

Assessing Community Participation in Sustainable Local Economic Development: The case of Wolayta Sodo Town.

By: Lisanu Kassa

Addis Ababa University
College of Business and Economics
Department of Public Administration and Development Management
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
June, 2017

Assessing Community Participation in Sustainable Local Economic Development: The case of Wolayta Sodo Town.

By: Lisanu Kassa

A Thesis Submitted to College of Business and Economics, Department of Public Administration and Development Management Presented in Partial Fulfillment of Requirements for the Degree of Masters in Public Management and Policy analysis.

Advisor: Elias Brhanu (PhD)

Addis Ababa University
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

June, 2017

Addis Ababa University
College of Business and Economics
Department of Public Administration and Development Management
Thesis Approval

This to certify that the thesis prepared by Lisanu Kassa entitled: Assessing Community Participation in Sustainable Local Economic Development: The case of Wolayta Sodo Town Southern Ethiopia. This thesis is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of degree of Master of Arts in Public management and policy Analysis. Accordingly, we examined and approve that it is conducted according to the regulation of the University and meets the accepted standards with respect to originality and quality.

Name and Signature of Examining Board

_____	_____	_____
Advisor	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Examiner	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Examiner	Signature	Date

Acknowledgements

First and foremost all praise goes to the Almighty God who helped me to accomplish this paper successfully. Secondly, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my advisor Dr. Elias Brhanu for his comprehensive support, unreserved commitment, and constructive comments from the beginning to final stage of my work. Thirdly, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest regards and appreciation to my beloved family who had shown their holistic willingness to sponsor my academic carrier. Fourthly, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all participants and respondents of the study, Sub city, Kebele and Qetena level community members and participatory local community economic development work officials and experts for their contribution. Finally, my heartfelt thanks goes to my friends Degu Paulos and Siratu W/Gabriel who had sacrificed their time in editing the first draft of my work and provided me with meaningful comments contributed to the quality of my work.

Abstract

Communities have their own capitals to contribute their resource in local economic development and they have also their own cultural and behavioral resources of interface with their immediate nature and nurture. From the standpoint of local economic development, there is a strong reliance on local resources, leaders and institutions to respond to locally based economic crises and opportunities. In light of this, the main objective of this study has made an effort to assess community participation in sustainable local economic development and the specific objective of this study were to examine and evaluate participation, roles and responsibilities, factors affecting effective participation, the challenges and opportunities of community participation in local economic development. For its methodological convenience mixed approach research design meaning that both qualitative and quantitative research approaches are used. Under qualitative method non probability purposive sampling techniques have been employed and in quantitative method probability sampling techniques have been employed. The study participants have been sub city, kebele, and ketena and mender level development committees were participated in the in FGD session. Moreover, the members of ketena, kebele, sub city and town level active participants from the communities were participated in survey questions. Besides, the town level community participation development offices heads, sub city level community participation officers, the sub city level community participation development offices heads and officers participated in the interview session. The major finding indicates, community participation and local economic development are two intertwined issues. Community participation plays a very great role in identifying development queries and challenges that were raised in compliant handling. Local economic development has become one of the key development interventions and focuses on economic challenges which manifest the communities in unique localities. Despite widespread recognition of the need of community participation in sustainable local economic development, in reality community participation builds a sense of community ownership, assures sustainability and responsibility for project activities. At last the results obtained were job opportunities were create, saving culture was developed, partnership of different institutions were developed, training and consultations were more encouraged. Finally, the community participation in sustainable local economic developed created strong social, community capital and developed sense of ownership with a very great confidence.

Key words: Community capitals, community participation and local economic development and sustainable local economic development.

