
Table4.3.5g: How millennium village project facilitated development .....	85
Table4.4.1: The relationship between MV and socioeconomic development.....	87
Table4.4.2: Challenges facing MVP in undertaking development .....	89
Table4.5.1: policies regarding how MV can be used to enhance development, .....	91



## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 4.1.1: Rate of people’s socioeconomic development before the introduction of millennium village.....	59
Fig4.1.2a: Effectiveness of strategies used by millennium village .....	61
Fig 4.1.2b: Positive effect on development .....	61
Fig 4.2.2a; People living in less than a dollar a day .....	67
Fig 4.2.2b: Primary school enrollments.....	86
Fig 4.2.2d: If there is reduction in child mortality.....	72
Fig 4.2.2f: Employment ratio to the population .....	74
Fig4.2.2g: Poverty gap ratio .....	74
Figure 4.1.2c: Customization of strategies adopted.....	63
Fig 4.2.2c: The level of school drop outs .....	71
Fig 4.2.2e: Girls’ enrollment in school.....	91
Fig4.2.3a: Influence of MVP on improvement of maternal health.....	75
Fig4.2.3b: Influence of MVP on the reduction of the maternal mortality rate.....	76
Fig 4.2.3c: Influence of MVP on poverty reduction.....	78
Fig4.2.3d; Influence of MVP on gender equality and equity.....	100
Fig4.2.3e: Influence of MVP on the environmental conservation.....	79
Fig 4.2.3f: Influence of MVP on improved access to basic water and sanitation .....	82
Fig4.2.3g; Influence of MVP to access to affordable essential drugs .....	83
Fig4.2.3h; Influence of MVP on increased access to family planning services .....	84
Fig 4.2.3i; Factors which led people embrace millennium village project.....	85
Fig4.2.3j; The benefits of the millennium village to the region .....	86
fig4.3.1: The extent to which MVP contributed to people’s socioeconomic development .....	88

Fig4.4.1: Appropriate ways to enhance MVP to improve people's socioeconomic development.....	90
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## **OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**Development-**The process of improving human lives. It is a multi-dimensional process, involving the reorganization and reorientation of entire economic and social systems. In addition to improvement of income and output, it typically involve radical changes in institutional, social and administrative structure, as well in popular at popular attitudes and beliefs.

**Effects-**Changes that is produced in one person or thing by another.

**Indicator-** Something that shows you what condition something is in a sign that something will happen, is true or exists.

**Goals-**Something that is anticipated to achieve.

**Millennium village-** Are pilot projects set up by United Nations Development Program UNDP to propagate development in third world countries as a precursor to meet the target of achieving eight millennium development goals by the year 2015.

**Project-** It is a temporary endeavor undertaken to create a unique product, service or result. It is a set of coordinated activities, with a specific start and a finish pursuing a specific goal with constrains on time, cost and resources.

**Schedule-** This is the timetable specifying activities to be undertaken in order based on a given time. This is a sequence of activities, tasks or work to be done within the specified timeframe. The work schedule facilitates accomplishment of task timely.

**Strategy-**These are schemes, programs, or methods worked out before hand for the accomplishment of an objective of a proposed or tentative project or course of action or systematic arrangements of elements or important parts. This is the road map / it states the route to success. It is the process of planning something or putting a plan into operation in a skillful way.

**Target-** This involves intentionally setting of project priorities that we aspire to accomplish.

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

**MDG-** Millennium Development Goal  
**MV-**Millennium Village  
**MVP-** Millennium Village Project  
**UNDP-** United Nation Development Program  
**UN-**United Nations  
**WB-** World Bank  
**IMF-**International Monetary Fund  
**IFAD-**International Fund for Agriculture and Development  
**LDC-** Least Developed Countries  
**EU-**European Union  
**USA-** United States of America  
**ODA-**Overseas Development Assistance  
**GDP-**Gross Domestic Product  
**IDG-** International Development Goals  
**GNI-**Gross National Income  
**OECD-** Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development  
**OPEC-** Organization of Petroleum Exporting countries  
**WTO-** World Trade Organization  
**EFA-**Education For All  
**UNESCO-** United Nation Scientific, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
**PLWA-**People Living With Aids  
**HBC-** Home Based Care  
**MC-** Millennium Community  
**SGD-** Sustainable Development Goals  
**RWH-**Rain Water Harvesting  
**MCI-** Millennium Cities Initiative  
**SMART-**Specific Measurable Attainable Realistic and Time bound  
**SMEs-** Small and Medium Enterprises  
**SMS-**Short Message Service  
**WFP –**World Food Program  
**FAO-** Food and Agriculture Organization  
**HIV-** Human Immunodeficiency Syndrome  
**AIDS-** Acquire Immune Deficiency Syndrome  
**UNICEF-** United Nation International Children Emergency Fund  
**MDI-**Millennium Development Initiative  
**DFRD-**District Focus for Rural Development  
**NDP-**National Development Plan  
**IDA-**International Development Assistance  
**CAS-**Common Assistance Strategy  
**CS-**Co-operative society  
**FCS-**Farmers Co-operative society



## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Overview**

This chapter contains the background of the study, statement of the problem, research objectives, research questions, justification of the study, significance of the study, limitations of the study, assumptions, scope of the study and the theoretical framework. This chapter provides a basis for the study. It provides background setting required to put the research problem in proper context.

#### **1.2 Background**

The basic problem of development should be defined as a selective attack on the worst form of poverty. Development goals must be defined in terms of the progressive reduction and eventual elimination of malnutrition, disease, illiteracy, squalor, unemployment and inequalities (Mabub Ul Haq, 1981). Development is legitimized as a goal because it is an important perhaps even an indispensable, way of gaining esteem (Guolet,1980). Development should be therefore be perceived as multidimensional process involving the reorganization and reorientation of entire economic and social system (Todaro, 2005). Underdevelopment is a situation in which there are persistent low levels of living with the following characteristics: absolute poverty, low per capita income, low rates of economic growth, low consumption levels, poor health services, high death rates, high birth rates, vulnerability to and dependence on foreign economies and limited freedom to choose between variables that satisfy human wants. In developing countries general level of living tend to be low for the vast majority of the people. These low levels of living are manifested in the form of low incomes (poverty), inadequate

housing, poor health, limited or no education, high infant mortality, low life and work expectancy and sometimes general sense of hopelessness (Todaro, 2005). The challenge of poverty is a global problem which needs a joint global effort to eradicate it. The poverty is a hindrance to development in household level, national, regional, and international level

We have collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at global level. As a leader we have a duty therefore to whole world's people, especially the most vulnerable and in particularly the children of the world, to whom the future belong (United Nations Declaration September 2000). In September 2000, the 198 members of the United Nations at that time adopted eight millennium development` goals (MDGs), committing themselves to making sustainable progress toward eradicating poverty and achieving other human development goals by the year 2015. The MDGs are the strongest statement yet of the international commitment to ending global poverty. They acknowledge the multidimensional nature of development and poverty alleviation, an end to poverty requires more than just increasing incomes of the poor. The MDGs have provided a unified focus in development community unlike anything that preceded them (UN, 2000).

Under development is an economic situation characterized by persistent low levels of living in conjunction, with absolute poverty, low income per capita, low rates of economic growth, low consumption levels, poor health services, high death rates, high birth rates, dependence on foreign economies and limited freedom to choose among activities that satisfy humans wants (Todaro,2005)

The eight goals are ambitious: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empower women; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability and develop global partnership for development( UNDP, 2005). The goals are then assigned specific targets deemed achievable by 2015 based on the pace of past international development achievements. Appropriately, the first MDG addresses problem of extreme poverty and hunger. The two targets for this goal are more modest: to reduce by half the proportion of the people living on less than a \$1 a day and to reduce poverty by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger “halving poverty” has come to serve as a touch stone for the MDGs as a whole. To achieve these targets requires that progress be made on the other goals as well (UNDP, 2005).

The MDGs were developed in consultation with developing countries to ensure that they address their most pressing problems. In addition key international agencies including the United Nations, the World Bank (WB), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and World Trade Organization WTO, all helped develop millennium declaration and so have collective policy commitment to attacking policy directly (UNDP, 2000).

The oil prices shocks of the 1970s, the foreign debt crisis of the 1980s and the 21<sup>st</sup> century concern with the economic globalization, economic imbalances and economic crisis, global warming and international terrorism have underlined growing interdependence of all nations and people in the international social system. What happen to those who live in Caracas, Karachi, Cairo and Kolkata will be in one way or another have important implications for life in New York, London and Tokyo (Todaro ,2005). If



we fail to tackle poverty, the problems associated with it will be felt across the world. There will be influx of people from the third world countries moving to the first and second world countries to look for better live and job opportunities. This is experienced in Europe due to influx of African immigrants crossing Mediterranean Sea using boats to look for better life and job opportunities in Euro zone. These immigrants pose security challenge to Europe. Another case is the influx of Indonesian immigrants using boats to cross the sea to Australia to look for better life in Australian continent.

The real wealth of nations is its people and the purpose of development is to create an enabling environment for the people to enjoy long healthy creative life (UNDP, 1990). It is currently estimated that 1.3 billion people live below poverty line (World Bank,2000), of which 939 million or 72.2 % live in rural areas. Asia has the highest proportion of the rural poor with some 633 million , followed by 204 million in sub-Saharan Africa, 76 million in the Latin America and Caribbean, with the balance in the near east and North Africa (IFAD,1992). Apart from geographical concentration of poverty in rural areas there are also regional characteristics. Asia experienced rapid economic growth until the financial crisis in 1998, but it is primarily in East Asia, a number overall has increased. Sub-Saharan Africa presents a more pessimistic profile: overall number of the poor has increased both absolutely and proportionately, these debts of poverty or the distance below the poverty line has also intensified and economic growth has been weak in many countries. In Latin America and Arabia political instability, currently the political movement and international market fluctuations have adversely affected the rural poor (World Bank, 2000).

Poverty encompasses more than inadequate consumption, lack of education and poor health. It also means dreading the future and knowing that a crisis might descend any time that one might not cope with (World Bank, 2000).

Lower economic growth has reduced the rate of poverty reduction in most developing countries, and in many countries, number of people living in poverty has increased. The 2010 millennium development report drawing on newly updated estimates from the World Bank “estimates that an additional 50 million people were living in extreme poverty in 2009 than would have been the case without the crisis projected some 64 million by the end of 2010 relative to no-crisis scenario, principally in the sub-Saharan Africa and eastern and south eastern Asia. Greater hunger is probably the worst impact. The number of those in extreme hunger surpassed one billion for the first even in 2009. Most analysis predict significantly. For example, the 2010 report estimated that poverty rates will be slightly higher in 2015 and even beyond, to 2020, that they would have been had the world economy grown steadily at its pre-crisis pace ( Todaro 2005).

Attention for economic growth and development springs from a number of different motives. These include the eradication of global poverty, a reduction of inequalities in living standards and a lessening of global disparities of power and influence. A commitment to the pursuit of economic development as a means to eliminate poverty signals an aspiration that has been widely accepted by peoples and their governments around the globe. The World Bank voice of the poor provides an excellent introduction to the reality of poverty in its various manifestation as experience by poor people from many countries and though some agreement exist on these objectives, there is no

consensus on the methods and strategies necessary from achievements of these goals ( Narayan et al, 2000)

Millennium development goals focus on results. The MDGs emerged from growing international effort to focus attention on development issues and in particular problem of poverty that lingers in many parts of the world. The MDGs set eight broad goals for improving standards of living, along with specific global targets to be reached by 2015. The MDGs have been virtually important as a key focal point for proper advocacy and as a catalyst to mobilize new efforts and resources for development assistance. Perhaps most important for IDA, the establishment of quantitative targets underlines a strong emphasis on outcome (World Bank 2004). Millennium villages are pilot projects set up by United Nations Development Program (UNDP), as a development model to propagate development in third world countries (UNDP 2005). Since independence many African countries have been fighting poverty which was and continue to be a major problem but until now it remains a prime challenge. The question of poverty has been persistent due to attributes like insecurity, poor climatic conditions, political instability, terrorism, insecurity, unfavourable trade in the world market, poor agricultural practices, false development paradigm provided by developed countries and poor infrastructure among others. Some few African countries like Botswana and Ghana have been able to progress due to good governance, strong public institutions, greater democratic space, visionary leadership and the rule of law. Kenya at independence declared fight to eradicate poverty, diseases and illiteracy. Today fifty years later Kenya is still fighting poverty and the battle has not been won. The gap between the rich and the poor is wide and moreover there are few rich and majority poor. The millennium development initiative was initiated

by United Nations to propagate development in all developing countries of the world in order to fight poverty and transform the socio-economic live hoods of the people.

This study aims at assessing the millennium development initiative on people's socio-economic development. The millennium development initiative is a new concept of development adopted by United Nations to propagate the development progress in developing countries. The millennium development initiatives have eight broad goals. These eight goals should be attained by the year 2015. The study sought to assess the millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development with specific reference to Sauri millennium village in Siaya County.

### **1.3 Statement of the problem**

Poverty is multi dimensional as it includes inadequacy of income and deprivation of basic needs and rights, lack of access to productive assets as well as social infrastructure and market. Poverty itself is global, heterogeneous, multicultural and geographically configured and has macro, meso and micro level dimension. The pursuit of socio-economic development has excited passion, aroused debate and affected billions of people in the past. The challenge facing many developing countries is to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable economic growth and development. Reducing poverty is the fundamental objective of the socio-economic development of any country. Despite the many efforts by the government and development agencies to fight poverty, there is still massive and continuing burden of poverty. The high rate of poverty is usually attributed to poor colonial legacy, political instability, poor climatic conditions, insecurity, poor fiscal policies, false development paradigm, unfavourable trade, foreign debts, illiteracy and environmental degradation. The introduction of millennium villages as a pilot project

to propagate development is hailed as an appropriate model which catalyses the development due to its ambitious eight millennium development goals. On the other hand it is believed that the MDGs targets were not ambitious enough going little beyond projecting rates of improvement 15 years into the future. Moreover the setting of 2015 as an end date for the targets could discourage rather than encourage further development assistance if it is not met. It is assumed that millennium villages accelerate people's socio-economic development in the country. Therefore there is a need to assess the exact effects of the millennium development initiative on people's socio-economic development in Kenya. There are no available studies that have been conducted regarding the actual effects of millennium villages on people's socio-economic development in Kenya. This is the gap the researcher wants to fill by investigating the actual effects of millennium development initiative on people's socio-economic development in Kenya with specific reference to Sauri millennium village in Siaya County.

#### **1.4.0 The purpose of the study**

The purpose of this study was to determine the effects of millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development using a case of Sauri millennium village in Siaya County-Kenya.

#### **1.5.1 Objectives of the study were to:**

1. Identify strategies used by millennium villages to enhance development
2. Assess the effects of millennium villages on people's socio-economic development
3. Establish the challenges faced by millennium villages in propagating people's socio-economic development

4. Explore ways of enhancing millennium villages to improve people's socio-economic development

### **1.5.2 Research questions**

The questions to be answered by this study were:

1. What are various development strategies used by millennium village?
2. What are the contributions of millennium village on people's socio-economic development?
3. What are the challenges facing millennium villages in facilitating people's socio-economic development?
4. How can millennium villages be strengthened in order to deliver people's socio-economic development?

### **1.6.1 Justification of the study**

The study was justified on the basis that there was an out cry that many countries have remained undeveloped so many years after attaining their independence. A cross the country there was high rate of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, high mortality and insecurity which was a basis for the underdevelopment. The challenge of confronting poverty eradication include: people's perception of poverty and their ability to address it, problems of local governance lacking in transparency and accountability, rapid population growth, rural-urban migration, poor market infrastructure and increasing problem of AIDs. Many development projects undertaken by the government in third world countries end up as incomplete, collapsed or abandoned due to lack of capacity to develop and manage the projects. It was believed that development in third world countries was elusive and the African countries do not have the capacity to enable them

develop. Every government regime in power promises its citizens a good life, prosperity and development but only later that the same citizens will realize that they were just empty promises and rhetoric. Most local and international agencies have wound up their activities in most developing countries due to poor funding, mismanagement, insecurity, political interference, embezzlement of development funds, political instability and poor working environment. The main criticism of traditional antipoverty strategies is that they did not properly link policies to promote economic growth with social policies addressing poverty concerns. On other hand some countries have registered good economic growth rate over some years. As such, this study tries to assess the effects of the millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development. This will provide recommendations to governments and development agencies which can be used to improve their development strategies and policies on various projects undertaken across the country. It will also offer information to international development agencies to adopt the best development strategies and policies and disseminate the same information to other development projects undertaken all over the world.

### **1.6.2 Significance of the study**

The development and prosperity is imperative in the society, nation and the whole universe because they are the fundamentals of modern life. It is hoped that the study will be useful to students in institutions, researchers, policy makers, regional development authorities, development agencies, international bodies, county and central government. To the institutions it is significant in that those to join in the future will have books of reference. To the development agencies is important because it will enable them adopt best development practices employed by millennium villages. It will enable them learn

from the mistakes of the millennium village project in order for them to improve their performance in achieving development. To the international bodies it will enable them to have an insight on importance of partnership with other stakeholders in order to achieve development goals. To the researcher it is hoped that the study will form a basis for further research on the effects of millennium villages on people's socio-economic development. To the policy makers the findings will act as a base for these groups to adopt development strategies used by millennium villages in realization of desired development. To the county and central government, it will help them coordinate and synchronize development projects in order to avoid duplication of projects. It will also help them acquire the best way of managing the projects. It will enable them realize the importance of working together with development partners to achieve desired development.

### **1.6.3 Limitation of the study**

The study was subjected to generalization of findings of small sample of the respondents as a representative of the whole universe. This was likely to affect the study since the response in the questionnaires and interviews were likely to be based on personal perception of the respondents. The study was only limited to one millennium village in Kenya. Because of inadequate time and resources the study should have been conducted across all United Nations millennium villages across the African continent. The researcher cannot exert control over the exact information given by respondents as it was their discretion to volunteer or withhold information. Moreover the study limited itself to the United Nations millennium village projects; yet there were other development agencies with projects initiated to aid in realization of the desired development. There



was less time to conduct research since the researcher is required to complete his studies within time frame of two years. There was the challenge of poor infrastructure in Siaya County which makes travelling difficult.

### **1.7 Assumptions**

1. The researcher assumed that all respondents would cooperate and would honestly respond to all items in the research instrument
2. The Sauri millennium village project provided the best environment for the development to be realized
3. All the employees and project managers are aware of their roles in their respective position in facilitating the development of millennium village project

### **1.8 The Scope of the study**

The study covered millennium village project in Siaya County. The study was conducted in one of the millennium villages in Kenya, data was collected by the researcher and two research assistants using questionnaires, interviews and document analysis .The unit of analysis included project managers, employees and households of millennium village project. The study had sought to assess the effects of the millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development in Kenya between May 2014 and June 2014 through a descriptive survey design.

### **1.9 Theoretical framework**

The theoretical framework adopted in this study is the system theory developed by biologist Ludwig von Bertalanffy (1956). Little john (1983) defines system as a set of objects or entities that interrelate with one another to form a whole. System theory is basically concerned with problems of relationships, of structures, and of interdependence

rather than with the constant attributes of object. The system theory views a millennium village as a social system consisting of individuals who cooperate within a formal framework, drawing resources, people and finance from the environment and putting back into that environment for the product they produce or services they offer. This theory is based on the view that millennium villages should focus on eight millennium goals and eighteen targets as a whole, rather than dealing in each goal and target separately. The goals and targets are interrelated and should be seen as a whole. They represent a partnership between the developed countries and the developing countries “to create an environment-at national and global levels alike-which is conducive to development and elimination of poverty. The system theory maintains that millennium village does not exist in a vacuum. It does not only depend on its environment but also form part of the other system such as society, country, continent or the world to which it belongs.

It was once said that when the United States sneezes the world catches pneumonia (Todaro, 2005). A more fitting expression for the twenty century would perhaps be that the world is like the human body: if one part aches, the rest will feel it. If any part hurt, the whole will suffer. Developing nations substitute “these many parts” of global organism. The nature and character of their future development should therefore be a major concern of all nations irrespective of political, ideological or economic orientation. There can no longer be two futures, one for few rich and the other for the very many poor. In the word of an anonymous poet “there will be only one future- or none at all” (Todaro, 2005).

The system approach is concerned with both interpersonal and group behaviour aspect leading to a system of cooperation (Koonz 2001). Development system is a complex system comprising of subsystems of different levels, they are macro (international level), meso (national level) and micro (millennium village level). At each stage of these levels, development decision are influenced by different actors, for example at the millennium village level, the project management team, UNDP, local people, stakeholders and employees make certain decisions and give opinion on strategies to achieve eight millennium development goals.

The system theory postulates that millennium villages are like any open system which focuses on interaction between component parts and the interaction with the environment. System theory is mainly concerned with problems of relationships, of structures and interdependence rather than with the constant attributes of objects (Katz & Kahn, 1966). Millennium villages are open systems hence they respond to the external influence as they attempt to achieve its objectives the eight millennium development goals.

As adapted in the study, the systems theory holds that millennium development initiatives influence the socioeconomic development in the millennium village. That the eight development goals: eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promotion of gender equality, reduction of child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, ensure environmental sustainability and develop a global partnership for development pursued by millennium village will influence: the poverty and hunger rates, literacy level, child mortality, maternal health, environmental sustainability, gender equality, HIV/AIDS prevalence , and level of cooperation with

development partners towards achieving the eight millennium development goals. The concept of interaction and development is most important in system theory.

According to this theory, as a result of goals being interrelated and interdependent one organ can affect the others and ultimately the whole. The whole can also affect one or all social institution. The researcher used this theory to point out why and how some societies which have common goals develop and prosper relatively well compared to others which have separate independent goals.

However in adopting the system theory for this study, the researcher noticed its shortcomings. The interrelationship between parts of the systems has to be understood by the people involved. The theory also needs a shared vision to enable the people to have an idea of what they are trying to achieve. The coordinated and synchronized effort from all participants and stakeholders is required to attain the vision which is not easy to achieve especially where many participants and stakeholders are involved.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERAURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Overview**

The literature review involves systematic identification of location and analysis of documents confirming information that are related to the literature problem. This chapter discusses the literature related to an assessment of millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development. It particularly focuses on evaluation of millennium development project. This is considered pillars of the study. This chapter reviews the effects of millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development initiatives by reviewing studies that have been done in the field locally and internationally.

#### **2.2 Concept of Millennium Development Goals**

In 2000, the nations of the world committed to the Millennium Development Goals. These Goals were agreed to by every country in the world and set time-bound and measurable targets for halving extreme poverty by 2015. In 2005, at the World Summit leaders from all 191 UN member states recommitted to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, while leaders at the G8 Summit in Gleneagles in Scotland agreed to double aid to Africa to \$50 billion per year by 2010 (roughly \$70 per African per year) and to cancel debts for the poorest countries. The Millennium Villages Project is a project of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, the United Nations Development Programme, and Millennium Promise. (UNDP, 2005).

Poverty is a major concern of government all over the world, and countless poverty alleviation programs and campaign have been developed overtime and across regions. Yet poverty continues to be key impediment to human development and economic programs. Despite the advances over the last five decades in social economic well being, disease eradication, the green revolution and technology and information, a large number of people in the developing world remain desperately poor (OECD,2000). We have a collective responsibility to uphold the principle of human dignity, equality and equity at global level. As a leader we have a duty therefore to all world's people, especially the most vulnerable and in particular the children of the world, to whom future belong (United Nations Millennium Declaration September, 2000).

As reported by United Nations Development Program (UNDP), if current trends continue, not all targets will be achieved, and great regional disparity is obscured when global averages are reported, as East Asia has done for better than sub-Saharan Africa. Shockingly, in a world of plenty, the target of cutting the proportion of people who are chronically hungry in half by 2015 is very unlikely to be achieved. Some conditions even worsened after food prices strikes in 2008 and thereafter as a result of the global economic crisis. UNDP highlights that if global trends continue throughout 2015, the reduction of two thirds. This means that the targets will be missed by 4.4 million avoidable deaths in 2015. Universal primary enrollment will not be achieved unless faster progress can be made in sub-Saharan Africa. In projecting current trends, there will be 47 million children out of school in 2015 and UNDP reports that the gap between the current trends and the target of halving poverty represent an additional 380 million people still living on less than \$1 dollar a day in 2015.

The goal of ensuring environmental sustainability is essential for securing an escape from poverty. This is immediately seen by looking at two of the targets: reduce by half the population of proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and achieve a significant improvement in their lives at least 380 million slum dwellers. But more generally, without protecting the environment of the poor, there is little chance that their escape from poverty can be permanent. Finally, the government and citizens of the rich countries need to play their part in pursuit of goal of global partnership for development.

The MDGs were developed in consultation with the developing countries to ensure that they address their most pressing problems. In addition key international agencies including the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and the World Trade Organization (WTO) all helped develop millennium declaration and so have collective policy commitment to attacking policy directly. The MDGs assign specific responsibilities to rich countries, including increased aid, removal of trade and investment barriers, and eliminating unsustainable debts of the poorest nations. (UNDP, 2000)

### **2.3 Millennium Development Goals and Rural Development**

Fighting poverty is the central goal of development assistance. This involves both increasing growth rates to reduce poverty and prepare human development indicators. The MDGs and other efforts to mobilize resources for ODA and catalyze global efforts are predicted on the goal. ODA and in particular IDA have been reallocated towards better management control with greater ability to use resources to produce results. Political support for debt reduction in low-income countries was spurred by the concern

that resources be shifted from debt service to poverty reduction expenditure (World Bank 2004).

World leaders have pledged to eradicate global poverty by 2015. The millennium declaration (UN-2000) states that “we will spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty” such an achievement would be truly staggered but no one seriously believes that this objective would be fulfilled. Nevertheless, the fate of most of humanity remains desperate in a world of plenty. At the dawn of the twenty first century economic growth has still has not been dispersed to the majority of the world and was driven by the leaders of newly independent states. In order to maintain their hold on power political elites were obliged to respond to what in the 1960s was frequently referred to as the revolution of rising expectation. Some 40 years after the UN proclaimed the first development decade prospect remain bleak. One of the major challenges for the early years of the twenty century is therefore to meet the development needs of the people living in third world countries. What exactly does this entails at the current historical conjuncture? And what conditions are currently considered necessary to bring this change about.

In absence of an agreed definition of development, we can nevertheless suggest certain key features of the concept as it is currently understood. An improvement in material capabilities remains central to most conceptions of development. At the heart of the national and international development efforts is the objective of raising material living standard. In effective term this translates into the provision of basic necessities such as adequate food stuffs, clean water, and electricity, shelter, improved transportation, and better sanitations. It will in time lead to the consumption of a wider range of products but



in essence development consist in satisfying basic needs of course clean water, electricity and so on in meaningless outside the context of human beings direct linked to the provision of the needs are another set of equality basic should without which people would be unable to fulfill life chances. This includes education and health care. But development has increasingly come to mean the attainment of non-material values. In this respect we need to think about the ability of the people to make their own decisions and to have greater control over their own lives. The Indian Nobel prize laureate Amartya Sen developed this theory of entitlement to show that famine arose not because of the bundle of resources that enable them to have access to food. Development clearly entails increased participation and empowerment of marginalized groups ( Sen, 1982).

Early effort at promoting development were gender blind but we were aware that one of the main challenge of the development in the twenty century will be to ensure that women are fully integrated into national development strategies. For a number of readings this remains a daunting task. The problems facing women in developing countries remain the subject of analysis and policy prescription (Dotta and Korlbrg, 2002). In the light of experience of women in the advanced industrial countries the mainstreaming of gender will not in itself lead to equality. Although women in western developed societies have achieved legal equality. They continue to experience many form of discrimination and structures exclusion. In terms of formal quality women in the west have made the most significant gains but the concept of the glass ceiling refers to the existence of an invisible barrier that limits human from attaining the highest positions in many sectors and firms. Thus the battle to produce development policies that will support women live hoods in the developing world remain a daunting task. Meeting the first

MDG goals of the halving absolute poverty by 2015 would require a typical country's economy to grow at a minimum of 7%. But recent average economic growth rates have only been about 3 %- barely exceeding population growth. Therefore, the heart of IDA's effort to reduce African poverty must be restoration of higher levels of economic growth. Overtime, there have been savings in emphasis between economic growth and more socially oriented programs. More recently the antipoverty agenda and debt relief initiatives have led to a shift towards the later. But the unavoidable reality is that without considerably higher rates of economic growth, there is that without considerably higher rates of economic growth, there is through hope for achieving any improvement in the standards of living much less coming close to any of the MDGs with the people of 30 African countries among average income of less than US\$ 1 per day (and those in countries averaging less than 1 US \$), redistribution alone is simply not viable option. Evidence suggests that African growth has on average been significantly pro-poor, but growth levels have been too low (World Bank, 2004).

Gender is an issue of development effectiveness. New evidence demonstrated that when women and men have relative equal access to opportunity, economics tend to grow faster, the poor move more quickly out of poverty, and the well being of men, women and children enhanced. The untapped growth potential of Africa's women is enormous. However, gender inequalities and restrictions on women's rights results of access to assets, resources, legal systems often even the goods they produce. Gender is also important aspect of the MDGs including poverty, health and education indicators.

The Africa regional gender strategy focuses on four entry points' gender and HIV/AIDS, gender and poverty, gender and economic policy, gender and law. A central component

of IDA's gender work is analytical, such as the strategic country gender assessment, which have been completed in there, with eight scheduled for any fiscal year. The Africa country gender database allowed systematic collection and dissemination of gender related data. The region has been working to mainstream gender related data. The region has been working to mainstream gender related issues into operations identifying priority gender responsive actions and implement actions in CAS (Common Assistant Strategy) (WorldBank, 2004).

#### **2.4 Poverty and Rural livelihood**

Most people who live in rural areas of poor countries are engaged in a remitting struggle to secure a livelihood in the face of adverse socio-economic and often political circumstances. Two points are central to understanding of such struggle. The first is that the circumstance as poverty has to be understood through detailed analysis of social relations in a particular historical context; between those with land and those without land, for example: between rich and the poor household: between rural household and the institution of market and the state. The second point is that the mode of livelihood that typically prevent both within the household and between household are highly adverse. Rural households may devise a part of livelihood from farming: apart of livelihood from migrant labour undertaken by absent household members in urban areas or other rural areas; apart livelihood from variety of other activities, more or less informal such as petty trade or beer brewing. Variable combination of activities of this kind, like wise gendered in respect of unequal disposition of labour and appropriation of income between men and women, are often themselves subject to rapid change over time. These are two reasons, rural live hood are not at all easy to study (Murray, 1990).

Through exploration of agrarian structures and change in three different regions of the world; Latin America, India and sub-Saharan Africa and through detailed analysis of making living and survival and change at the house hold level, authors explored the vitality important process of marginalization, disposition, accumulation and differentiation that have affected rural commonalities and go toward explaining poverty in the late twentieth century (Bertistem et al 1992).

If the process of economic and social development is defined in terms of an increase in society welfare, a concept of development is required which embraces not only economic variables and objectives, but also social objectives and values for which societies strive. Many economists and other social scientist have attempted to address this issue, and here we mention the ideas of two prominent thinkers in the field; Dennis Goulet and Amartya Sen who in 1998 won Nobel Prize for economics for his work on the interface between welfare and development economics (Todaro, 2005)

Goulet (1975) distinguishes three basic components which we call life sustenance, self esteem and freedom. Life sustenance is concerned with the provision of basic needs. No country can be regarded as developed if it cannot provide its entire people with such basic needs as housing, clothing, food and minimal education. A country may have relatively high averages standard of living and an impressive growth performance over several years, but still have poor provision of basic needs, leaving large section of the population in underdeveloped state. This life is closely related to the distribution of income in societies measured by the share of the total income going to the richest and the poorest section of the society. The distribution of income is much more unequal in poorer developing countries than in richer developed countries, and it is perfectly possible for a

poor country to be growing fast, yet its distribution of income to be worsening because the fruits of growth acquire to the rich. Such country would have grown, but, but it would not have developed if the provision of basic needs for the poorest groups in the community has not improved. Self esteem is concerned with the feelings of respect and independence. A country is not regarded as fully developed if it is exploited by others or cannot conduct economic relations on equal terms. Freedom refers to the ability of a country to determine its own destiny. No person is free if they are imprisoned on the margins of subsistence with no education and no skills. The great benefit of material development is that it expands the range of choice to open individuals and to the society at large (Sen, 1993)

## **2.5 The Africa's Development Challenge**

Africa continues in lethargic pace behind. Lack of food: eventually sound energy procurement as well as shortage of energy: lack of educational opportunities together with costing brain drain; there are but some of the socioeconomic "policies" characterized the continent. Yet the main drama does not lie in the occurrence of these factors on such it lies in the vicious circle of which they form part, and which tend to go on and on indefinitely. For each of these factors done at the same time 'cause and effect' of a destructive process: the Africa impasse. Each of these factors goes back to poverty. Poverty is the roof of the African dilemma. Poverty creates poverty. This is how the country published (world resource report: 1992-1998) depicts of the interaction between poverty and environmental degradation. It is yet another vicious circle.

Poverty creates environmental degradation, which constitutes loss of natural wealth means increased poverty without productive land; poor people are forced into marginal

lands in search for subsistence. They end up in storm and ghettos. Those who stay on the land are forced to graze livestock herds where vegetation is sparse or soils, and shrubs are easily damaged. This really means grazing on hill sides, in tropical forest, or in other occasionally sensitive areas. The toil on natural resources takes many forms including soil erosion, loss of soil fertility, desertification, destruction, depletion of fauna and flora, fish stock from overfishing and overhunting, loss of natural habits and of species, depletion of ground water resource and pollution of rivers and lakes. The result is to reduce the carrying capacity and productivity of the land and its biological resources. This degradation further exacerbates poverty and threatens not only economic prospectus of future generation, but also the livelihoods, health and well being of current population. The African crisis grounded on a host pernicious vicious circle of poverty: is made worse by unfavorable external circumstances. They have huge and many: some go back to the colonial era, which left us with artificial boundaries which brought about in many nations a lack of political-social cohesion. A biased production structure, geared towards production for export market; is another colonial legacy unfavorable terms of trade for Africans export outcome of this. Unfavorable terms of trade and increased international indebtedness are only two of the many elements of the unevenness in the international playing field. Barrier to trade, inappropriate transfers of technologies, reverse financial flows are among other factors. The UNDP has calculated in its latest human resource development report that the cost to developing countries of participating in global market is equal to almost ten times the amount of official development assistance they receive even the Bretton woods institutions IMF and World Bank, whose assignment consist in development, are found to channel finances flow from the

developing countries in their time of greatest need. Surely, here is another vicious circle: poverty leading to indebtedness, leading to further poverty.

To revive development in Africa, these complex relationships have to be bound together. Demographic consideration come first, for most of Africa, the population growth of the last century has not only forced people into marginal lands, but has also led to exhaustion of the better land use due to soil mining, erosion and mono cropping for cash and export crops. Lack of appropriate technologies which also stresses the conservation of the natural resources rather than primary production goals, pro existing economic constrains often means farmers are now able to seize upon sustainable practice. The short term development policies which have been forced upon African countries conflict with long term considerations of the ecological and socio-economic sustainability and these needs the urgent debunking.

Throughout the 1980s, African countries engaged in a process of policy formulation seeking to make environmental concern a vital axis. The 1980s plan of action (1980) opened the policy dialogue, followed thereafter by the Kilimanjaro declaration (1984), the African ministerial conference of the environment and the Cairo plan of action (1985), the Kampala declaration (1989) and the Bamako conference of (1991).