Acronym

CED	Community Economic Development
CSA	Central Statistics Agency
DFID	Department for International Development
DPLG	Department of Provincial and Local Government
EC	Ethiopian Calendar
ECAR	Economic Commission for Africa Report
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IP	Interview Participant
IRINBI	International Republican Institute and National Business Initiative
LED	Local Economic Development
LGU	Local Government Units
K	Key Informant
N	Number
NGO	Non Government Organization
OERI	Office of Educational Research and Improvement
SACN	South Africa Cities Network
SMEs	Small and Micro Enterprises
SNNP	Southern Nations Nationalities Peoples
SNNPR	Southern Nations Nationalities Peoples Region
SNNPRS	Southern Nations Nationalities Peoples Regional State
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WB	World Bank
WBG	World Bank Group
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements.....	iv
Abstract.....	v
Acronym.....	vi
Lists of Figures.....	x
List of Tables.....	xii
Chapter One: Introduction.....	1
1.2. Statement of the problem.....	4
1.3 Objective of the study.....	6
1.4. Research Questions.....	6
1.5. Scope of the Study.....	7
1.6. Limitation of the Study.....	7
1.7. Delimitation of the Study.....	7
1.8 Significance of the Study.....	7
1.9. Organization of the study.....	8
Chapter Two: Review of Literature.....	10
2.1. Introduction.....	10
2.2. Concept of Participation.....	10
2.3. Sense of Community.....	11
2.4. Empirical evidence on participation.....	11
2.5. Outcomes of participation.....	12
2.6. Barriers of community participation.....	12
2.7. The international experience of Local Economic Development.....	13
2.8. A Participatory approach for Local Economic Development.....	14
2.9. Local Economic Development Scope.....	15
2.10. Local Economic Development in Ethiopia.....	15
2.11. Contribution of different players in local economic development.....	16
2.12. Local Economic Development enabling environment and community readiness.....	16
2.13. Enabling environment.....	16
2.14. The Benefits of Participatory Planning.....	17
2.15. Community Readiness.....	17
2.16. Local Economic Development and Its Challenges.....	18
2.17. Local Economic Development Guiding Principles.....	19

2.18. Generic Local Economic Development Strategies	20
2.20. The Sustainability Dimension.....	21
2.3 Summary	22
Chapter Three: Research Method	23
3.1. Research Design.....	23
3.2. Rational for the selection of the Study area	23
3.3. Population	24
3.4. Sample Size.....	24
3.5. Sample Size Determination.....	24
3.5. Sampling technique for qualitative method	25
3.6. Sampling Technique for Survey	25
3.7. Participants.....	26
3.8. Source of Data.....	26
3.9. Methods of Data Collection	27
3.9.1. Document Analysis.....	27
3.9.2. Focus Group Discussion	27
3.9.3 Interviews.....	28
3.9.4. Survey Questionnaires	29
3.10 Data Quality Assurance	30
3.11. Data Collection Procedures.....	30
3.12. Data Analysis.....	31
3.13. Ethical Consideration.....	32
Chapter Four: Findings and Analysis of the Study	34
4.1. Description of the Study Area.....	34
4.2. Demographic characteristics of participants	35
4.3. Demographic profiles of the respondents	37
4.4. Residency and Number of respondents.....	38
4.5. Questionnaire distribution and reaction rate	41
4.6. From the perspectives of community mobilization clusters	42
4.7. Survey response on the knowledge of the community towards directive	43
4.8. Local Community Economic Development Coordinating Committees	44
4.9 Roles and responsibilities of communities in local economic development programmes.....	45
4.11. Participation of the local communities in local economic development strategic Planning	50

4.12. Challenges and problems of community participation on local economic development.....	52
4.13. Response on the importance of participation in local economic development activities.....	54
4.14. The level of the community participation in local economic development in the study areas	56
4.15. Concerned institutions for implementations of public movement agendas	57
4.16. Execution and evaluation of participatory local community economic developmental activities .	59
4.17. Sustainability of participatory local community economic development works	61
5.1 Response on the importance of participation in local economic development activities.....	63
5.2. The participation of the community in local community economic development work.....	64
5.3. The roles of participation of the community in local economic development.....	66
5.4. Factors affecting the effective participation of stakeholders in local economic development programmes.....	68
5.5. Challenges and problems of community participation on local economic development.....	69
5.6. Participatory local community economic development works and fund raising system	71
Chapter: Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations.....	73
5.1 Summary	73
5.2. Conclusion	75
5.3. Recommendations.....	78
Reference	xiii

Lists of Figures

Fig 2.1. Enabling Environment adopted from George Edward (Ted) Treller (2014).....	16
Fig 2.2. Determinants of community readiness adopted from George Edward (2014).....	17
Fig 3.1. Map of W/Sodo town, SNNPR, Ethiopia.....	33

List of Tables

Table: 1. The participants in FGD.....	26
Table: 2. The Lists of Key Informants.....	77
Table: 3. Demographic characteristics of participants.....	34
Table: 4. Demographic profiles of the Respondents.....	35
Table: 5. Demographic and general characteristics of survey respondents of Merkato K/Ket.....	37
Table: 6. Demographic and general characteristics of survey respondents of Mehal K/Ket.....	38
Table: 7. Demographic and general characteristics of survey respondents of Arada K/Ket.....	38
Table: 8. Distribution of questionnaire and reaction Rate.....	40
Table: 9. Survey on the knowledge of the community about the directive.....	41
Table: 10. Local community economic development coordinating focal committees.....	42
Table: 11. Response about the existence of community participation in the study area.....	46
Table: 12. Response given on “when did the participatory local economic development works started” in the study area of W/Sodo town.....	48
Table: 13. Participation of the local communities in local economic development strategic Planning.....	50
Table: 14. Responses on the challenges and problems of community participation.....	51
Table: 15. Response on the importance of participation in local economic development activities.....	53
Table: 16. The level of the community’s participation in local economic development of their locality.....	54
Table: 17. Concerned institutions for implementations of public movement agendas in the public Development participation organization.....	56

Chapter One: Introduction

1.1. Background of the Study

In early decades communities in many poor rural areas and urban slum settlements have experienced feminization of poverty, face poor settlement conditions like overcrowded settlement, housing problems and poor income generating activities, lack of access to basic services; face insecurity of income and serious physical insecurity. Beside this, there are a lot of immense obstacles like, institutional insecurity and lack of appropriate planning. Planners have often ignored the economic function of settlements as if only residential use matters. Local development initiatives would have to take the interdependencies of these issues into account and community based economic development rarely enjoyed substantial political attention (Helmsing, 2001:60).

Communities have their own capitals to contribute their resource to local economic development and they have also their own cultural and behavioral resources of interface with their immediate nature and nurture. The success of a community today depends upon its ability to adapt to the dynamic local, national and international market economy (Swinburn, Goga & Murphy, 2006). According to Manitoba (n. d) community economic development has different names in different countries depending on the local context Local economic development is a community driven process where communities identify and initiate their own solutions to economic, social and environmental issues to build healthy, economically viable communities.

The community aspect of community economic development has three important dimensions. First, it is assumed that the community will play an active role in the economic development process and gain access, participation, and ownership of the economic activities in the locality. Second, it is argued that community development strategies and community building activities can contribute to sustained economic development and vice versa. Third, the field looks for outcomes relating to community building and community development in addition to economic outcomes. In this sense, community is treated as both an input and an output in community economic development (Guzmán & Auspos, 2011).

The researcher assumed that in most case each community has a unique set of local conditions that either enhance or reduce the potential for local economic development, and it is these conditions that determine the relative advantage of an area in its ability to attract generate and retain investment. To build a strong local economy, good practice proves that each community should undertake a collaborative process to understand the nature and structure of the local economy, and conduct analysis of the area's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (Swinburn, Goga & Murphy, 2006). Community participation as an active process by which beneficiary/client groups influence the direction and execution of a development project with a view to enhancing their well being in terms of income, personal growth, self reliance or other values they cherish (Paul, 1987:2).

According to the researcher community participation would have community development sector played a strong role in supporting and enabling marginalized communities to participate effectively in local development. Local economic development should be everybody's business, including local residents, local business people, NGOs and government. Local economic development is globally, but especially in developing countries, seen as the solution to improved quality of life, unemployment, poverty and inequality. Local economic development is a relatively new field of research and policy formulation, planning processes and implementation plans are still evolving with various alternative theories and approaches (Meyer, n.d).

Moreover, local and community development sectors continue to influence policy makers to ensure that communities are central to all decisions in relation to their future. Furthermore, local economic development is taken as one of the most important ways of decreasing poverty and it aims to create jobs by making the local economy grow. Therefore, coupled with these and other issues inspire the researcher to study the above topic. At last, it has been expected that in order to achieve dynamic local development, all aspects of local communities such as the economy, social welfare, environmental and political issues need to be addressed in an integrated and holistic manner (Rogerson, 2009).

From an economic perspective, the primary purpose of community economic development is stimulating local job creation and aggregate business activity. Increasing access, participation, and ownership of community residents in the economic activities of the locality is another common objective. Some community economic development initiatives focus on developing internal community resources by stimulating entrepreneurship, reducing barriers to credit, and providing technical support and assistance to firms and businesses (Guzmán & Auspos, 2011).

Finally, the research conducted would contribute to “community participation” as an international, national, local discourse and diagnoses the consequences of this discourse for the people living in study areas. Hoping that local economic development is a unique field of government policy that directly connects the programmes and resources of central government, both national and provincial, with the combined initiative and coordinated efforts of local institutions and communities working together to address their agreed priority needs and opportunities (DEDEA, 2008).