Globally the United Nations general assembly adopted the United Nations program of action for African recovery and economic development (1986) which was subsequently required s a new agenda for Africa in 1991. In the lead up to the United Nations conference on the environment and development (Earth summit) held in Rio-de Janeiro in June 1992 at which the sustainable development thesis was politically blessed, the

African countries identified poverty, debt and the conditions of international trade as the root causes of the threat to have sustainable development

They fight for the creation of an internationally legally binding instrument to stop the desertification of Africa through internationally supported effort to plant greenbelt north and south of the Sahara and across the Sahara deserts. Eliminating hunger and malnutrition is stressed as a prerequisite for reducing the pressure on the natural resources and the environment. Improvement of the environment education, development of sustainable energy sources and the transfer of technologies are called for and a ban on dumping of toxic and dangerous waste in Africa is demanded. Africans are aware that they have the primary responsibility for their own development, but expect others, because of the post colonial history, to express a shared responsibility in achieving their goals. The corner stone of the revived African development strategy is to strengthen the African economics and make them more self-reliant and less vulnerable to external shocks. Effort will be required to diversify African economics away from their heavy dependency on the export of primary commodities. This diversification should be rooted in sound ecological principles

By reducing African reliance on export of a few commodities vulnerability to external factors and ensuring risk of poverty will decline. This will in turn lessen some of the poverty caused pressure on environment. Reducing heavy reliance on primary commodities will moreover break the vicious circle of low world market commodity price, leading to a need to increase the exported quantities (there by increasing the strain on environment), leading to each more negative commodity terms of trade and more pressure to export.



It is becoming a universally accepted truth that affluence in north and poverty in the south (the once at least partly a consequence of the other) are the twin causes of the global environmental conditions. This is extremely important that Africa depends its case in international economic, environmental and financial for a by using as its main argument this inter linkage between poverty and global environment. Poverty in Africa threatens the environment: deforestation is a drama for the country or countries but resulting loss of biodiversity touches the whole world community. Moreover poverty in itself is a threat to world security and peace.

This is the backbone of Africa's international bargaining power. It is a positive sign that this message is more and more clearly delivered whenever an African country participates in international force. But at the same time a lot is still to be done at home. Indeed, the biggest challenge of all consist in tackling "vicious circle" some which we have described. However, none of these has to be permanent: every one of them can be broken.

Food and energy procurement: why should they form vicious circle in Africa and be pillar of development elsewhere? Poverty is the root problem, we stated. But it can be overcome. The more meager the resources, the more important becomes good governance and cooperation to make optimal use of a given resources. "Poverty creates poverty"- is only half truth. How could there be any development if it were absolutely true; every developed nation has once been poor. The only factor that will get Africa out of its poverty is elimination of internal and external exploitations.

In many African countries the role of the state will have to be re-thought fundamentally, the state will have to fulfill a role of creator of an enabling, even stimulating environment

for sustainable development. Government need to do less in these areas where markets cannot be relied upon. This means investing in health family planning, education, building a better political, legal and administrative infrastructure; providing a stable macroeconomic foundation. Environmental actions may be needed in a situation while market forces are going by prices which do not adequately reflect environmental cost and benefits.

Specific measures should be taken to eliminate and prevent the occurrence of corruptive practices. The move to greater democracy in Africa are offering new impetus to this process strengthening of popular participation in the development process will increase the rate of return of inputs and effort undertaken. Community participation in the design as well as the education of the sustainable development initiatives is a strategic ingredient of their success.

Timberlake's rhetorical question "is there hope"- still haunts, and Africa sits on a time bomb the diffusion of which time is now. Hamlet did not kill Claudius till his hand was forced- and lost his own life as a result of delay. We know most causes of our malaise. We must now act without delay if we hope to resolve the fate of continent and recover the hope ignited by freedom from colonialism.

People in Africa are rarely asked what kind of development they want. They are always been the object of various models, although these have always been the object of various models, although these have rarely increased their supplies of food, or improved their state of health. Indeed, the poor in Africa have rarely considered to be human in that own right They have always been the ones whom others would like to see changed, whether through Christianity, civilization, research or development projects. They are seldom

thought to have a religious, culture or even trading system of their own. They have to be initiated in all this. They have to be helped, assisted and given aid.

If hope of a more equitable order is to be realized, attitudes towards the rural sector and rural people in developing countries need to undergo radical changes. It must be recognized that the rural sector (which is referred to here as a local) has dynamism of its own which does not have to be explained by comparison with, and in contrast to external events and history. Rural people have their own concept of development, and have always been engaged in some kind exchange of materials goods and ideas with the outside. This already gives them a perception of merits and demerits of such exchange. Such perceptions do not depend on how the world, perceive and defines the concepts but instead on how those concepts actually affects them.

Rural development must be seen as a process by which rural people avail themselves of an opportunity to upgrade their way of life, moving from mere strategies for survival to challenging the physical and social environment in which they find themselves. It is a process in which enables them to become aware and to analyze constrains to which they are subject. It is also a process that gives them access to resources required for removing such constrains and which acknowledge their right to plan and control available to them. To create equity, it must be appreciated that people, including rural people, do not wish others to define their needs for them. They can do it for themselves.

To recognize this implies a change in attitudes towards development and in turn, a need for information to identify causes behind the continued subsequence of the rural sector to these towns and cities. Such information will provide the basis for creating alternative solution to critical programs in the developing countries. This is the only way open to us

to reverse the extreme economic difficulties of the last three decade, which have had such devastating effects on the development potential of African rural people, and so undermined their political, economic and cultural integrity- and even their identity. Collecting such information entails research into existing system and institutions and the possibilities for using these as the stepping stone towards developing relevant for the people

There is no magic bullet for accelerating African growth rates or encouraging economic development. But both of these outcomes are multifaceted process requiring a range of environmental conditions and inputs. This implies recognition of the independence of all elements of development: social, structural, human, governance, environmental, economic and financial. As such IDA and other development partners must evolve from a practice of compartmentalizing approaches by sector (subsector) and instead work across sector and traditional silos multi sectoral approaches, which will increasingly characterize IDA's programs, will be essential to the achievement of the MDGs. (WorldBank2004

Worldwide evidence suggest that the relationship between growth and poverty reduction is variable but that, on average sustained overall growth usually result in falling levels of poverty. Not all countries in Africa have adequate data to access the relationship between growth and poverty reduction, but with increasing average household surveys more evidence is becoming available. It suggests that similar results output has fallen or failed to keep up with population have usually seen poverty increase. On average, the poverty headcount ratio falls by 0.8 percent point for every 10% increase in mean private consumption. But not many countries on Africa have seen growth sustained as sufficiently high levels to have major impact on poverty.

The relationship between growth and poverty reduction does not hold in every case. For example a severe worsening of the terms of trade, and can offset the impact of moderate growth of GDP per head. Even strong growth concentrated in urban sector can leave rural poverty largely unchanged, as in the case of Madagascar and remote groups may not share in the benefits of even substantial growth, as Ghana and Uganda. Some countries have seen increasing urban unemployment despite growth and this does not mean that distribution can be neglected, particularly in countries with high inequality: neither can the problems passed by severe weather, terms of trade and other shocks. These can reduce growth and lower consumption from a given level of GDP, and pose special difficulties for vulnerable groups near the margins of subsistence. However, it is difficult to see good prospect for long term poverty reduction in Africa without sustained growth for most countries, growth about 5% is needed, with unchanged distribution, to prevent an increase in the number of the poor, while 7% growth would be needed to describe to achieve the poverty reduction MDGs (World Bank 2000).

According to Mboya and Pals (1969), the challenge is that of rapid economic and social progress of the underdeveloped nations for the benefit, of their populations. Fortunately it is not necessary to explain why these countries must develop. The misery, poverty and unemployment and insecurity of life which characterize the underdeveloped countries are now being recognized. The people of these countries recognize that their hardships are not inevitable. In the developed countries the poverty and misery of the underdeveloped countries are now being recognized albeit gradually. However, in many of the developed countries the majority of the people have no idea as to the seriousness and the size of the problem. What is perhaps more serious is that where problem is recognized, there is a

tendency for the people in the developed countries to assume attitude, while they should be, instead thoroughly concerned.

The challenge of continuing rural poverty eradication including peoples own perception of poverty and their ability to address it, problem of local governance lacking transparency and accountability, rapid population growth, rural urban migration, poor market infrastructure and increasing problems of AIDS. Beside statistical measure of poverty the peoples own perception of poverty may be captured in participatory poverty assessment(PPA) which are key instruments in identifying local qualitative characteristic of rural poverty: problems in micro market, weak delivery of basic services and the local culture of deprivation. These perceptions provide major challenges to both rural people and policy makers. Poverty itself is global, heterogeneous, multicultural and geographically configured and has macro, meso and micro level dimension. Hence universal prescriptions aimed at reducing poverty have major features. The international community has pledged itself to halve absolute poverty by 2015(though without graduated five year benchmark) which would have a significant effect on rural productivity. However, one could postulate a number of policy measure or mechanism which could contribute to a significant reduction in rural poverty (Todaro, 2005)

## **2.6 Africa and Millennium Village Projects**

Sub-Saharan Africa is at the greatest risk of not achieving the Goals and is struggling to progress on almost every dimension of poverty, including hunger, lack of education, and prevalent disease. The Millennium Villages seek to end extreme poverty by working with the poorest of the poor, village by village throughout Africa, in partnership with governments and other committed stakeholders, providing affordable and science-based

solutions to help people lift themselves out of extreme poverty. The Millennium Villages project offers a bold, innovative model for helping rural African communities lift themselves out of extreme poverty. The Millennium Villages themselves are proving that by fighting poverty at the village level through community-led development, rural Africa can achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and escape from the poverty trap. By applying this scalable model to give them a hand up, not a hand out, people of this generation can get on the ladder of development and start climbing on their own. (UNDP, 2005)

With the help of new advances in science and technology, project personnel work with villages to create and facilitate sustainable, community-led action plans that are tailored to the villages' specific needs and designed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Simple solutions like providing high-yield seeds, fertilizers, medicines, drinking wells, and materials to build school rooms and clinics are effectively combating extreme poverty and nourishing communities into a new age of health and opportunity. Improved science and technology such as agroforestry, insecticide-treated malaria bed nets, antiretroviral drugs, the Internet, remote sensing, and geographic information systems enriches this progress.

With the financial support from the Government of Japan, an additional ten villages were implemented in partnership with UNDP and the Earth Institute at Columbia University, creating a total of 12 Millennium Villages located in the following countries: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda. The

areas were selected to represent each of the agro-ecological zones in Sub-Saharan Africa. These agro-ecological zones are representative of 93 percent of the agricultural land area in sub-Saharan Africa and the homes of 90 percent of the agriculture population. Each Millennium Village is located in a reasonably well-governed and stable country and in a hunger hotspot, an area with the highest rates of rural poverty and hunger as identified by the UN Millennium Project.

Over a 5-year period, community committees and local governments build capacity to continue these initiatives and develop a solid foundation for sustainable growth. To date, the Millennium Villages project has reached nearly 400,000 people in 79 villages. Clustered into 12 groups across 10 African countries (Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda), the villages are located in different agro-ecological zones that reflect the range of farming, water, and disease challenges facing the continent. Success in these different zones shows how tailored strategies can overcome each challenge.

The Millennium Villages Project is a project of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, the United Nations Development Programme, and Millennium Promise. It is an approach to ending extreme poverty and meeting the Millennium Development Goals eight globally endorsed targets that address the problems of poverty, health, gender equality, and disease. The Millennium Villages aim to promote an integrated approach to rural development. By improving access to clean water, sanitation and other essential infrastructure such as education, food production, basic health care, and by focusing on



environmental sustainability, Millennium Villages claims to ensure that communities living in extreme poverty have a real, sustainable opportunity to lift themselves out of the poverty trap.

Millennium Villages are divided into different types. There are the original core villages which include different agro-ecological zones covering 14 sites in 10 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, including: Sauri and Dertu, Kenya; Koraro, Ethiopia; Mbola, Tanzania; Ruhiira, Uganda; Mayange, Rwanda; Mwandama, Malawi; Pampaida and Ikaram, Nigeria; Potou, Senegal; Tiby and Toya, Mali and Bonsaaso, Ghana.

There are additional Millennium Villages which are following the Millennium Village program but which are not directly supported through The Earth Institute at Columbia University. These additional villages are located in Liberia, Cambodia, Jordan, Mozambique, Haiti, Cameroon and Benin. The project was initially funded through a combination of World Bank loans and private contributions, including \$50 million from George Soros (UNDP, 2005).

The Millennium Villages are proving that by fighting poverty at the village level through community-led development, rural Africa can achieve the Millennium Development Goals — global targets for reducing extreme poverty and hunger by half and improving education, health, gender equality and environmental sustainability — by 2015, and escape the extreme poverty that traps hundreds of millions of people throughout the continent.

Simple solutions like providing high-yield seeds, fertilizers, medicines, drinking wells, and materials to build school rooms and clinics are effectively combating extreme poverty and nourishing communities into a new age of health and opportunity. Improved science and technology such as agroforestry, insecticide-treated bed nets, antiretroviral drugs, the Internet, remote sensing, and geographic information systems enriches this progress. Over a 10-year period spanning two five-year phases, community committees and local governments build capacity to continue these initiatives and develop a solid foundation for sustainable growth.

Currently 500,000 people in 14 different sites in 10 countries are part of the project. Each cluster site is located in a distinct agro-ecological zone which together, represents the farming systems used by 90% of the agricultural population of sub-Saharan Africa. The Millennium Village financing model is built on the premise that, with modest support, rural economies can transition from subsistence farming to self-sustaining commercial activity.

Funding and implementing a Millennium Village is a shared effort among the Millennium Villages project, donors, NGOs, local and national governments, and the village community itself. Each Millennium Village budgets an investment of \$120 per person per year. Half of this is mobilized directly through the MVP initiative, and the other half comes from partners, including the community itself (\$10), the national government (\$30), and NGO partners (\$20).

The guiding principle of the MVP budget framework does not imply a top-down set of fixed interventions across every community. Instead, it implies a basic approach to multi-sector budgeting that ensures communities have access to a minimum set of basic goods and services, including agricultural inputs, primary health services, functioning schools with school meals, clean drinking water, sanitation, and simple infrastructure. The interventions of the project can be taken to broad scale since the financing needs for the Millennium Villages are fully in line with the commitments made by rich countries to increase their official development assistance (ODA) to 0.7% of GNI.

The MVP aims to spur broad scaling up of integrated rural investments for the MDGs. This scale-up is only possible if the ODA promises come true. The MVP will be successful if it: demonstrates the feasibility of integrated investments to achieve the MDGs in impoverished rural Africa; helps to create new models for community-based delivery, monitoring, and measurement; plays a constructive role in helping the global aid commitments come to pass by making the MVP lessons widely known within Africa and internationally; and helps to encourage increased global public financial flows towards more practical and effective ground-level investments rather than to low quality aid.

Critical to the sustainability of the Millennium Villages is the need to empower the entire community, including women and vulnerable groups, by building local technical, administrative, and entrepreneurial capacity. In conjunction with improved health and education, this transformation encourages women and men to establish their own

businesses, to take advantage of microfinance and micro-enterprise opportunities and to explore income-earning possibilities beyond farming. Participatory, community-led decision-making is central to the way Millennium Villages work and is also fundamental to sustainability. Establishing community agreement to become one of the Millennium Villages sites takes place through a series of discussions with elected and appointed officials, community committees, and open forums at the local level.

Once agreement is established, specific committees and community members begin the process of identifying and evaluating project possibilities with the support of a scientific team and local partners. Together they create a package of village-specific project initiatives that are deemed most appropriate and cost effective. They also produce a community action plan for implementing and managing these projects. All along, Millennium Villages fosters and empowers democratic practices, and actively promotes gender equality in decision-making and allocation of resources.

National government participation is also a key to the success of Millennium Villages. Villages are initiated only in countries where national leadership supports and engages with the program. Agreeing on cost sharing from the outset and making sure the program is consistent with broader national development plans ensures that governments are full partners in the project in both the short- and long-term. (UNDP, 2005)

## **2.7 Kenya's Development Agenda**

Attempt to create devolution in decision making concerning national planning and developments started in 1980s with the initiation of District Focus for Rural Development. The devolved government that we have currently in the constitution is the

prototype of district focus for rural development (DFRD). This was the initial attempt to decentralize the process of planning and development to the district level.

According to (Patel, 1988) the district focus for rural development was a major development policy initiated by the government and was officially launched in 1983. The DFRD was the brainchild of high powered government officials under the director ship of Simeon Nyachae, then the chief secretary. In a nutshell the implementation of DFRD entailed the following: the central government was to be the overseer of all major rural development projects as before, but now its role of selecting them was to be passed to appropriate local structures that are in better position to identify and address themselves to special development problems and to provide priorities of their respective areas. This on the effect means that the central government had to share power and responsibilities with local structures in order to serve the interest of the rural population. The representative of central government i.e. local district commissioners, district officers and their technical officers were trusted with the responsibilities of being agents of rural development. This involved additional responsibilities to the local officers, for example they were empowered with the job of channeling finance to the various development project that have been endorsed by their district development committees. This means in effect, that the district commissioners and his team of departmental heads were the accounting officers in that district. Decentralization of all services for example, almost all ministries was represented at the district headquarters for ease of administration and faster development. The officer's who used to be in Nairobi had to move into the district headquarters where services were in greater demand. This was recognition on the part of

the government that development had to be constant with the peoples needs Chambers et al, 1983 and Volken et al, 1985.