The analysis proceeded in three steps. First, the researcher critically investigated the challenges and opportunities facing community participation in local economic development. Second, the role and responsibilities of community in local economic development in order to create jobs, alleviating poverty and improvement in quality of life. At last, this study tried to assess the participation of the local community in sustainable local economic development. Therefore, coupled these and other issues inspire the researcher to study the above topic.

1.2. Statement of the problem

Community economic development and local economic development are two interchangeable economic terms. Community development could not be achieved without community participation. Community participation is the main factor which can effect on processes of community development (Samah & Aref, 2011). The other concept in this topic need to define clearly is local economic development is essentially a process in which local governments and/or community based groups manage their existing resources and enter into partnership arrangements with the private sector, or with each other, to create new jobs and stimulate economic activity in an economic area (Zaaier & Sara, 1993:129).

The late 1980's and the 1990's brought an increased focus on local economic development involving partnership among representatives of local public and private socio economic interests. Internationally, vast numbers of studies have been conducted in wide array via community participation, local economic development and its strategies based on different culture, practice and governance system.

For instance, Samuel (1987), Alysha, Claire & Anita (2003), Stephen & Malachia (2010), Mike (2009), Ayman (2011), Rodriguez, Andrés & Sylvia (2009), UN-HABITAT (2005), Gwen, Soraya & Fergus (2006) & Helmsing (2001) conducted research focusing on community participation, community development, local economic development and its strategies etc. The summary of the above writers finding has shown that community participation improved project efficiency; project planning and implementation could become more efficient. Community participation promoted agreement, cooperation and interaction among beneficiaries and between them and the implementing agency of the project so that delays are reduced, a smoother flow of project services is achieved, and overall costs are minimized. Moreover, they found also community participation in local economic development largely limited to consultations. These consultations were, however, crucial to develop demand driven service products.

Dinberu Tadesse (2014) conducted a research on the link between sustainable local economic development and community participation by using mixed research method which includes both

qualitative and quantitative research design with particular reference to three Woredas of Lideta Sub-city in Addis Ababa and found that participatory local community economic development work is not a new thing that was started from zero; it has and is being under way at different time and the local communities are not fully involved in the participatory local community economic development work from planning to evaluation phase. The study also identified key problems that are visible in the study areas including lack of public interest to be involved in participatory local community economic development work.

Cognizant of the existing literature in the international level it might be possible to say community participation and local economic development is a highly researched issues. However, in African countries including Ethiopia, the number of studies on community participation and local economic development are minimal. When we look at the existing literatures in Africa countries, we could know the experiences of some countries including Ethiopia in particular. The existing published and unpublished studies in Ethiopia are limited to show community participation level, local economic development level, and institutional set up, the modus operandi and key problems of local community economic development.

From foregoing studies different knowledge gaps have been identified from the studies so far conducted on the link between community participation and local economic development, which in effects call for an in-depth look into.

1. First, as indicated above, studies so far carried out appeared to have overlooked that community participation strategy, the link between community participation and local economic development, local governance and factors affecting the effective participation of stakeholders in local economic development programmes.
2. Second, studies pay scanty or a little attention to assess community participation in local economic development and particularly, problems of community participation and factors affecting the effective participation of stakeholders in local economic development programmes in general.

These core empirical gaps so far identified and this study is aimed to carry out an in-depth study in the second knowledge gap.

1.3 Objective of the study

General Objective:

The general objective of this study is to assess the community participation in sustainable local economic development and the outcome in terms of sustainable local economic development.

Specific Objectives:

1. To assess the participation of the community in local community economic development work;
2. To identify the roles and responsibilities of communities in local economic development programmes in Wolayta Sodo Municipality;
3. To identify the factors affecting the effective participation of stakeholders in local economic development programmes;
4. To identify the challenges and opportunities of community participation in local economic development;

1.4. Research Questions

To achieve the predetermined general and specific objectives of this study answers to questions related with community participation and sustainable local economic development in Wolayta Sodo Town, Wolayta Zone, of Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples regional state (SNNP). Hence the following were the research questions that have been addressed by the study:

1. How participation does contribute in sustainable local community economic development work in the Wolayta Sodo town?
2. What are the roles and responsibilities of communities in local economic development programmes in the Wolayta Sodo Town?
3. What are the factors affecting the effective participation of communities in local economic development programmes in the Wolayta Sodo Town?
4. What are the challenges and opportunities encountered in community participation and local economic development in the Wolayta Sodo town?