National development plan (NDP2002-2008) –is a statutory policy document that outlines the development policies and strategies to be pursued by the government and other development agencies over the medium term. Besides the national development plan, the government had also regional and sector specific plan i.e. sessional paper NO.10 of 1965 on African socialism and its application to planning in Kenya-was made first long term policy document to formally address the nations priority problems of poverty, ignorance and disease. While numerous sessional papers have been prepared since then to address other pertinent challenges, con temporary long term framework of tackling poverty that currently afflicts an estimated 50% of the Kenyan’s population. Lately the poverty reduction strategy paper (PRSP) is the first in series of short term instruments to implement NDP (Mulwa and Makokha, 2001)

The vision 2030 secretariat says many projects under the social pillar in the first phase of implemmentation are either complete or at advanced stages. The vision 2030 secretariat maintains that Kenya is on the right track to achieve the targets of the national development roadmap. According to the director general of the Vision 2030 Delivery Secretariat the country had made gains in social indicators despite the challenges of tough economic environment that has been witnessed in the last three years. There are flagship projects under health and education sectors as among those that have shown remarkable positive indications, saying many projects under the social pillar in the first phase of implementation were either complete or at advanced stages. Among the flagship projects are medical facilities, schools and water projects in various parts of the country. He said

significant gains have also been achieved on the formulation of key policies to provide a strong foundation for the implementation of major reform programmes in the education, medical and political fronts. Overall, there have been good achievements in the social pillar flagship projects. Despite Kenya's economy being affected by multiple adverse domestic and external shocks, significant progress has been made in implementing the Medium term plan for 2008-2012. The cabinet has approved legislation geared to fast track reforms in the education sector. He cited the Education bill, Kenya National Examination council bill, Kenya institute of curriculum Development bill, Technical and Vocational Education and training bill. Universities Bill, Kenya science, Technology and Innovation policy bill and Kenya Qualification framework bill as some legislation that will fast track reforms in the education sector. The new laws, once enacted by parliament will help to align Kenya's education system to the new constitution and help spur education development. The 33 health facilities had been completed in the 2011/2012 financial year, while 14 others are under rehabilitation. The director general said a bill to facilitate provision of descent and affordable housing to all Kenyans has been drafted and forwarded to parliament for approval. He said the Vision 2030 social pillar seeks to alleviate the plight of children and vulnerable groups in society. Over 170,000 poor vulnerable households are benefiting from the cash transfer programme while over 480,000 women Enterprise fund since inception in 2007. There are over 16000 youth enterprises had so far benefited from Ksh 6.5 billion from youth enterprises fund. The social protection policy has been approved by cabinet and a bill is being drafted. This would pave way for the government to put in place mechanisms to cushion poor and vulnerable groups from economic hardships. The government in 2008 launched the vision

2030, which is being implemented in pharmacy the first of which medical term plan 2008-12. However since it was launched Kenya's economy has experienced severe shocks ranging from drought high fuel prices. These have seen the cost of living rise thus affecting the social well-being of millions in Kenya. But the Government has been keen to cushion the vulnerable groups from the adverse impact of such shocks by accelerating interventions under the social pillar of the Vision 2030 (Government of Kenya, 2007).

## **2.8 Conclusion**

The objective of attaining economic development to tackle poverty has been the priority of all developing nations. Although agreement exist on the challenge of poverty but there is no consensus on methods and strategies necessary for the achievements of these goals. In the year 2000 world leaders pledged to eradicate global poverty by 2015. The millennium declaration states that "we should spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme". This declaration was the birth of millennium development initiative known as millennium development goals which have eight broad development goals: reduction of absolute poverty and hunger, improvement of school enrollment, reduction of child mortality, improvement in maternal health, promotion of gender equality, reduction of spread of malaria and HIV/AIDS, environmental sustainability and developing global partnership for development. This ambitious development initiative was adopted by United Nations to propagate development in development countries. The twelve millennium village project was set up on a number of countries Kenya included as pilot projects to propagate development and to serve as a model for development where learning and benchmarking will be done from. On the other hand Kenya drafted vision 2030 which was formulated in



line with International Development Goals (IDGs) and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which projects to achieve its targets by the year 2030. The vision 2030 has three pillars of development; economic, social and political. Kenya government initiated vision 2030 after realizing that it cannot keep up with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). From the information on the literature review there is no information concerning the evaluation of the millennium development initiative on people's socio-economic development. This is the gap that the researcher wishes to fill by undertaking an assessment of millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development with specific reference to Sauri millennium village project in Siaya County, Kenya.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Overview**

This chapter contains the research design, study population, sample size and sampling design, data collection instruments, reliability and validity of instruments, administration of research instruments and data analysis. This chapter describes the plan or strategy for

conducting research. It presents a detailed description of the selected research design. It described in detail what was done and how it was done.

### **3.1 Research design**

The study was conducted using descriptive survey which sought to describe and explain events as they are. Under this method the variables are investigated without manipulation or alteration and descriptive methodologies were used in exploring the interrelationship between the variables. A descriptive survey research is a systematic empirical inquiry, where the researcher does not have direct control because their manifestation has already occurred or because they cannot be manipulated (Kerlinges, 1998). Inferences about relation among variables are made, without direct intervention from concomitant variation of independent variables (Patton, 2002).it provide description of some part of population. This method describes and explains events as they are, as they were or as they will be. According to (Kothari, 2004) descriptive studies are concerned with describing the characteristics of a particular individual or groups. Descriptive design was used to provide an opportunity for determination of relationship between millennium villages and peoples socioeconomic development. It helped in the formation of important principles of knowledge solution to problems of under development. It was significant to assess millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development in Kenya. This design was selected because it considered issues as economy of design, rapid data collection, the ability to understand population from a part of it and was suitable for extensive research. It provided a sure way to establish cause-effect relationship.

### **3.2 Study population**

A population is aggregate of all case that conform to some designed set of clientele (Blaikie 2000). Sauri millennium village comprises of 11 cluster villages with a population of about 5300 people. The study targeted households, project managers and employees of Sauri millennium village in Siaya County. The units of analysis for this study were households, employees, and managers of millennium village project in Siaya County. The target population was 300 respondents from Sauri millennium village project in Siaya County. The target population of 300 was chosen because of accessibility and convenience.

### **3.3 Sample size and sampling design**

According to Best and Khan (1993), the term sample design refers to the procedure or process used to obtain the sample size for the study. On other hand they argue that sample size is the number of cases involved in the study from which the researcher collects data. There should be high degree of correspondence between sampling frame and sample population as the accuracy of the sample dependent on the sample frame. Newman (2000) argues that, the factor considered in determining the sample size is the need to keep it manageable enough. This enabled the study to derive from its detailed data at an affordable cost in term of time, finance and human resource. According to the Best and Khan (1993), the sample size should be greatly dispersed and varied within population, should have high interval range and should have high degree of confidence so as to enhance precision and representativeness. A sample is a finite part of a statistical population whose properties are studied to gain information about the whole (Webster,

1985). When dealing with the people, it can be defined as a set of respondents selected from a larger population for the purpose of survey. Stratified sampling was used to select 11 cluster villages of millennium village project. The stratified sampling technique identified subgroups in the population and their proportion and selection from each subgroup to form a sample (Sakaran, 2003). It groups a population into separate homogenous village clusters that shares similar characteristics and was selected from each cluster so as to ensure equitable representation of the population in a sample. Stratified sampling technique was used to ensure that the target population is divided into different homogenous cluster villages where by each cluster village is represented in the sample in a proportion equal to the size of the population. It aims at proportionate representation with a view of accounting for the difference in subgroup characteristics (Gay, 1987). Simple random sampling technique will be used to select sample. The researcher selected 30% of the target population to act as sample size since Patton (2000) argued that 30% of the target population is enough in descriptive survey study. The study had a sample size of 90 respondents.

**Table3.1 Sample Size**

Category	Target population	Sample size
Households	270	81
Employees	30	9
Total	300	90

The simple random sampling was used to identify respondents from households and employees of millennium villages. The 90 respondents composed of 81 household from 11 cluster villages and 9 employees from millennium village project. The number of respondents per cluster village was based on the size of the population; in order to ensure equitable representation. The simple random sampling method was suitable because each member of household within the cluster village and each employee of Sauri millennium village had equal and independent chance of being included in the sample.

### **3.4 Data collection instruments**

This section presents the research instruments, the validation and reliability assurance of the research instruments and the data collection procedure that will be adopted in the study. According to (Patton 2003) argue that a multiple method increase validity since the strength of one approach can compensate the weakness of another thus obtaining a balanced data. The objective of this study was measured using three instruments. The objectives of this study were achieved using the three instruments namely: questionnaires, interview schedule and document analysis.

**(i) Questionnaires**

A questionnaire is a collection of items to which a respondent is expected to react to in writing. The researcher adopted the use of closed ended and open ended formats. This form was used in all types of questionnaires. The likert scale was mostly used ( such as 1- strongly disagree, 2- disagree, 3- undecided 4- agree, 5- strongly agree and strongly influence, fairly influence, poorly influence, no influence) .This technique assisted to collect a lot of information over a short period of time. This form was suitable because the population was literate. Questionnaires were more efficient and were used to collect information about feelings, motivation, attitude, accomplishment as well as individual experience. The questionnaires were prepared and administered to millennium village project employees and the households

**(ii) Interview**

An interview schedule refers to verbal communication in which a person asks the other question with intention of obtaining information or opinions. The researcher conducted face to face interrogation. This interview was done on project manager of the millennium village project. This helped the researcher to collect the first hand information, to obtain historical information, to capture meaning beyond words and managers perceptions concerning establishment and development of millennium villages. This technique was suitable because the researcher gained control over the line of questioning and obtained the language and words of the informants.

**(iii) Document analysis**

Document analysis is critical public or private recorded information related to the issue under investigation. It was used to obtain information at the pleasure of the researcher and without interrupting the respondent. The study collected data from: government reports, millennium village project planning, monitoring and evaluation reports, Textbooks, Newspapers, proposals, Newsletters, Magazines and even the internet. This was an important method of data collection because the study reviewed the various literature about millennium villages and development of millennium village project that have been written by various authors. This became the background of the available information where the study established new findings that fostered new knowledge to the society about millennium villages as a catalyst for people's socio-economic development. This technique is appropriate since the researcher obtained data that were thoughtful in that the informants had given attention to compiling them. The technique also saved time and expense in transcribing.

### **3.5 Validity of the research instrument**

According to Patton (2000) validity is the quality attributed to proposition or measure of the degree to which they conform to establish knowledge or truth. Validity is essentially concerned with establishing whether the questionnaire content is measuring what is expected to measure. According to Kane (2001) validity was determined and demonstrated where an instrument performs what it was designed to perform. According to Kombo and Tromp (2006) validity is a measure of how well a test measures what it is suppose to measure.. It is the degree to which the result is obtained from the analysis if the data actually represents phenomenon under study. Content validity of the instrument, was determined through piloting, where the responses of the subject were checked

against the research objectives. For a research instrument to be considered valid, content selected and including questionnaires must be relevant to the variables being investigated Kerlinges (1973). The content validity of the instrument was determined through piloting, where the responses of the subjects were checked against the research objectives. If the content was relevant to the variables being investigated; then the research instruments were therefore valid. The researcher discussed the items in the instrument with the supervisors, lecturers and colleagues from department. The advice given by these people helped the researcher determine validity of the research instruments. The suggestions given were used in making necessary changes in the instruments before they were administered

### **3.6 Reliability of the research instruments**

Reliability is a measure of how consistent the results from a test are. According to Kane (2001), reliability reflects the consistency that an instrument demonstrates when applied under similar conditions. Reliability of an instrument is the measure of the degree to which research instrument yields consistent results or data after repeated trials. According to Kathuri and Pals (1993) the items with reliability coefficients of at least 0.70 are accepted as reliable in research. To test the reliability of the instruments used in the study, a pilot study was carried out and correlation coefficient of at least 0.70 was accepted as reliable for the study. For the instruments to be considered reliable the researcher administered standardized questions and interviews during piloting. It provided the same information this means they are reliable. The result obtained from the pilot study helped the researcher to revise questionnaires to make sure that it covers the objectives of the study and the research questions were answered. For the information



from document analysis were sourced from different authors and information compared and they corresponded hence they are reliable.

### **Pilot study**

Before the data collection instruments were used in this study a pilot study was conducted in Small Dairy Commercialization Programme (SDCP) projects in Lemok funded by Heifer International in Nandi north district. This was done with a view of establishing whether or not they are clear and that they generate relevant and adequate information according to the stated objectives or not. According to Robson (1993) the first stage of any data gathering should be a pilot study in order to detect some of the inevitable problems of converting the research design into a reality. The Small Dairy Commercialization Programme (SDCP) project must have some effects on people's socio-economic development in Lemok and its environs. Questionnaires were administered to 10 employees of Small Dairy Commercialization Program (SDCP) project. Feed back from the pilot projects were of great value and significance to the researcher in revising the instrument to ensure they were adequately covers the objectives of the study.

### **3.7 Administration of the research instruments**

The researcher obtained a research permit from the National Council for Science and Technology (NCST) before carrying out the research. The researcher sought permission from County head of the Siaya County and County education officer. The researcher visited millennium village project with the intention to conduct the research. This was done through a letter of introduction and a covering letter was written to the respondents

requesting them to participate in the study. Data collection was done using questionnaires, interviews and document analysis. The researcher conducted interviews with managers. Interviews were suitable because managers had complete and detailed understanding of all issues in the millennium village and also to obtain historical information. The questionnaires were given to employees of the millennium village project and members of households of Sauri millennium village. After explanation of the principle objective of the study to different respondents they were given a chance for questions and clarification. The questionnaires were suitable because the employees and members of the households were literate and the information needed could be easily described in writing. For the document analysis the researcher requested access to secondary sources. These included projects reports on achievements since it was commissioned, annual and mid-term evaluation reports and any other written publication entailing effects of millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development. Document analysis was suitable in order to obtain data that were thoughtful in that the informants had given attention to compiling them and it also saved time and expense in transcribing.

### **3.8 Data analysis**

Data was analyzed using mixed approach: qualitative and quantitative. Mixed method was suitable since the data were expressed both in words and numerals. Qualitative analysis involved data expressed in words. It was suitable only when data was expressed in words. The quantitative analysis involved descriptive technique which entailed the use of measures of central tendencies like mode which gave the most frequent variable and the range to find the arithmetic difference between the highest and the lowest score in a

distribution. It was suitable only when data was expressed in numbers, when only a simple measure of dispersion was required and for the sample which was normally distributed and to collect data from large samples of population. The statistical package for social science was used to generate frequency distribution tables. The SPSS was suitable since it was easy to generate tables from massive data using this program. The data was presented in form of tables, pie charts and graphs thus facilitated description and explanation of the study findings.

### **3.9 Ethical consideration**

The researcher obtained permit from the National Council for Science and Technology through the School of Human Resource Development and Department of Development studies. The major problem in this study was the privacy and confidentiality of the respondents. Obtaining a valid sample entailed, gaining access to specific lists and files which itself was an infringement on the privacy and confidentiality of the respondents, however the respondents had freedom to ignore items that they did not wish to respond to. The researcher kept confidential information within the framework of the research. The respondents were free to withdraw from the research if they felt necessary to do so. All scholars who had been cited in text were acknowledged and information given by respondents on questionnaires and interviews were treated with confidentiality. The researcher made sure the anonymity of the respondents was maintained by not allowing them to write their names on questionnaires or indicating them as they undertaking interview schedule. The researcher briefed the respondents before and after the exercise

## **CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

### **4.1 OVERVIEW**

The chapter presents the research findings presented by frequency tables, graphs and pie charts. The purpose of the study was to investigate the effects of the millennium development initiatives on people's socioeconomic development, using a case of Sauri millennium village in Siaya County. All the 90 questionnaires were returned indicating that respondents were willing to elicit information sought by the researcher. The study identified: strategies used by the millennium villages to enhance development, the effects of millennium village on people's socio-economic development, the challenges faced by millennium villages in propagating people's socio-economic development and explored the ways of enhancing millennium village to improve people's socio-economic development. The data was analyzed using mixed method: qualitative and quantitative. The statistical package for social science (SPSS) was used to generate frequency distribution tables. The data was presented in form of tables, pie charts and graphs. This chapter presents the results of analysis.

#### **4.1.0 BIO DATA: INFORMATION OF THE RESPONDENTS.**

Finding out the general information of the respondents was very important because it enables the researcher to gauge the reliability of the data received and know the type of people that she or he was dealing with. This information includes gender, age bracket, education level and work experience or years of working and occupations.

**Table4.1.0: Bio data information of the respondents**

<b>Age bracket</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Degrees</b>
18-30	43	47.8	172
31-40	32	35.6	128
41-50	9	10	36
51-60	4	4.4	16
Over 60	3	3.3	12
Total	90	100	360
<b>Sex</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Degrees</b>
Male	48	53.3	192
Female	42	46.6	168
Total	90	100	360
<b>Marital status</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Degrees</b>
Married	39	43.3	156
Single	41	45.5	164
Divorced	3	3.3	12
Widowed	7	7.8	28
Total	90	100	360
<b>Level of education</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Degrees</b>
Certificate	52	57.8	208
Diploma	29	32.2	116
Bachelors degree	7	7.7	28
Masters degree	2	2.2	7.9
Total	90	100	360
<b>Work experience</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Degrees</b>
Less than one year	1	1.1	4
2-4 years	84	93.3	326
5-7 years	2	2.2	8
8-10 years	2	2.2	8
Over 10 years	-	-	-
Total	90	90	360
<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Degrees</b>
Agriculture officer	1	1.1	4
Programmer	2	2.2	8
Community facilitator	1	1.1	4
Field facilitator	4	4.4	16
Coordinator	1	2.2	8
Administrator	2	2.2	16
Farmer	81	90	324
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

**Age**

Majority of the respondents are within the age bracket of 18-30 years as compared to other age bracket of 31-40 years. The age bracket declines as age advances. This shows that the majority of the people living in Sauri millennium village are youths. These are strong and energetic people who are the drivers of many activities going on within the millennium village. They are unemployed, eager to learn new things and they are willing to participate in any activity in the community. The youths like to be recognized and identified with the community. There are many youths than the older adults in Sauri millennium village just like the demographics of the part of the country and partly due to the impact of HIV/AIDS in the area for the past three decades.