1.5. Scope of the Study

Though, local economic development program is carried out in national, regional and Zonal level with primary focus on community participation as core element and it was not possible to study the whole Zone. This study was delimited thematically, focused on assessing community participation in local economic development. Geographically, it is confined to three sub cities in Sodo Town, Wolayta Zone, Southern Nations Nationalities and People regional state (SNNPRS).

1.6. Limitation of the Study

This research is designed to study community participation in sustainable local economic development: the case of Wolayta Sodo town. Besides, researcher bias, participants' bias and methodological constraints were considered as limitation of this research. Moreover, Lack of well organized secondary sources is a major limitation encountered during development of the proposal. Finally, the allowed fund can be rate as major potential limitation that can hinder to conduct large scale research with this topic.

1.7. Delimitation of the Study

Due to the constraint of time, resource and academic regulations this study is delimited thematically and geographically. Thematically, it is about community participation in sustainable local economic development. Geographically it is confined to Wolayta Sodo Town, Wolayta Zone SNNPR State.

1.8 Significance of the Study

Looking specifically on the role of community participation, it has plenty of significance in local economic development and worth in a lot of advantages including social, political and economic arenas. According to the belief of the researcher community participation as an activating factor in allowing local economic development. However, the actual practice of community

participation is far from the prescription and descriptions in organizational dialogue. Come across individually with community participation as a core element in any kinds of development necessarily required in achieving sustainable development at local level and enables citizens to become an integral part of the decision making and action process (WHO, 2001). In similar manner, local economic development is promoting participation and local dialogue, connecting people and their resources for better employment and a higher quality of life for both men and women. Based on its importance, national government makes policy and provides funds, research and other support for local economic development. Having in light of these, the study supposes to have two folds of implications, empirically, finding of the study are hoped to fill the ongoing academic lacuna and thereby add values to current knowledge production. This study also supposes to be helpful for policy makers to design and develop effective strategies that primarily aiming to assess community participation in local economic development strategies and its outcome. Moreover, it can pave the way for public administrators and policy analyzers to intervene on policy issues practically like community participation, local economic development, local economic development and its strategies. Finally, his study help public administration and policy analysis students at both post and undergraduate level for their field of education as teaching and learning, reference material.

1.9. Organization of the study

The study is organized in to six chapters. The first chapter contains the introduction of the study, the background of the study, problem of statement, general and specific objectives, and research questions, significance of the study, limitations and organization of the study are included. The second chapter contains the related literature reviews major topics and sub topics. The third chapter is about the methodology of the study and comprised of research design, the data collection tools, the sampling method and sample size determination, method of data analysis and ethical considerations of the study are discussed. The fourth chapter is about the data presentation and analysis. All the data obtained using all the data collection tools and the information obtained from key informants and document analysis is analyzed and reported in this chapter. The fifth chapter is about discussion of the study, in this section of the study, the research findings are presented in relation to relevant findings of previous researches in the area

specifically related to community participation and the role of community and local economic development are discussed. The last chapter is about the conclusion and recommendation. Based on the data collected and the analysis undertaken, conclusions and important recommendations are forwarded.

Chapter Two: Review of Literature

2.1. Introduction

The purpose of reviewing literature for this study is to obtain relevant information that is available about the research topic. Literature review provides essential background knowledge about similarities and differences between the present study and prior research study that had been done. Different websites especially websites of major international organizations working in areas related to community participation and sustainable local economic development such as the ILO, FAO, WHO and WB have been searched. Lists of references from original research publications or reports have been also reviewed for additional relevant study. Finally, the researcher would like to acknowledge the limitation of the review in fullness. At last, the experiences and range of problems with community participation and sustainable local development are managed and gaps observed are acknowledged by the researcher.

2.2. Concept of Participation

The concept of participation in development activities is certainly not a new one. According to Caroline, in rural development, community participation has been recognized as an essential component since the early 1950s. The importance of participation in urban development activities has lagged behind. One reason may be that rural projects are mainly production oriented, and it is quite evident that the beneficiaries as producers must be involved in the development of production systems. In urban projects, beneficiaries have been seen primarily as consumers of services, and their role in developing supply systems has therefore been accorded less importance. Benefits derive not only from cost reduction and resource mobilization, but also from better targeting of project measures to peoples' real needs through their involvement in the planning phase. Furthermore, participation enhances the ownership of the facilities by the user community and thus ensures more extensive and efficient use of facilities, better maintenance, and more reliable operation (Moser, Caroline O.N.1987 cited in Ayman M. Nour, 2011).