#### **Gender of the respondent**

In relation to the gender, males are the majority compared to female gender. This implies that the society was dominated by male gender. On the other hand the difference in terms of numbers was small. This was attributed to affirmative action like women empowerment and the sensitization of women to participate in all activities just like their male counterpart. On the other hand the sex gap between males and the female counterpart was small with the ratio of 1:14

#### **Marital status**

Concerning marital status majority of the people are single, the married people are next on line. The reason for high number of single was due to harsh economic times, career advancement and the falling of the family values. This can be an indicator that developing career has been priority among many youths rather than the issue of marriage. The impact of HIV/AIDS in the region in the past two decades has led to decline in the population of the older population leaving behind orphans and the widows

**The level of education**

The findings indicated that the majority of the respondents are certificate holders with 57.7% of the respondents, while those with diploma holders are 32.2% of the respondents. This was due lack of finance to per sue further studies, the inaccessibility to career guidance that enable them focus on advancing their education and a few tertiary institutions within the region that can absorb them. This was confirmed by the recent government initiative to build new tertiary institutions in each county to cater for students who did not had a chance to go to university.

**Work experience**

From the results of the findings there was indication that the most of the respondents had work experience of between two to four years. This was due to fact that majority of the respondents were youths with few years of experience in farming. They completed their secondary education some few years ago. There were few older people as a result of the impact of HIV/AIDS in the area for the past three decades. The majority of the youths were head of the households

**Occupation**

From the findings there were indications that the job positions most of the respondents hold were that of a farmers. Many respondents from Sauri millennium village were from households who happen to be farmers by occupation. They depended on agriculture directly or indirectly for their livelihood. Sauri like many parts of the country, the mainstay of the economy entirely depended on agriculture.

### **4.3 Strategies used by millennium village to enhance development**

#### **The rate of people's socioeconomic development before the introduction of millennium village**

The state of the economic development before the introduction of millennium village was important since it gave the condition which existed before the introduction of millennium village. To achieve objective one the data collected was analyzed under question: How can you rate people's socioeconomic development before the introduction of millennium village. The responses from respondents are presented in the graph in fig 4.1.1

#### **Figure 4.1.1: Rate of people's socioeconomic development before the introduction of millennium village**

From the graph in fig 4.1.1 it can be said that the socioeconomic development of people of Sauri were low before the introduction of the millennium village project. It was characterized by: low agricultural production; maize was 1.8 tons/ha with soil depleted of nitrogen and potassium. There was widespread poverty 79% living on less than a dollar a day and hunger with 59 % of children under 5 stunted, heavy disease burden. Over 60 % of children under years 5 tested positive of malaria. Education and health facilities were in poor conditions. Mud walled housing structures and trees for class room dotted the area

#### **Strategies used by millennium village to enhance development**

There are many development agencies both local and international that undertake various activities in third world countries. Different agencies use different strategies in order to achieve their development objective. In order to achieve objective one data collected was



analyzed under question: What are the strategies used by millennium village to enhance development. The responses from respondents are presented in the table 4.2.1.

**Table 4.2.1: Strategies used by millennium village to enhance development**

Response	Frequencies	Percentage	Degree
Community involvement	1	10	4
Self help groups & Sacco	4	4.4	16
Subsidizing agriculture	22	24.4	88
Training and education	47	52.2	188
Appropriate technology	15	5.6	60
Funding	3	3.3	12
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 4.2.1 shows that majority of the respondents agree with the notion that millennium village uses education and training strategies to enhance development. They people reckons that the best strategy used by millennium village was capacity building which was achieved through; training and education. The millennium village project was anchored in three interlinked components. The millennium village project was inclined to the principle of community participation, leadership and cost sharing. The appropriate science based innovations and local knowledge and accosted national action plan for the time bound and targeted objectives of the millennium development goals which was achieved through education and training.

#### **Effectiveness of strategies used by millennium village**

To achieve objective one the data collected was analyzed under question: whether strategies use by millennium village are effective. The responses from the respondents are presented in the graph in fig 4.1.2a

**Fig4.1.2a: Effectiveness of strategies used by millennium village**

From the graph in fig 4.1.2a it was clear that the majority of the respondents are of the view that the strategies used by millennium village are effective in delivering desirable socioeconomic development to the people of Sauri. This was as a result of the fact that one of the main principles of MVP was to work with the existing institutions, research and extension where they have been shown to be effective and work in an equitable manner. Local capacity building and community ownership, with the necessary links to effective local institutions, district, county and national policies required to reach the MDGs.

**Positive effects of strategies on development**

The researcher established the positive effects of the strategies used in the development in the millennium village. To achieve objective one the data collected was analyzed under question: Whether strategies has positive effects on development. The responses from respondents are presented in graph in fig 4.1.2b.

**Fig 4.1.2b: Positive effect on development**

From the graph in fig 4.1.2b the majority of the respondents reckons that millennium village had a positive effect on development. The MVP created a positive effect due to flexibility and learning from the past. The MVP learns about the existing projects and stakeholders on the ground learn what has not worked in the past and present and develop partnership with existing groups that overlap and complement MVP training and sector approaches for meeting MDGs. The MVP project has brought change in people's socioeconomic life. There has been increase in agricultural production, increase on

household income, higher pupil's enrollment in primary schools, reduction of child and maternal death, greater environmental conservation and enhancement of gender equality.

### **Gender mainstreaming in strategies adopted**

In order to achieve objective one the data collected was analyzed under question: whether there is gender mainstreaming in strategies adopted. The responses from respondents are presented in the table 4.2.2a

**Table4.2.2a: Gender mainstreaming in strategies adopted**

Response	Frequency	Percentage	degrees
Strongly disagree	0	0	0
disagree	1	1.1	4
undecided	27	30	108
agree	36	40	144
Strongly agree	26	28.9	104
total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.2.2a majority of the respondents are of the opinion that gender mainstreaming was factored during the adoption of the strategies by the millennium village. There are aspects of gender mainstreaming in training for the staff and stakeholders. There was more women representation in all sector committees which is more than Kenya constitutional requirement of at least 30 percent minimum thresh hold for any public office to be occupied by either gender. There is active involvement of women, men, boys and girls in development activities. For the success of the projects endeavour's there must be the presence of element of gender mainstreaming in strategies used.

### **Customization of strategies adopted**

In order to achieve objective one data collected was analyzed under question: Whether strategies are customized and tailor made. There was a need to design strategies which

were customized to suit the agro-ecological conditions, local environment, culture and traditions of the people. This will make the strategies compatible with local culture and environment therefore reducing conflicts and resistance. The researcher wanted to establish if the strategies adopted by millennium village are customized. The results from the respondents are presented in the fig 4.1.2c.

#### **Figure 4.1.2c: Customization of strategies adopted**

From the graph fig 4.1.2c the majority of the respondents agree that the strategies used by the millennium village were customized and tailor made to suit agro-ecological conditions, culture and traditions of the people living in the area. The strategies used by millennium village are tailor made in that millennium village project is a community driven project. The project emphasizes the principle of participation and empowerment of community to make decision that affects their own future and to have access to the resources that enables them to do so. Community empowerment was stressed through participation and leadership in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and cost sharing.

#### **If strategies used are outdated**

In order to achieve objective one the data collected was analyzed under question: Whether strategies used are outdated. The researcher wanted to establish whether the strategies used are up to date. The results are presented in Table 4.2.2b.

**Table4.2.2b: If strategies used are outdated**

Response	Frequencies	Percentages	Degrees
Strongly disagree	56	62.2	224
Disagree	28	31.1	112

Undecided	3	3.3	12
Agree	2	2.2	8
Strongly agree	1	1.1	4
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.2.2b majority of the respondents strongly disagree that the strategies used were out dated. The opinion that strategies were obsolete had been strongly rejected as a result of the fact that MVP strategies were up to date since it integrated local and scientific knowledge at every stage of development process a menu of proven technologies that address the various needs of the community, a long with the relative losses and benefits over the short and longer term. In order for the project to realize its objective the strategies used must be up to date in order to be effective.

#### **4.4 Effects of millennium village on people's socioeconomic development**

##### **Contributions of millennium village on people's socioeconomic development**

In order to achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: how do you rate the contribution of MV to people's socioeconomic development. The results are presented in Table 4.3.1.

**Table4.3.1: Rating of MV on people's socioeconomic development.**

Response	Frequency	Percentage	Degrees
Very positive	70	77.8	280
Positive	13	14.4	52
Undecided	5	5.6	20
Negative	1	1.1	4
Very negative	1	1.1	4
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.1 the majority of the people had a strong view that the millennium village had a good effect on people's socioeconomic development. Many people rate that contributions of millennium village are very positive. This was supported by some 2010

millennium development project mid term evaluation which showed positive trends within the millennium village, in the development indicators like, access to sanitation, water and health care and decline in child mortality.

### **The extent to which the millennium village has facilitated development**

In order to achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: Show the extent to which millennium village has facilitated development. The degree to which millennium village have facilitated socioeconomic development for the people of Sauri was unknown. The graph in fig 4.2.1 below indicates respondent's responses concerning the extent to which millennium village has facilitated development.

#### **Fig 4.2.1: The extent to which millennium village has facilitated development**

From the graph in fig 4.2.1 the majority of the people agree 100% that socioeconomic development of Sauri millennium village is attributed to MVP. The majority of the respondents rate 100 percent the extent to which millennium village has facilitated development. From desperate situation where malnutrition was rampant, children growth stunted high malaria prevalence and most people on less than one dollar a day. Sauri had a radical transformation with food production now doubled, malaria under control and children are now healthier.

### **Best strategies used by millennium village to facilitate development**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: give the best strategies used by millennium village to facilitate development. The responses from the respondents are presented in Table 4.3.2

**Table 4.3.2: Best strategies used by MV to facilitate development**

Respondents	Frequencies	Percentages	Degrees
Education and training	53	58.9	212
Funding	4	4.5	16
Agricultural subsidies	17	18.9	68
Sacco/ self help groups	2	2.2	8
Improving infrastructure	1	1.1	4
Community involvement	13	14.4	52
Total	90	100	360

From the table 4.3.2 above the majority of the respondents are of the view that the best strategies used by the millennium village project is training which is aimed at attaining capacity building and community empowerment. There were other strategies which were integrated with training like donor funding, improving infrastructure, community involvement and the use of subsidies. For the success of any undertaking it requires robust methods of achieving the set objectives.

#### **Millennium village hastening development**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: How positive are you that the millennium village has hastened development process. The responses from the respondents are presented in Table 4.3.3

**Table 4.3.3: Millennium village hastening development progress**

respondents	frequencies	Percentages	Degrees
Very positive	68	75.6	272
positive	18	20	72
Undecided	2	2.4	8
Negative	1	1.1	4
Very negative	1	1.1	4
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.3 the majority of the people were very positive that millennium village has hastened development progress in the area. Whenever a project was designed and established it usually creates both positive and negative influence on the development process. The millennium village project has improved the quality of life for many people in Sauri millennium village and its overwhelming success has inspired similar efforts in the county. The success anti-poverty projects have resulted in among other things, higher primary and secondary school enrollment, lower rate of maternal and infant mortality, better nutrition and food security.

#### **People living on less than a dollar a day**

In order to achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: If less people live on less than a dollar in a day. The responses from respondents are presented in the pie chart in fig4.2.2a

#### **Fig 4.2.2a; People living in less than a dollar a day**

From the pie chart in fig 4.2.2a it is indicative that the majority of the people agree that less people live on less than a dollar a day. There were lesser people living on less than a dollar per day because of successful antipoverty projects and organizations like cooperative societies, market service centers for bulk produce sale and enterprise diversification. These activities had increased wealth creation and improved household income.

#### **There is better housing**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if there is better housing. The responses from the respondents are presented in Table 4.3.4a.



**Table 4.3.4a: If there is better housing.**

Responses	Frequencies	Percentages	Degrees
Strongly disagree	1	1.1	4
Disagree	31	34.4	124
Undecided	6	6.7	24
Agree	47	52.2	188
Strongly agree	5	5.6	20
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.4a the majority of the respondents agree that more people have better housing structures. This is because of improved household income as a result of much income generating projects many families have upgraded their housing structure. They have built improved housing for themselves. The widows and orphans living in poor housing had their houses build for them by MVP. They now enjoy new life in semi permanent houses. The house was an important structure in human life and one of the basic human wants

### **The cases of hunger**

To attain objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if the cases of hunger has reduced. The responses from the respondents are presented in Table 4.3.4b

**Table 4.3.4b: If the cases of hunger have reduced**

Responses	frequency	percentages	Degrees
Strongly disagree	1	1.1	4
Disagree	2	2.2	8
Undecided	3	3.3	12
Agree	63	70	252
Strongly agree	21	23.3	84
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.4b the majority of the respondents agree that the cases of hunger had reduced in Sauri millennium village. The cases of hunger had reduced drastically due to subsidies provision of improved seed of high yielding crop varieties or hybrids, the necessary amount of mineral and organic fertilizers, and trained on best practices to eliminate hunger and generate crop surpluses. There was more robust and diversified agriculture using nitrogen fixing trees and cover crops, organic manure, crop rotation, soil conservation, livestock rearing, aquaculture, Small scale water management, improved crop storage and crop insurance. Food was a basic human want which life is dependent on it. There was an old saying that a healthy nation is a working nation. Healthy nation is dependent on food

### **Primary school enrollment**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if there is improved primary school enrollment. The responses from the respondents are presented in the pie chart in fig 4.2.2b.

### **Fig 4.2.2b: Primary school enrollments**

From the pie chart in fig 4.2.2b the majority of the respondents agree that the primary school enrollment have gone up. The increase in universal primary school enrollment was due to functioning primary schools with adequate buildings, teachers, materials, separate latrines for girls and boys, drinking water, and nutritious midday meals from locally produced food and the teacher's capacity building with joint advisory visits to schools with ministry of education. Primary education was the basic to human life. One of the millennium development goals was the attainment of universal primary education.

### **Literacy rate**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if literacy rate has increased. The responses from the respondents are presented in Table 4.3.4c.

**Table 4.3.4.c: If the literacy rate has increased**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage	Degrees
Strongly disagree	1	1.1	4
Disagree	6	6.7	24
Undecided	2	2.2	8
Agree	72	80	288
Strongly agree	9	10	36
total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.4c the majority of the people agree that the literacy rate had increased.

Literacy is the ability to read and write. In Sauri millennium village the literacy rate had gone up due to some factors like free and universal primary education programme sponsored by the government, the presence of subsidized secondary education, provision of bursary funds from constituency development funds and philanthropists. The bright students from poor back ground given post primary education school scholarship. All these efforts have increased the literacy level in Sauri millennium village

### **The level of school drop outs**

In order to achieve objective two the data collected were analyzed under question: if there is a decline in school drop outs. The responses from respondents are presented in the pie chart in fig 4.2.2c.

### **Fig 4.2.2c: The level of school drop outs**

From the pie chart in fig 4.2.2c the majority of the people strongly agree that there had been a decline in school drop outs. There had been tremendous decline in school dropouts due to government making universal free primary education mandatory. This had forced the parents to take their children to school or face arrest and prosecution. There had been public awareness to all parents to know the importance of their children having education.

### **Number of pupils completing school**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if number of students completing school is high. The responses from the respondents are presented in Table 4.3.4d.

**Table 4.3.4d: Number of pupils completing school**

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage	Degrees
Strongly disagree	1	1.1	4
Disagree	3	3.3	12
Undecided	2	2.2	8
Agree	8	8.9	32
Strongly agree	76	84.4	304
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.4d above the majority of the respondents strongly agree that that the number of pupils completing school was high. The number of pupils completing school had increased as a result of some factors like mandatory free universal primary education, the government scrapping Kenya certificate of primary education exam fee. The millennium village is offering post primary scholarships to bright students from the

humble background. The presence of these incentives motivates them to complete their primary education.

### **Reduction in child mortality**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if there is reduction in child mortality. The responses from respondents are presented in the pie chart in fig 4.2.2d.

#### **Fig 4.2.2d: If there is reduction in child mortality**

From the pie chart in fig 4.2.2d the majority of the respondents strongly agree that there had been reduction in child mortality. There had been reduction of child mortality because of the following reason: opening of community dispensaries at village level, ministry of health providing clinical officers, the funding of millennium village project funding two nurses and laboratory technicians and use of rapid short messaging service (SMS) over cell phones to maintain an electronic data base tracking children's immunization and general health records.

### **Girls' enrollment in school**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if there is increase in girl enrollment. The responses from respondents are presented in the graph in fig 4.2.2e.

#### **Fig 4.2.2e: Girls' enrollment in school**

From the graph in fig 4.2.2e the majority of the respondents strongly agree that there has been an increase in girl's enrollment in school. This upward trend in increase in the

number of girls in schools was attributed to the empowerment of the girl child through education, the attitude change by the parents of giving equal opportunities to children of both genders in the field of education, provision of midday lunch at school, distribution of sanitary towels and provision of post primary scholarships to bright girls from poor back ground.

### **Elective positions held by women**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if there is increase in elective position held by women. The responses from the respondents are presented in Table 4.3.4e.

**Table 4.3.4e: The elective positions held by women**

Responses	Frequency	Percentages	Degrees
Strongly disagree	0	0	0
Disagree	0	0	0
Undecided	3	3.3	12
Agree	16	17.8	64
Strongly agree	71	78.9	284
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.4e the majority of the respondents strongly agree that the elective positions held by women had increased. The elective positions held by women in Sauri millennium village had gone up extremely even surpassing that of Kenya's constitutional requirement for any public office of 30% minimum. There was 44% of women representation in all sector committees. The women were integrated in leadership and management of millennium village project

### **Employment ratio to the population**

To achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if there is low employment ratio to the population. The responses from the respondents are presented in the graph in fig 4.2.2f.