Participation is now widely recognized as a basic operational principle of development, but the debates around this approach are fervent. Conventionally, the participatory approach is considered as the reaction to the shortcomings of top down development practices, externally imposed and expert oriented (Chambers R. 1983 cite in Ayman M. Nour, 2011). The advantage of these new approaches is that they are centered on the role of the local community as a primary actor that should be allowed and enabled to influence and share the responsibility and possibly the costs of the development process affecting their lives (Kothari U. et al, 2001)

2.3. Sense of Community

The sense of community plays an important role in fostering support for local development and may enhance its long-term sustainability as a broad basis for local economic development planning (Hall et al., 2005). Bopp et al. (2000) defines sense of community in the following way: sense of community refers to the quality of human relationship that makes it possible for people to live together in a healthy and sustainable way. Sense of community also helps people feel they are a part of something larger than themselves. Developing a sense of community contributes to community capacity building by enabling people to feel connected and motivated to live in harmony and work together towards common community goals. A key term used in community development and community capacity is sense of community. Sense of community can be seen as the capacity of the local people to participate in development activities (Cupples, 2005).

2.4. Empirical evidence on participation

The current salience in the research literature of conceptual and empirical interest in understanding participation and development is illustrated by some recent studies that attempt to summarize large bodies of evidence about the effects of participation. Gaventa and Barrett (2012) state that: understanding what difference citizen participation and engagement make to development and to more accountable and responsive governance has become a key preoccupation in the development field. It has been over a decade since participation moved toward the mainstream in development debates and a strategy for achieving good governance and human rights. Despite this, a large gap still exists between normative positions promoting

citizen engagement and the empirical evidence and understanding of what difference citizen engagement makes (or not) to achieving the stated goals.

Speer (2012) reviews experiences of participatory governance mechanisms as a strategy for increasing government responsiveness and improving public services. These mechanisms involve citizens in decision-making over the distribution of public funds between communities and the design of public policies, as well as in monitoring and evaluating government spending. Thus they differ from community-based development schemes in which community members participate in the planning, implementation and monitoring of a particular development project within their community. Overall, the reviewed literature hence suggests that the public policy benefits of participatory governance on government accountability and responsiveness remain to be proven and that implementing participatory governance effectively is likely to be a challenging enterprise in many places (Steer, 2012).

2.5. Outcomes of participation

Ideally, participation produces two outcomes. The first is a strengthened and enhanced democratic system the degree to which civil society is engaged in decision-making and the assurance that the majority voice is accounted for regarding key issues. Theoretically, devolution coupled with democratic local governance enables participation and expanded representation. This in turn leads to greater empowerment of marginalized groups and hence, poverty reduction. Participatory local economic development strategy development acknowledges the linkage between open and democratic political systems, individual economic empowerment and local economic development. A second desirable outcome is efficient, demand driven delivery of services and economic opportunity. Because there is consultation from a variety of actors, there is a synergy of ideas that can produce better-informed decision-making regarding the services provided (Joshi M. et al, 2007).

2.6. Barriers of community participation

However, there are powerful factors that act as barriers to participation, thereby weakening the participation chain. These may be grouped under the following themes (Joshi M. et al, 2007):

- A. Personal barriers, for example the sense of personal powerlessness that stems from long-term reliance upon others and the costs of involvement to participants.
- B. Institutional and political barriers, for example a formal meetings culture and the use of language that does not encourage dialogue.
- C. Economic and cultural barriers, especially in communities where there is decline and fragmentation.
- D. Technical barriers such as the lack of accessible formats and technological support for groups to enable service users to participate effectively or difficulties in getting small amounts of funding for support costs (Beresford & Hoban, 2005, cited in Moriarty et al, 2007).

2.7. The international experience of Local Economic Development

It is important to frame the concept of local economic development and to set out some of the key terms of local economic development, as initially coined by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Local economic development is a locally driven process that seeks to identify, harness and utilize resources to stimulate the economy and more importantly create new job opportunities in a locality. It is the sum total of the individual contributions of a broad spectrum of the community (local authority, business, labour, non-governmental organizations and individuals) in improving their economic status by combining their skills, resources and ideas (IRINBI, 1998).