#### **Fig 4.2.2f: Employment ratio to the population**

From the graph in fig 4.2.2f the majority of the respondents strongly agree that the employment ratio to the population has gone down. There has been increase in employment ratio to the local population due to income generating activities which offer people direct self employment, or indirect employment. Many youths who were jobless are now working in their farms, cooperative societies and millennium village projects. These trends had increased the rate of employment to the local population. Employment was an important aspect of improving household income.

#### **Poverty gap ratio**

In order to achieve objective two the data collected was analyzed under question: if there is low poverty gap ratio. The responses from the respondents are presented in the graph in fig 4.2.2g

#### **Fig4.2.2g: Poverty gap ratio**

From the graph in fig 4.2.2g the majority of the respondents agree that the poverty gap ratio has reduced. The poverty gap ratio was the parity between rich and the poor people. The gap between the rich and the poor people had decreased. This was attributed to income diversification through bee keeping, fish farming, dairy farming, poultry farming, horticulture and formation of various cooperatives societies assisting farmers in

marketing respective products. The many adults had been trained on business management which has increased their capacity to initiate and run businesses. This had enabled them to increase their household income thus reducing the levels of poverty.

### **Maternal health**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: whether MVP influences the improvement of maternal health. The people of Sauri were asked to give their opinion whether MVP influence the improvement of maternal health. Their responses are summarized in the graph in fig 4.2.3a.

#### **Fig4.2.3a: Influence of MVP on improvement of maternal health**

From the graph in fig 4.2.3a the majority of the respondents were of the opinion that the millennium village project strongly influence the improvement of the maternal health. The improvement of maternal health in Sauri millennium village was as a result of functional clinics at village level, staffing by government. Community health workers provide basic clinical services for infectious disease, nutritional deficiencies, family planning services, maternal care and attended normal delivery.

### **Maternal mortality rate**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: Does millennium village influence reduction of maternal mortality rate. The responses from respondents are presented in the graph in fig 4.2.3b.



### **Fig4.2.3b: Influence of MVP on the reduction of the maternal mortality rate**

From the graph in fig 4.2.3b the majority of the respondents are of the view that the MVP had strongly influenced the reduction of maternal mortality rate. The maternal mortality rate had drastically reduced in the millennium village due to the following factors: expanded health systems, including further malaria control through indoor residual spraying particularly epidemic areas, family planning, micronutrient supplementation for vulnerable groups, treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. There was improvement in the nearby referral hospital in Kisumu due to introduction of emergency obstetrical care.

### **Access to maternal services**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: The rate which MVP influence better access to maternal services. The residents of Sauri were asked to rate the influence of MVP on better access to maternal service. Their responses are summarized in Table 4.3.5a.

**Table4.3.5a: Influence of MVP on better access to maternal service**

Responses	Frequency	Percentages	Degrees
Strongly influence	71	78.9	284
Fairly influence	16	17.8	64
Poorly influence	3	3.3	12
No influence	0	0	0
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.5a the majority of the respondents were for the view that the MVP has a strong influence on the better access to maternal services. There was better access to maternal service due to availability of functional clinics at village level, sub-County

hospital in Yala, County hospital in Siaya and referral hospital in Kisumu offering obstetrical care.

### **HIV/AIDS and malaria**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: Rate the influence of MVP on the control of HIV/ AIDS and malaria. Their responses are indicated in Table 4.3.5b.

**Table4.3.5b: The influence of MVP on the control of HIV/AIDS and malaria.**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage	Degrees
Strongly influence	31	34	124
Fairly influence	57	63.3	228
Poorly influence	2	8.2	8
No influence	-	-	-
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.5b the majority of the respondents reckons that MVP fairly influenced the control of HIV/AIDS and malaria. The majority of the respondents reckon that the MVP fairly influenced the control of HIV/AIDS and malaria. There was effective malaria control in that it was attributed to free distribution of long lasting insecticides impregnated nets for all sleeping sites, preceded by training and followed by monitoring of use combined with access to anti-malaria medicines. There have been efforts to control, treat and prevent HIV/AIDS and TB. The creation of public awareness through: education and training, seminars and road shows to sensitize people on AIDS prevention. The presence of AIDS support groups which made public awareness of the existence of AIDS and its associated effects.

### **Poverty reduction**

In order to achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: The extent which MVP influence poverty reduction. The residents of Sauri MV were asked to rate the influence of MVP on poverty reduction. Their responses are summarized in the graph in fig 4.2.3c.

#### **Fig 4.2.3c: Influence of MVP on poverty reduction**

From the graph in fig 4.2.3c the majority of the respondents are of the opinion that MVP strongly influenced poverty reduction. The cases of poverty in millennium village have reduced. This is attributed to increase in agricultural production. The diversification of agricultural activities, the adoption of appropriate technology in farming , starting of small scale enterprises, formation of cooperative societies which market farmers produce and provision of subsidized fertilizers. These activities have increased overall household income thus reducing the incidences of poverty. The crop diversification and linking farmers had helped farmers to escape poverty trap and achieve MDGs at village level.

#### **Gender equality and equity**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: the influence of MVP on bringing gender equality and equity. The people of Sauri millennium village were asked to rate the influence of MVP on bringing gender equality and equity. Their responses are summarized in the graph in fig 4.2.3d.

#### **Fig4.2.3d; Influence of MVP on gender equality and equity**

From the graph in fig 4.2.3d the majority of the respondents agreed that the MVP strongly influenced gender equality and equity. The achievement of the gender equality

and equity in Sauri millennium village was facilitated by the following factors. Through gender mainstreaming training for staff and stakeholders, capacity building for gender based violence and actively involving men, women, girls and boys in development activities. The MVP offered 44% of women representation in all sector committees.

### **Environmental conservation and protection**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: The rate the influence of MVP on environmental conservation and protection. The residents of Sauri were asked to rate the influence of MVP on environmental conservation. Their responses are summarized in the pie chart in fig 4.2.3e.

#### **Fig4.2.3e: Influence of MVP on the environmental conservation**

From the pie chart in fig 4.2.3e the majority of the respondents agreed that the MVP has strongly influenced the environmental conservation. The millennium village project had greatly influenced the environmental conservation. This had been done through increasing tree cover; use of soil conservation structures, agro biodiversity and carbon sequestration, protection of water springs buffer zones and enhancing private tree nurseries. This influence was sealed by the Sauri millennium village receiving a UN plant for the planet: billion tree campaign award 2010.

### **Health care system**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: the rate in which MVP influence the improvement of health care system. These responses are summarized in Table 4.3.5c.

**Table4.3.5c: The influence of MVP on improvement of health care system**

Responses	Frequency	Percentages	Degrees
Strongly influence	77	85.6	308
Fairly influences	10	11.1	40
Poorly influence	3	3.3	12
No influence	-	-	-
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.5c the majority of the respondents were for the opinion that MVP had strongly influenced the improvement of health care system. The millennium village had influenced the improvement of health care system through unique child count program with rapid diagnostic test by use of mobile telephony, the initiation of support groups for people for people infected or affected. The health workers in the millennium village project (MVP) delivers professional health care to households, providing critical basic care to families in remote rural communities who might not be able to visit a health facility. Bicycles helped them reach households in remote location faster.

#### **Accessibility to medication by HIV patients**

In order to achieve objective two data collected were analyzed under question: the magnitude in which MVP influence access to medication by HIV patients. Their responses were summarized in Table 4.3.5d.

**Table4.3.5d: The Influence of MVP on access to medication by HIV patients**

Responses	Influence	Percentage	Degrees
Strongly influence	15	16.7	60
Fairly influence	53	58.9	212
Poorly influence	21	23.3	84
No influence	1	1.1	4
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.5.d the majority of the respondents agree that MVP has fairly influenced the access to medication by HIV patients. The millennium village project had fairly

influenced the access to medication by HIV patients due to the following: the provision of voluntary counseling and testing services at local dispensaries. The HIV patients were provided with the anti-retroviral ARVs drugs from local dispensaries. They were offered treatment for the opportunistic diseases like tuberculosis and diarrhea. The millennium village project offered free CD4 cell count test freely by HIV patients and they can be further put into ARVs or drugs for opportunistic infections freely. The government offered alternative medication through public hospitals and dispensaries.

### **Deaths due to HIV**

To achieve objective two data collected were analyzed under question: the influence of millennium village on death reduction due to HIV. Residents of Sauri MV were asked to give their opinion on whether millennium village had influenced the reduction of deaths due to HIV. Their responses were summarized in Table 4.3.5e.

**Table4.3.5e: The influence of MVP on death reduction due to HIV**

Responses	Frequencies	Percentages	Degrees
Strongly influence	21	23.3	84
Fairly influence	56	62.2	224
Poorly influence	2	2.2	8
No influence	11	12.2	44
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.5e the majority of the respondents were for the view that MVP had fairly influenced death reduction due to HIV/AIDS. The millennium village project had influenced the reduction of deaths resulting from HIV/AIDS. This was because of the following reasons: the provision of free anti-retroviral drugs and CD4 cell testing. The voluntary counseling and testing services was offered free. The government provided the same services also in public health institutions.

### **Access to basic safe water and sanitation**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: rate the influence of millennium village project on improving people access to basic water and sanitation. The people of Sauri millennium village project were asked to give their views on the rate in which millennium village project influence the access to basic safe water and sanitation. Their responses are presented in the pie chart n fig 4.6.3f.

**Fig 4.2.3f: Influence of MVP on improved access to basic water and sanitation**

From the pie chart in fig 4.2.3f the majority of the respondents reckon that MVP had strongly influenced improved access to basic water and sanitation. This was attributed to the fact that water sources in Sauri ranges from springs, shallow wells and rain water harvesting (RWH).

The Yala River piped water supply system, is an extensive water system drawing water from Yala River; it was installed by the government in late 1970. Since then, it was rarely functioned properly or served much of the location. Water springs and roof catchment water tanks had been constructed in several locations within Sauri for provision of clean water within short distances. There was better access to sufficient clean water for domestic consumption, pit latrines at home and sanitary napkins for adolescent school girls.

**Access to affordable essential drugs**

In order to achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: the rate at which MVP influences the accessibility to affordable drugs. The results of the respondents from Sauri millennium village were asked to rate the influence of MVP on

improved access to affordable essential drugs. Their responses are summarized in the graph in fig 4.2.3g.

#### **Fig4.2.3g; Influence of MVP to access to affordable essential drugs**

From the graph in fig 4.2.3g the majority of the respondents agreed that MVP has strongly influenced improved access to affordable essential drugs. The millennium village project had strongly influenced the access to affordable essential drugs through: free provision of drugs facilitating maternal care and child immunization. In health centers there was availability of affordable drugs through cost sharing basis with the government. Some dispensaries receive grants from the government while some receive support from the Catholic Church making accessibility of essential drugs affordable.

#### **Increased access to mobile phones and internet**

In order to achieve objective two data was analyzed under question: the rate of influence of MVP on increased access to mobile phones and internets. The residents of Sauri were asked to rate the influence of MVP on increased access to mobile phones and internet. The responses are summarized in Table 4.3.5f.

**Table4.3.5f; Influence of MVP in increased access to mobile phones and internet**

Responses	Frequencies	Percentages	Degrees
Strongly influence	9	10	36
Fairly influence	5	5.6	20
Poorly influence	20	22.2	80
No influence	56	62	224
Total	90	10	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.5f the majority of the respondents agreed that MVP has no influence on the improved access to mobile phones and internet. The millennium village project



had no influence on access to mobile phones in the area. What MVP did was to install 26 primary schools with 265 computers and community resource center with 20 computers which only helped to increase the number of people who are computer literate. Those computers were not connected to the internet therefore no contribution to the internet access. The rapid revolution in mobile industry was cutting across the country due to government policy of tax reduction and liberalization of telecommunication industry which had opened entry to many private mobile phones companies like Orange, Safaricom, Airtel and YU mobile.

#### **Access to the family planning services**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: the rate of influence of MVP on access to family planning services. The people of Sauri were asked to rate the influence of MVP on increased access to family planning services. Their responses are summarized in the graph in the fig 4.2.3h.

#### **Fig4.2.3h; Influence of MVP on increased access to family planning services**

From the graph in fig 4.2.3h the respondents agreed that the MVP strongly influence the improved access to family planning services. The millennium village project has strongly influenced the access to the family planning services. This was through provision of sensitization on importance of family planning, the guiding and counseling of couples, provision of family planning service and family planning contraceptives.

### **Factors leading people to embrace millennium village project**

In order to achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: what are factors influencing people to embrace the millennium village. The residents of Sauri millennium village were asked to give their opinion on the factors influencing people to embrace millennium village project. Their responses are summarized in the graph in fig 4.2.3i.

#### **Fig 4.2.3i; Factors which led people embrace millennium village project**

From the graph in fig 4.2.3i the majority of the respondents were for the view that community involvement was the main factor that led people to embrace millennium village project. The millennium project used the principle of participation and empowerment of the community to make decision that affects their future and to have access to the resources that enable them to do so. The community empowerment was stressed through participation and leadership in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

### **How millennium village project has helped in facilitating development**

For the researcher to achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: how has MVP project helped in facilitating development. The residents of Sauri millennium village were asked to give their opinion on how MVP has helped in facilitating development. Their responses are summarized in Table 4.3.5g.

**Table4.3.5g: How millennium village project facilitated development**

Responses	Frequency	Percentages	Degrees
Training	21	23.3	84
Institution	24	26.7	96
Infrastructure	2	2.2	8

Poverty reduction	40	44.5	160
Food security	3	3.3	12
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.3.5g the majority of the respondents are of the opinion that millennium village project has helped facilitate development through poverty reduction. The millennium village project has helped to facilitate development through poverty reduction strategies such as transformation of rural subsistence farming economies into Small Scale Enterprise (SMEs), development economies and promote classified entrepreneurs. To promote sustainable, scalable community led progress toward the achievement of millennium development goals through the use of scientifically validated interventions- one village at a time.

#### **Benefits of millennium village in the region**

To achieve objective two data collected was analyzed under question: outline the benefits of millennium village project in the region. The residents of Sauri millennium village were asked to give their opinion on the benefits of millennium village project to the region. Their responses are summarized in the pie chart in fig 4.2.3j.

#### **Fig4.2.3j; The benefits of the millennium village to the region**

From the pie chart in fig 4.2.3j the majority of the respondents agreed that the major benefit from millennium village project was the improvement of household income. The millennium village project had tremendously benefited from the millennium village project. One major benefit from the MVP was the improvement of income through income diversification by bee keeping, fish farming, dairy farming, horticulture, poultry farming and formation of cooperative societies to assist in marketing various farm products. The other benefits from the project included construction of markets,

community resource center, infrastructure, institutions and job creation for the local community.

#### **4.5 The challenges faced by the millennium village in undertaking development.**

To achieve objective three data collected was analyzed under question: is there a relationship between millennium village and socioeconomic development. The residents of Sauri millennium village were asked if there was a relationship between millennium village and socioeconomic development. The findings are summarized in Table 4.4.1.

**Table4.4.1: The relationship between MV and socioeconomic development**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage	Degrees
Yes	78	86.7	312
No	3	3.3	12
Don't know	9	10	56
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.4.1 above the majority of the respondents agreed that there was a relationship between millennium village and the people's socioeconomic development. There was a close and direct relationship between millennium village and peoples socioeconomic development. This was due to fact that the achievements attained for the past years after the establishment of the project in 2004 was tangible and scalable i.e. improvement of health, education, agriculture, infrastructure and environmental conservation. The millennium village is explicitly linked to achievement of people's socioeconomic development and addresses an integrated scaled up of interactions covering food production, nutrition, health services, roads, energy, communication, water sanitation, enterprise, diversification and environmental management.

### **The extent to which millennium village has contributed to people's socioeconomic development**

In order to achieve objective three data collected was analyzed under question: indicate the extent to which the millennium village contributes to socioeconomic development. The people of Sauri were asked to scale the extent to which the millennium village has contributed to socioeconomic development. Their responses are summarized in the graph in fig 4.3.1.

#### **fig4.3.1: The extent to which MVP contributed to people's socioeconomic development**

From the graph in fig 4.3.1 the majority of the respondents were of the opinion that millennium village had contributed 100% to people's socioeconomic development. The millennium village project in a greater extent contributed to the socioeconomic well being of the people of Sauri through several aspects. There was a positive posting in several indicators used to measure health and education, infrastructure, agriculture and environmental conservation. The millennium village effort was explicitly linked to achievement of millennium development goals and addressed integrated and scaled up set of the intervention covering food production, nutrition, education, health services, roads, energy, communication, water and sanitation, enterprise diversification and environmental management. This had never been done before.

#### **Challenges facing millennium village while undertaking development**

To achieve objective three data collected was analyzed under question: what are challenges facing the millennium village in undertaking development. The residents of Sauri millennium village were asked to give their opinion on the challenges facing millennium village project in undertaking development. Their responses are summarized in Table 4.4.2.

**Table 4.4.2: Challenges facing MVP in undertaking development**

Responses	Frequencies	Percentages	Degrees
Inadequate funds	31	34.4	124
Lack of transparency	2	2.2	8
Corruption	7	7.8	28
Too much community expectation	45	50	180
Self interest	5	5.6	20
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.4.2 the majority of the respondents reckon that the main challenge that faced millennium village was too much community expectations. The community wants everything to happen overnight. They expect miracles. Under normal circumstances the change usually happens gradually. This was due to fact that at the launch of the project they were promised many things like electricity, good roads, clean water and improved agricultural production. All these projects had taken off although at a slow pace and are behind the schedule.