Trousdale (2003) defines local economic development as a participatory process where local people from all sectors work together to stimulate commercial activity in order to make a resilient and sustainable economy. Furthermore, he argues that local economic development is a tool to help create sustainable jobs and improve the quality of life for everyone, including the poor and the marginalized. Local economic development encourages the public, private and civil society sectors to establish partnerships and collaboratively find local solutions to common economic challenges. Moreover, the local economic development process seeks to empower local participants in order to effectively utilize business enterprise, labour, capital and other local resources to achieve local priorities (e.g. promote sustainable jobs, reduce poverty, stabilize the local economy and generate municipal taxes to provide better services) (Trousdale, 2003).

According to ILO (2010) local economic development is a locally owned, participatory development process undertaken within a given territory or local administrative area in partnership with both public and private stakeholders. The local economic development approach makes use of local resources and competitive advantages to create decent employment and sustainable economic growth. Although primarily an economic strategy, local economic development simultaneously pursues social goals of poverty reduction and social inclusion. Its design and implementation structures create space for dialogue between different groups within the community and enable them to actively participate in the decision-making process. Target groups at various levels are involved, such as local government authorities, employers' organizations, trade unions, the local business community, and other social partners, such as indigenous peoples' associations, or civil society organizations representing women and youth. Nel (2001) argues that local economic development internationally has emerged as a result of increasing decentralization of power and decision-making to the local level which came as the result of the neo-liberal era which strived for a reduction in the role of the central state in the economy. Local economic development has also emerged due to economic changes within localities, varying from de-industrialization to local innovation which requires local leadership initiative, response and direction (Nel, 2001).

According to Morgenrood (2007) the generic definition adopted is appropriate, it is an "approach towards economic development which allows and encourages local people to work together to achieve sustainable economic growth and development thereby bringing economic benefits and an improved quality of life for all residents in a local municipal area. According to Breitenbach (2006) the objective of local economic development is to build up the economic capacity of a local area to improve its economic future and the quality of life for all. It is a process by which the public, business and the non-governmental sector partners work collectively to create better conditions for economic growth and employment generation.

2.8. A Participatory approach for Local Economic Development

Local governments all over the world are concerned with the development of their local areas. The local economy is a critical concern because it affects the quality of life of all local residents

(Mufamadi, 2003). Local economic development is a process of strategic planning through partnerships among local government units (LGU), the local community and non-governmental organization (NGOs). Its objectives are to stimulate investments that will promote sustained high growth in a local community. Local economic development focuses on the region's potential and identifies specifically what local stakeholders can and need to do to ensure their local community reaches its potential. In this context local economic development assesses a community's comparative advantage, identifies new or existing market opportunities for business, and reduces obstacles to business creation and expansion. Local economic development activities should have an impact on the economic viability and entire city and surrounding region not just a particular sector of the local economy (Urban Institute, 2003).

2.9. Local Economic Development Scope

Local economic development offers the local government, the private sector, the not-for-profit organizations and the local community the opportunity to work together to improve the local economy. It focuses on enhancing competitiveness, and thus increasing sustainable growth; and also on ensuring that the growth is inclusive. Local economic development encompasses many local government and private sector functions including planning, infrastructure provision, real estate development and finance. The practice of local economic development can be undertaken at different geographic scales. A local government pursues local economic development strategies for the benefit of their jurisdiction. However, individual communities and thus individual areas within a local government's jurisdiction can also pursue local economic development strategies to uplift their own communities. These are most successful if pursued jointly with the local government strategies (Tribal College, 2000).

2.10. Local Economic Development in Ethiopia

Ethiopia has embarked on federal and decentralized forms of government since 1990s. Woreda and urban governments figure prominently in the Ethiopian governance system. These local governments have authority and autonomy to undertake social and economic development as underlined in the different regional constitutions. Ethiopia's decentralization has provided space and opportunities for local governments to determine their future and spearhead their

development. In other words, the decentralized structure in Ethiopia has created an enabling environment to undertake local economic development in Ethiopia. In addition, the fact that cities have their own budget empowers them to implement local economic development from own sources (Tegegne & Clacey, 2011).