#### **4.6 Ways of enhancing millennium village to improve people's socioeconomic development**

To achieve objective four data collected was analyzed under question: what mechanism or ways do you think may be used by millennium village to enhance or facilitate people's socioeconomic development. The residents of Sauri millennium village were asked to

give their opinion on the mechanisms used by the millennium village to enhance people's socioeconomic development. Their responses are presented in the pie chart 4.4.1.

**Fig4.4.1: Appropriate ways to enhance MVP to improve people's socioeconomic development**

From the pie chart in fig 4.4.1 the majority of the respondents agreed that the appropriate ways of enhancing and strengthening MVP to improve people's socioeconomic development was through inclusion of all stakeholders. This can be achieved through partnering with public and private sector, innovative NGOs, universities and leading experts, and international donors community throughout Africa and the world to continually improve and coordinate development strategies. With the establishment of millennium village, the MVP works with partnership with the government of Kenya, local community, civil society organizations and private sector to achieve the eight millennium development goals at village scale. All stakeholders were involved in all activities so that every one will share the blame.

**Policies regarding the use of millennium village to enhance development**

To achieve objective four data collected was analyzed under question: suggest policies regarding the use of millennium village to enhance development. The residents of Sauri

were asked to suggest the policies how millennium village can be used to enhance development. Their responses are summarized in Table 4.5.1.

**Table4.5.1: policies regarding how MV can be used to enhance development,**

Responses	Frequencies	Percentages	Degrees
Transparency	11	12.2	44
Adequate funds	17	18.9	68
Partnering with other organizations	38	42.2	152
Smart objectives	7	3.3	12
Capacity building	7	7.8	28
Appropriate technology	14	15.6	56
Total	90	100	360

Source: Field survey, 2014

From the table 4.5.1 the respondents agree that the best recommendation to be given to MVP for adoption to enhance people's socioeconomic development was through partnering with other organizations: public and private sector, innovative NGOs, international donor community and leading experts to attain development objectives. Other recommended policies included appropriate technology, capacity building, adequate funding, transparency and smart objectives

#### **4.7 Analysis of the interview schedule**

This section presents feedback obtained from interview schedule that were organized for the project manager of Sauri millennium village.

##### **4.7.1a Strategies used by millennium village to facilitate development**

The researcher wanted to establish the methods used by the millennium village to propagate development in Sauri. The reasons given were: the principle of community participation, leadership and cost sharing, appropriate science based innovation and local



knowledge, accosted national action plan for the time bound and targeted objectives of the millennium development goals.

#### **4.7.1b Effectiveness of millennium village in poverty reduction**

The researcher wanted to determine the effectiveness of millennium village in poverty reduction. The reasons given were: basing on assessment done in 2012 there were indications that reduction in poverty, food insecurity and malaria

#### **4.7.2a The effects of millennium village on people's socioeconomic development**

The researcher wanted to know the effects of MVP on people's socioeconomic developments. The reasons given were: the millennium village projects had achieved notable success in raising agricultural production, reducing child stunting and cutting child mortality rates, malaria is now under control successful antipoverty projects and higher primary and secondary school enrollments. The success of MDGs were also reflected in the willingness of the international community in the form of United Nations members' state- to establish a new set of goals in the same spirit as the MDGs. The sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which will have a 15 year period and will try to help the more than one billion who continue to live in extreme poverty.

#### **4.7.2b Ways in which millennium village act as catalyst for development**

The researcher wanted to know ways in which MV propagated development and the results were as follow: initiation of antipoverty projects, development of infrastructure, provision of subsidized farm inputs, and support by increased scale of financing by both local and international partners

#### **4.7.2c Promotion of gender equality**

The researcher wanted to find the extent in which millennium village has promoted gender equality. The results were as follows: gender mainstreaming for staff and stakeholders, having 44% of women representation in sector committees, capacity building on gender based violence, economic empowerment for girls out of school

#### **4.7.2d Reduction of spread of malaria and HIV/AIDS**

The researcher wanted to establish the extent to which millennium village project had helped in reduction of HIV/AIDS and malaria and the results was as follows: initiation of support groups with people living with AIDS, public awareness on prevention of AIDS, provision of contraceptives in local dispensaries and health centers. The containment of the spread of malaria and HIV/AIDS is an imperative since it touched on human life.

#### **4.7.2e Environmental protection and conservation**

The researcher wanted to determine ways in which environmental protection was enhanced. The result where as follows: protection of water springs buffer zones, primary school pupils involved in planting tree seedlings, encouraging people to own private tree nurseries, building of structures to control soil erosion i.e. terraces, trench lines and grass strips. The success of the environmental conservation depends on the methods adopted.

#### **4.7.2f Improvement of food security**

The researcher wanted to know how millennium village did to improve food security situation in Sauri. The results were as follow: the use of certified seeds, growing of nitrogen fixing plants to improve soil fertility, bee keeping, fish rearing, introduction of

artificial insemination services, construction of green houses, poultry upgrading programs, use of improved fertilizers and upgrading of local goats with pedigree dairy bucks. To achieve MDG goal number one, the people should be self sufficient with food production.

#### **4.7.2g Problems facing millennium village while undertaking development**

The researcher wanted to know the kind of challenges encountered by millennium village project. The results were as follows: inadequate funding, too much community expectation, personal self interest, corruption and lack of transparency. In any development project usually there is short comings which hinders the progress.

#### **4.7.3 Appropriate ways to enhance millennium village in order to improve people's socio-economic development**

The researcher wanted to determine the methods adopted to strengthen the capacity of the millennium village. The results were as follow: adequate funding, partnering with other organizations, use of appropriate technology and the community involvement In order to strengthen the capacity of millennium village to bring an ideal development to the people it need appropriate mechanisms.

#### **4.7.4 Partners working with the millennium village project**

The researcher wanted to establish the partners involved in the development of the millennium village project. The results were as follows: the organizations partnering with MVP are United Nation Development Program (UNDP), United Nation International Children Fund (UNICEF), United Nations (UN), World Health Organization(WHO), International Center for Research and Agroforestry (ICRAF), Yara East Africa, Kenya

Medical Research Institute KEMRI, Catholic Church, Earth Institute of Colombia University and Ministry of Agriculture, ministry of energy, ministry of education ministry of environment and ministry of health. The success of the millennium village depends on many partners.

#### **4.8 Document analysis**

This section presents information obtained from private or public secondary recorded information related to the issue under investigation.

##### **4.8.1 Objective one: Strategies used by millennium village to enhance development**

The researcher collected data containing information related to the first objective.

Science and evidence based implementation technologies and practice that have already been proven. Community based with participatory approach to planning, implementation and monitoring that contextualizes the specific set of intervention for each village. The enhanced by local capacity development in technical, managerial and participatory skills. The strategy was based on multispectral and integrated interventions, geared towards gender equality and environmental sustainability. The strategy is also linked to district, county, and national and global strategies. There was a sense of partnership with other development groups in order to achieve the intended objectives. The methods of funding was through cost sharing by the community, government and donors and supported by increased national scale financing of public goods in line with increased official development assistance(ODA) made available to African governments.

#### **4.8.2 Objective two: to assess the effects of millennium village on people socioeconomic development**

The researcher collected data containing information related with the second objective.

The positive experience and lessons learned in Sauri are helping to catalyze support from the Kenyan national government which has taken the initiative to expand the project to the district level. Nine millennium districts including the Gem district where Sauri is located, have been identified by the government as a priority location for scaling up the project. The translating success seen in Sauri millennium village to the district level was a critical step being taken by the Kenyan government and was critical to the national effort for meeting the millennium development goals and lifting millions of Kenyans out of extreme poverty. The intervention highlights in Sauri millennium village include:

##### **4.8.2a Agriculture**

Since the introduction of millennium village project the maize yields have tripled up to 5tons /ha with improved fertilizers and use of certified seeds, 200 farmers planting nitrogen fixing plants for soil fertility improvement, 223 fish farmers having 435 fish ponds producing 1.2 tons fish pond, 750 farmers practice irrigation for horticultural crop production with over 40 greenhouses established. Artificial insemination service introduced 250 cross breeds realized, 3000 farmers are on poultry upgrading program and 120 farmers upgrading local goats with pedigree dairy bucks, 900 farmers were trained in improved agricultural techniques 760 tons of fertilizers and 72.6 tons of improved maize

seeds distributed to farmers in March before rainy season, 3.6 tons of fallow seed distributed to farmers to enrich fields. Estimated average yield was 6 tons per hectare (estimated 400% increase over previous yield).

#### **4.8.2b Enterprise development**

There are 7 cooperative societies formed and registered i.e. Gem poultry farmers cooperative society, new Yala dairy farmers cooperative society, Gem honey producers C.S, Indigent C.S, Gem fish F.C.S, Kilimo Ni Uahi F.C.S, and Gem horticulture F.C.S. There is also the establishment of market service center for bulking produce for sale on the other hand 1500 community members linked to financial services providers such as Equity, Rabuor Sinaga Community Funds. The 48% of adults trained on business management over the last five years. There was creation of market linkages for local poultry in Busia, horticulture in Siaya and Bondo, dried chilies with mace food and yoghurt in Siaya and Luanda supermarkets. There are 800 farmers on enterprise diversification scale up.

#### **4.8.2c Education**

There is an increased enrollment and improved quality of education in the millennium village. The plans in place to launch a school feeding program that will reach approximate 15000 primary school pupils beginning 2007. Maize for school lunches feeding programs as part of an agreement receive subsidized seeds and fertilizers. Based on the experience, school feeding program should contribute to improved school enrollment and attendance because parents are given incentives by the guarantee that the children will have at least one hot meal day.

2100 pupils in 33 primary schools have hot lunch in schools while 69 bright students received post primary education scholarship. There have been 55 class rooms constructed in 28 schools. 2354 girls receive disposable sanitary towels every month which has led to increase in school attendance to 98%. The teacher's capacity building joint advisory visits to schools with the ministry of education officers.

#### **4.8.2d Health**

Increase of access to basic medical service the following has been done: two clinical staff members had been hired and trained, three community health workers have been hired and trained, and two health clinics are being planned for constructions. There are four clinics which have been re-stocked with equipment to be fully operational or necessary equipments has been ordered.

In addition Yala sub-district hospital has benefited a great deal from the millennium village program with an influx of resources, which are also supported by the Kenyan ministry of health. In addition to a doctor, there are now seven new staff, two clinical officers, two laboratory technologist and three nurses. A new 32 bed ward, operating theater and incubators were also constructed and have served to greatly enhance hospital facilities. There is an increase in the rate of child immunization and HIV testing, and that more births now takes place at the clinic rather than in homes.

There was a decrease malaria incidence through intervention, training and treatment. 32000 long lasting insecticides treated bed nets were distributed in august 2006. 17 community health workers have been trained in bed net usage. 10,000 community members have been trained in bed net usage.

There have been establishment of 10 health facilities for curative services and a referral hospital, the 60 health staff and 108 community health workers. The procurement of three ambulances used for referral cases. There are over 50,000 bed nets distributed to sleeping sites. 11 persons living with HIV/AIDS support groups exist for person infected and affected. There was introduction of unique child count program with rapid diagnostic test by use of mobile telephony.

#### **4.8.2e Infrastructure**

Ten bore holes were either drilled or rehabilitated and equipped thus supply water to 93 households. Rain water harvesting (RWH) installed in 36 schools and 9 health facilities with 455 ventilated improved pit latrines cubicles constructed. To improve computer literacy 265 computers installed in 26 primary schools and the electrification in 25 institutions and 60 households. The teachers from 33 schools were trained on computer packages. Towards road improvement the feeder roads rehabilitated and culverts installed with 100% access to institutions.

#### **4.8.2f Water**

There is increase to safe water sources. The community members are currently working with cluster staff to MVP existing water points to begin to implement community action plan to increase access to safe water.

Water springs and roof catchment water tanks have been constructed in several locations within Sauri for provision of clean water within short distance.

Water sources range from springs (protected and unprotected), shallow wells, piped water and rain water harvesting. Springs are not easily accessible to the majority residents with



an average of 300m to the water source. Some springs are surrounded by very steep slopes, which makes accessing them a difficult task. Many households/homesteads have informal rain water harvesting (RWH) systems with metal roof and gutters discharging into bucket or a metal drum. However approximately 20% households have only grass thatched roofs, which did not allow for RWH.

The Yala river piped water supply, an expensive water system drawing water from the Yala River was installed by the government in the late 1970s. Since then, it has rarely functioned properly or served much of the sub-location. Recently the government repaired one turbine and installed a new one at the water pumping station.

#### **4.8.2g Environment**

Concerning environmental conservation, two million tree seedlings have been planted for the past five years. The 270 water spring buffer zone protected. 31 primary schools participated in tree seedling planting exercises. 98 individuals have been encouraged to own private tree nurseries. The 2km terrace, grass strip and trash line constructed. The MVP received UN plant for the planet: billion tree campaign a ward in 2010.

#### **4.8.2h Gender empowerment**

Gender mainstreaming for staff and stake holders and offering 44% women representation in sector committees. There has been enhancement of capacity building on gender based violence, economic empowerment for girls out of school like the Tumaini ladies group member build the capacity in business. There has been girl's empowerment and boys club in schools and active involvement of men and women in development activities e.g. table banking among Amkeni women group.

### **4.8.3 Challenges faced by millennium villages**

The aid dependency–trap; the success in reducing aid dependency is easier to imagine where the independent revenue streams, can be created as with higher agricultural yields and diversification in farming. For example fertilizer were donated by manufacturer, it is not given free. Instead it is provided as loan that farmers payback at the harvest time. The relationship becomes commercial one, less likely to foster dependency than handouts. The use of artificial fertilizers, hybrid seeds, genetically modified seeds leads to dependence of the farmers on expensive products being marketed by large industrial companies.

Sustainability is a challenge; most projects in Sauri is funded by foreign money thus the challenge is that when handing over takes place ,the question is will these projects continue to run and be self reliant on their own.

Political interference; the millennium villages are vulnerable to inflows of people from surrounding areas and might generate resentment in the surrounding community. They are vulnerable to political upheaval and therefore it should be better cushioned with national scale intervention.

## **CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.1a Overview**

This chapter entails discussion of results about interpretation of the findings in the context of previous research and implication of the findings. The most important task of researcher was to identify and interpret major findings. The study investigated the effects of millennium village on people's socioeconomic development using a case of Sauri millennium village. The study sought to identify strategies used by millennium village to enhance development, to assess the effects of millennium village on people's socioeconomic development, to establish challenges faced by millennium village in propagating people socioeconomic development and to explore ways of enhancing millennium village to improve people socioeconomic development. The research questions of the study were: what are various development strategies used by millennium village, what are the contributions of millennium village on peoples socioeconomic development, what are the challenges facing millennium village in facilitating socioeconomic development, and how can millennium village be strengthened in order to deliver peoples socioeconomic development.

### **5.1b Discussion of results**

#### **5.2 Bio-data information of the respondents.**

The study established that the majority of the respondents fall in the age bracket of 18-30 years. This indicates that the majority of the people in Sauri millennium village are the youths.

Concerning gender the study established that the majority of the people in Sauri millennium village are of male gender, but on the other hand the sex gap between the male and the female counterparts is small with the ratio of 1:1.4

The study findings showed that most people are single in Sauri millennium village. This was due to the shift in focus by youths who first concentrate on career and education first at expense of marriage. The tough economic times have forced many youths to postpone marriage and concentrate on empowering themselves economically.

The findings indicated that the majority of the people in Sauri millennium village are certificate holders. These are the people who have finished secondary schools while others have attended village youth polytechnics and other tertiary middle level colleges which offer certificate courses. There are few people with diplomas and degrees due to lack of finance to pursue higher education, lack of guidance on career choices and presence of few tertiary institutions in the region which can absorb the students from local community.

From the findings it was established that most people have work experience of 2-4 years. These are people working in millennium village project or being self employed in their own farms.

Concerning the respondent position the study indicated that majority of the people in Sauri millennium village are self employed either in agriculture, enterprise development or informal sector. The largest proportion of people in Sauri millennium village are working in agriculture sector just like the other parts of the country where vast majority of the people are self employed or employed in agriculture either directly or indirectly.

### **5.3 Strategies used by millennium village to enhance development.**

The first objective was to identify strategies used by millennium village to enhance development. Data analysis and interpretation of interviews, document analysis, questionnaires from the respondents from Sauri millennium village revealed several strategies used by millennium project. These strategies included community involvement, visionary leadership, use of appropriate technologies, training and education, funding, provision of farm inputs, initiation of self help groups and partnering in development activities.

The MVPs anchored in the three interlinked components: the principle of community participation, leadership and cost sharing. The appropriate science innovations and local knowledge and accosted to national action plan for the time bound and targeted objectives of the millennium development goals which is achieved through education and training.

One of the main principles of the MVP is to work with the existing institutions, research and extension where they have been shown to be effective and work in equitable distribution manner.

The local capacity building and the community ownership, with the necessary links to the effective local institution, district and national level policies required to reach MDGs.

The MVP learns about existing projects and stakeholders on the ground: learns what has and has not worked in the past and present and develop partnership with existing groups that overlaps and complement MVP training and sector approach for meeting the MDGs.

There was an aspect of gender mainstreaming in training for staff and stakeholders. There was 44 percent of women representation in sector committee which was much more than

Kenya's constitutional requirements of at least 30 percent in any representation by either gender. There was an active involvement of women, boys, girls and men in development activities.

The strategies used by millennium village were tailor made in that millennium village project was a community driven project. The project emphasizes the principle of participation and empowerment of the community to make decisions that affect their own future and to have access to the resources that enable them to do so. Community empowerment was stressed through participation and leadership in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The best strategies used by the millennium village project was training which was aimed at attaining capacity building and community empowerment.

#### **5.4 To assess the effects of millennium village on peoples socioeconomic development.**

Based on the findings from the field the second objective was to assess the effect of millennium village on people socioeconomic development.

Based on the findings from the field the effects of millennium village on people's socioeconomic development include: the improvement of the quality of life for many people in Sauri millennium village and its overwhelming success has inspired similar efforts in the country. There were lesser people living in less than a dollar a day because of successful antipoverty projects and organizations like cooperative societies, market service center for bulk produce for sale and enterprise diversification. These activities has increased wealth creation and improved household income.

Because of improved household income due to many income generating projects many families have upgraded their housing structures to semi-permanent. The widows and orphans living poor housing had their houses built for them by millennium village project.

The cases of hunger has reduced drastically due to subsidized provision of improved seeds of high yielding varieties, the necessary amount of minerals and organic fertilizers, and training of the best organic practices to eliminate hunger and produce surplus. There was a robust and diversified agriculture using nitrogen fixing trees and cover crops, organic manures, crop rotation, soil conservation practices, livestock, aquaculture, small scale water management, improved crop storage and crop insurance.

There was increase in universal primary school enrollments due to functioning primary schools with adequate buildings, teachers, materials, drinking water and nutritious midday meals from locally produced foods. The literacy rate has gone up due to the free and universal primary education and subsidized secondary education by the government, provision of bursary from constituency development funds and philanthropist. The bright students from poor background are given post primary school scholarships.

There has been reduction in child mortality because of the following reasons: the opening of the community dispensaries at village level, ministry of health providing two nurses and laboratory technicians and the community providing health workers. The community health workers are using rapid short message service SMS over cell phones to maintain an electronic data base tracking children immunization and general health records.

The elective positions held by women in Sauri millennium village have gone extremely up surpassing that of Kenya's constitutional requirement for any public office a minimum

of a third or 30 % of either gender. The millennium village project offer 44% of women representation in sector committees. There was also integration of women in leadership and management of millennium village project.

There was increased employment ratio in relation to the local population due to increase in income generating activities which offer people direct self employment, direct or indirect employed in agricultural sector. Many youths were jobless before but now they are working in their farms, cooperative societies, operating their business or employed in millennium village project.

The gap between the rich and the poor has decreased. This was attributed to increased diversification through bee keeping, fish farming, dairy farming, poultry farming, horticulture and formation of various cooperative societies assisting farmers in marketing their respective products.

The state of maternal health in Sauri millennium village has improved as a result of functional clinics at village level, expanded health care system, staffed by the government. Community health workers provide basic clinical services for infectious diseases, nutritional deficiencies, antenatal care, family planning services and attended normal delivery.

The malaria incidences have been effectively controlled. This was attributed to free distribution of long lasting insecticide impregnated nets for all sleeping sites, preceded by training and followed monitoring of use combined with access to anti malaria medicines.

On the other hand there have been rigorous efforts to control, treat and prevent HIV AIDS and TB. There was use of public awareness campaign through training, seminars and road shows to create awareness on AIDS prevention. There was presence of AIDS



support groups which were actively involved in public awareness on reality and existence of AIDS.

There was better access to maternal services due to availability of functional clinics at village levels, sub-district hospital in Yala Township, district hospital in Siaya and referral hospital in Kisumu.

The cases of poverty in the millennium village have reduced. This was attributed to increase in agricultural production, the diversification of agricultural activities, adoption of appropriate technology, starting small scale business enterprises, formation of cooperative societies which market farmers produce. There was provision of subsidized fertilizers. These activities has increased overall household income thus reducing the incidences of poverty trap and achieve MDG goal at village level.

The aspect of gender equality and equity has been achieved in MV. It was facilitated by the following factors: through gender mainstreaming training for staff and stakeholders, capacity building for gender based violence and actively involving men, women, boys and girls in development activities and giving women 44% representation in all sectors.

The millennium village project has greatly influenced the environmental conservation. This has been done through the increased tree cover, soil conservation structures, agro biodiversity and carbon sequestration, protection of water springs buffer zones and encouraging of private tree nurseries.

The millennium village has influenced the improvement of health care system through offering unique child count program with diagnostic test by use of mobile telephony, initiation of support groups for people infected or affected. The health workers in the millennium village project delivers professional health care to household by providing

critical basic care to families in remote rural areas communities who might not be able to visit a health facility. Bicycles help them reach house holds in remote location faster

The millennium village project has greatly influence access to medication by HIV patients due to the following: there was provision of voluntary counseling and testing service at local dispensaries. The HIV patients were provided with the antiretroviral drugs from local dispensaries. They were offered treatment for opportunistic diseases like tuberculosis and diarrhea. The millennium village project offered free CD4 cell count test freely by HIV patients and they can be further put into ARVs or drugs for opportunistic infection freely.

There have been reduction in deaths resulting from HIV /AIDS .this was because of the following reasons: provision of free antiretroviral drugs and CD4 cell testing. The voluntary counseling and testing service was offered free.

There was good access to affordable essential drugs through the following ways: the free provision of drugs facilitating maternal care and child immunization. In health centers there was availability of affordable drugs through cost sharing basis with the government. Some dispensaries received grants from government while some received support from the Catholic Church making accessibility of essential drugs affordable.

The presence of MVP had no influence on increased access to mobile phones and internet. What MVP did was to install 265 computers in 26 primary schools and 20 computers in community resource center which only helped to increase the number of people who were computer literate. Those computers were not connected to internet therefore did not contribute to internet access. The rapid revolution in mobile industry cuts across the country due to government policy of liberalization of mobile phone

industry and tax reduction on the sector had opened entry to many private mobile phone companies like orange, Safaricom, Equitel, YU mobile and Airtel.

Millennium village has aided in creating access to family planning services. This was through provision of sensitization on importance of family planning. The guiding and counseling services to couples, provision of family planning services and family planning contraceptives.

The main factor that has led people embracing millennium village project was the community involvement. The millennium project uses the principle of participation and empowerment of the community to make decision that affects their own future and to have access to the resources that enable them to do so. Community empowerment has been stressed through participation and leadership in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Millennium village project as hoped to facilitate development through poverty reduction strategies such as transformation of rural subsistence farming economies into small scale enterprise development economies and promote diversified entrepreneurs. To promote sustainable, scalable community led progress towards achievement of the millennium development goals through the use of scientifically validated interventions-one village at a time.

The millennium village has tremendously benefited from the millennium village project; one major benefit was the improvement of household income through diversification involving bee keeping, dairy farming, horticulture, poultry farming and formation of cooperatives society to assist in marketing various farm products.

### **5.5 To establish challenges faced by millennium village in undertaking development**

The major challenge facing the millennium village was too much community expectations. The community wanted everything to happen overnight. They expect miracles and therefore they don't understand that under normal situations things happens gradually. This was due to the fact that during the launch of the millennium village project the community were promised many thing like electricity, good roads, clean water, improved agricultural production, hospitals, schools, clean water supply and greater environmental conservation. All these projects have taken off although at slower pace. The other problems facing the millennium village project include inadequate funding, lack of transparency, personal self interest, government bureaucracies, and corruption.

### **5.6 To explore ways of enhancing millennium village to improve people's socioeconomic development**

The best way of strengthening millennium village to improve people's socioeconomic development was through inclusion of all stakeholders. This was achieved through partnering with public and private sector, innovation, NGOs, universities, leading experts and international donor community throughout Africa and the world to continually improve and coordinate development strategies with the establishment of millennium village, millennium village project work with the government of Kenya, local community, civil society organization and private sector to achieve the eight millennium development goals at village scale. All stakeholders were involved in all activities so that everyone can share the blame. The enhancement of visionary leadership through capacity

building which is a major emphasis during planning and implementation in order to achieve long term village level sustainability in development

## **5.7 Conclusion**

This study investigated the effects of millennium development initiatives on people's socioeconomic development using a case of Sauri millennium village. It was intended to establish the nature of relationship between millennium development initiative and peoples socioeconomic development.

Based on their findings the researcher concluded that the development strategies used by millennium village include: community involvement in leadership, participation and cost sharing, use of appropriate science based technology and local knowledge, the use of self help groups, Sacco's, capacity building through training and education, adequate funding, provision of farm inputs and subsidies, gender mainstreaming, use of scientifically validated interventions and partnering with private sector, county and national governments, local and international development agencies.

The effects of millennium development initiative on economic development of the people include poverty reduction due to diversification of income through venturing in agriculture, small business enterprises, self help groups, table banking and formation of cooperatives which market members produce. There has been reduction in case of hunger as a result of surplus crop production due to use of improved agricultural techniques.

There has been increased enrollment of pupils in primary schools, clean drinking water and midday meals in primary school, which was attributed to presence of adequate

buildings, teachers, materials, latrines, drinking water and midday meals. The quality of education was exhibited in improvement of performance of schools within Sauri millennium village due to adequate teachers.

There has been reduction in child mortality as a result of intervention by the millennium village project. This was achieved through building of more clinics, reduction of mother-to-child transmission of AIDS; use of telemedicine technology to improve child health care in remote clinics and effective child immunization.

Aspect of gender equality has improved tremendously as a result of gender mainstreaming, more women representation, economic empowerment of girls out of schools, girl empowerment in schools and active involvement of men, women, boys and girls in all development activities.

Maternal health has scaled up in the millennium village. This was attributed to expanded health care system, provision of bed nets, provision of ambulances for referral cases, more health facilities, treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS and TB, micronutrients, family planning, normal delivery and antenatal care.

The prevalence of HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB has been contained in the millennium village project which includes: public awareness on effects of HIV/AIDS, distribution of bed nets, free diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis, provision of anti-retroviral drugs and formation of support groups for people infected or affected with AIDS.

Environment sustainability was vital for development to be realized. This was achieved through increasing tree cover, soil water conservation, agro biodiversity and protection of water catchment.

The success of millennium village project with their undertaking lies with partnering with other development partners. These include local communities, non-governmental organization, research institution, private sector, national and international development partners.

The challenges facing millennium village while undertaking their development project includes: inadequate funding, too much community expectations, personal self interest, lack of transparency, government bureaucracy and corruption.

The way forward to enhance and strengthen millennium village project to improve peoples socioeconomic life entails: provision of adequate funding, timely monitoring and evaluation, transparency, inclusion of all stakeholders, capacity building, having smart objectives, partnering with local and international development partners and accountability.

## **5.8 Recommendations**

Recommendations are advice offered by the researcher. This research creates an avenue for further research. The researcher established the relationship between millennium development initiative and peoples socioeconomic development. It was on this context that researcher offers the following recommendations. The study found out that there was need to explore the nature of relationship between millennium development initiative and peoples socioeconomic development using a case of Sauri millennium village. The study has also shown that the strategies used by the millennium village project include community involvement, use of appropriate technology, adequate funding, use of agricultural subsidies, partnering with other development agencies, capacity building and gender mainstreaming. The effects of millennium development initiative on people's

socioeconomic life include reduction of acute poverty and hunger, improved primary school enrollment, reduction of child mortality, improvement in maternal health, promotion of gender equality, reduction of spread of malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, protection and conservation of environment and partnership with other development partners. The challenges facing millennium village project while undertaking the development project included: inadequate funds, too much community expectations, personal self interest, corruption, government bureaucracy and lack of transparency. The ways of enhancing millennium village to improve people's socioeconomic development include: adequate funding, use of scientific validated intervention, use of appropriate technology, transparency and inclusion of all stakeholders.

It is against this back ground that the recommendations below are made. Despite limitations this study should establish the effects of millennium development initiatives on people's socioeconomic development. Basing on these findings of this study, the researcher recommends that:

The national and county government should improve the maintenance of rural roads to enhance faster delivery of goods to market especially the perishable commodities. The central government on the other hand must ensure that all tarmac roads across the country should be properly maintained to stimulate socioeconomic development of the people. This will minimize farm losses especially perishable products. The improved roads will facilitates faster accessibility to all regions within the millennium village. MVP advocated for good roads in Siaya.



The international donor community should fulfill their commitment to provide sufficient funds to support the development of poor countries especially in sub-Saharan Africa. The great Eight industrialized countries should honor their promise they made at the G8 summit in Gleneagles Scotland 2004 to fund development in developing countries through New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD). MVP is being funded by donor community.

The millennium village project should adopt science based and evidence based appropriate technology to enhance agricultural production in order to attain self sufficiency in food production and surpluses for sale. This is achieved through use of new high yielding hybrids seeds, fertilizers, genetically modified organisms (GMO), use of green houses, and fish ponds.

The development agencies, national and county government should partner with other organization in order to achieve their development plans. This includes institutions, public sector, international donor community and local development agents. There must be active involvement of private sector in propagating socioeconomic development of the people. The role played by private sector is small at the moment. Private sector can offer corporate social responsibility that is giving back to the society through building of schools, hospitals or water systems. Integrating private sector will boost the millennium village project in their achievement of their eight millennium development goals

The government should play a leading role in provision of subsidies to make the cost of agriculture to come down. This will lead to surplus production and in turn more income to the farmer. The importation of agricultural tools, implements and machinery should

have zero rated duty to facilitate mechanization of farming. This will generate wealth to households.

The government should set aside more money in its budgetary allocation to power generation and expand rural electrification program in order to make more people in rural areas access power. This will enable them utilize power to enhance their agricultural production, enterprise development and informal sector economy. The availability of electricity will enhance farm mechanization, preserving farm products, lighting, and enterprise development. Most schools had computers donated too them by MVP but they lacked power as a result of no electricity connections.

The county and national government should develop capacity building before embarking on any development endeavor. This is because the success of Sauri millennium village is anchored in capacity building. The capacity building will enhance people with the ability to manage the projects. MVP undertook massive training to develop people's capacity to run the projects

The development agencies, county and national government should practice the virtue of transparency in all their development undertakings by making their data public. The issue of transparency was a challenge to development progress as elicited by people of Sauri millennium village; some people were not aware of many activities undertaken by MVP. The virtue of transparency will enable people have access to information about MVP concerning: their objectives, vision and relationship with the local people.

The development blueprint for development agencies, county and national government should have a SMART objective which is Specific Measurable Attainable Realistic and

Time bound. The millennium village eight goals were smart objectives. MVP had achieved most of these goals at village level.

The national and county government development plans should be synchronized with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which is the new set of global goals in the same spirit as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This will ensure that the eight millennium development goals is attained across the country in the next fifteen years which ends at the same time as the Kenya's national development blueprint the vision 2030.

Moi University School of Human Resource Development studies should be given a special role to play in millennium village rather than relying only on Earth Institute of Columbia University for knowledge and technical know how. This is because Moi University has enormous untapped human resource and capacity which can contribute knowledge, innovations, skills, appropriate technology and best development practices to the millennium village projects. Moi university satellite campus (Odera-Akango) in Yala is strategically placed hence it can be used to offer these contributions since it is located in the same county with millennium village projects.

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## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX I-QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is to collect data for purely academic purposes. The study seeks to assess millennium development initiatives on people's socio-economic development in Kenya: a case of Sauri millennium village in Siaya County in Kenya. All information will be treated strict confidence. Do not put any name or identification to this questionnaire.

*Answer all questions as indicated by either filling in the bank spaces or ticking the option that applies.*

3. Marital status? Married  single  separated  widowed
4. Highest level of education and training attained?  
Certificate  diploma  bachelors degree  post-graduate degree
5. How long have you worked in you current station -years--
6. What is your position-----?

### SECTION B: STRATEEGIES USED BY MILLENIUM VILLAGES TO ENHANCE DEVELOPMENT

7. How can you rate people's socio-economic development before the introduction of millennium villages?

Very high  high  low  very low

8. What are the strategies used by millennium villages to enhance development

.....

.....

.....

9. The following statement relates to strategies used by millennium village to propagate development: please circle the number that agrees with the situation in the millennium village.

	statement	Strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	Strongly agree
A	Strategies used by millennium village are effective	1	2	3	4	5
B	The strategies has positive effect on development	1	2	3	4	5

C	There is gender mainstreaming in strategies adopted	1	2	3	4	5
D	The strategies are customized and tailor made	1	2	3	4	5
E	Strategies used are outdated	1	2	3	4	5

### SECTION C: THE EFFECTS OF MILLENIUM VILLAGE ON PEOPLES SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

10. How do you rate the contribution of millennium village to people's socio-economic development?

Very positive [ ] positive [ ] undecided [ ] negative [ ] very negative [ ]

11 Show the extent to which millennium villages has facilitated development

100% [ ] 50 % [ ] 25% [ ] ≤25% { }

12. Give the best strategies used by millennium village to facilitate development starting with the most important

(i)

ii)

iii)

13. How positive are you that the millennium village has hastened development process

Very positive [ ] positive [ ] undecided [ ] negative [ ] very negative [ ]

14. Please circle a number from 1 to 5 which best describes your view on the effect of millennium village on peoples socio-economic development.

	statement	Strongly agree	disagree	undecided	agree	Strongly agree
A	Less people live on less than 2dollars a day					
B	There is better housing					
C	Cases of hunger has reduced					
D	Improved primary school enrollment					
E	Literacy rate has increased					
F	There is a decline in school drop outs					
G	Number of pupils completing school is high					
H	There is reduction in child mortality					
I	Increase in girls enrollment in school					
J	There is increase in elective					

	positions held by women.					
k	There is low employment ratio to the population					
l	There is low poverty gap ratio					

15. Kindly rate the extent which millennium villages has influenced peoples socio-economic development

	Statement	Strongly influence	Fairly influence	Poor influence	No influence
A	Improvement of maternal health				
B	Reduction maternal mortality rate				
C	Better access to maternal services				
D	Control of HIV/AIDS & malaria				
E	Poverty reduction				
F	Brings gender equality and equity				
G	Environmental conservation				
H	Improvement in health care system				
I	Increased access to medication by HIV patients				
J	Reduced deaths due to HIV				
K	Improved access to basic safe water and sanitation				
L	Improved access to affordable essential drugs				
M	Increase access to mobile phones and internet				
N	Increased access to family planning services				







8. How do millennium village improve food security?
9. Name problems facing millennium villages while undertaking development?
10. Give appropriate ways of enhancing millennium village in order to improve people's socio-economic development?
11. Who are the partners working with the millennium village project?

Thank you