2.11. Contribution of different players in local economic development

According to WBG (2006) Local government units, local community groups, private sector and national institutions contribute to the development of local communities in specific ways: direct spending and employment: players make various purchases that contribute to demand in the local economy in addition to creating many jobs. Workforce development: through the partners' instruction, they increase the skills of local workers, which in turn increase the employment and earning opportunities of these workers (Harris, 1997). Generally, community colleges tailor their programs to meet specific local needs, and their curricula tend to change continuously to reflect shifting needs (McNutt, 1995). Business attraction: the development of local human capital leads to increases in local productivity (Nespoli, 1991). Small business and entrepreneurship development: in many communities, local entrepreneurs wanting to start their own small business need help in understanding and surmounting the challenges they face (OERI, 1996).

2.12. Local Economic Development enabling environment and community readiness

The enabling environment plays a significant role not only in determining the possibilities and probabilities for overall local economic development success, but also in defining the depth and breadth of local economic development plans, goals and activities necessary for success to be realized. Understanding what the enabling environment is and how it influences local development, i.e. how the four pillars (economic circumstance and opportunity, social development and social capital, environmental character and sustainability, and institutional structures and mandates) influence the local economic development process is thus an essential first step in the design and implementation of a realistic local economic development program (Edward, 2014).

2.13. Enabling environment

Local economic development is built upon four fundamental pillars: economic, social, environmental and institutional (see figure below). Collectively, these four pillars represent the enabling environment. In a practical sense the relative strength/weakness of these pillars or foundations either serve to support or impede overall community prosperity. In terms of local economic development planning and programming in the pursuit of community prosperity then, it is the enabling environment that plays a significant role in setting out what is realistic and practical in any local economic development effort (Edward, 2014).

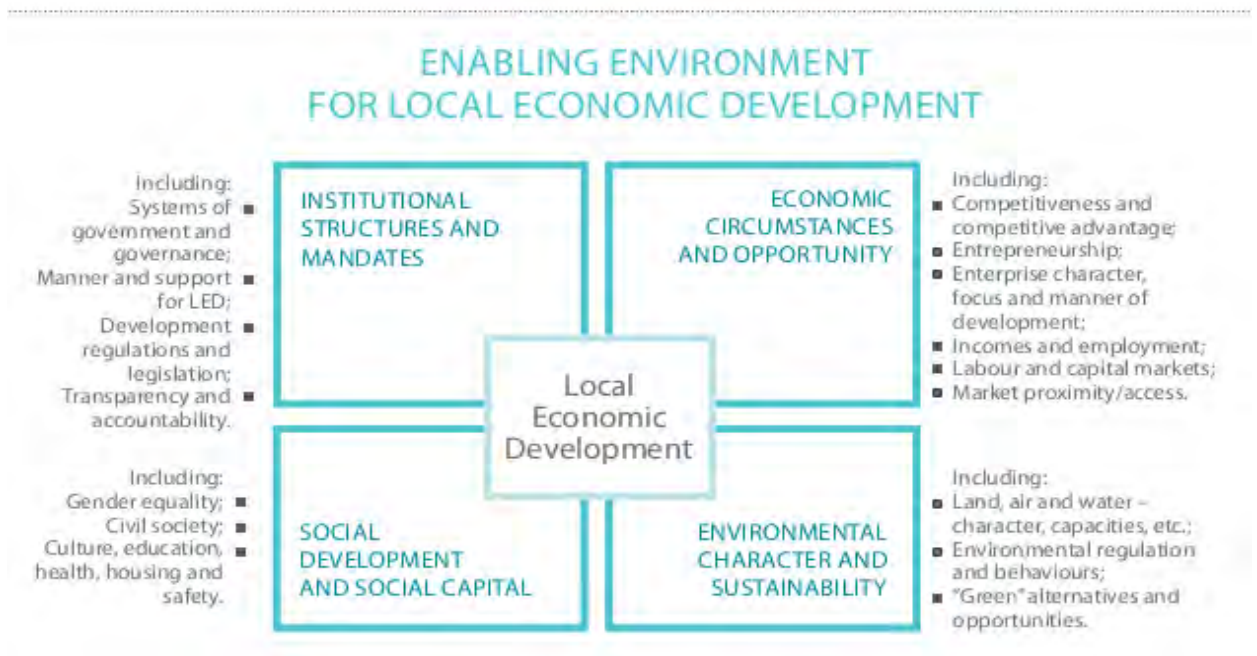


Fig 1. Adopted from George Edward (Ted) Treller (2014).

2.14. The Benefits of Participatory Planning

Builds a sense of community ownership and responsibility for project activities. Provides a better understanding of local economic development issues and their complexities. Provides a commitment to address priorities in a cross-sectoral manner. Incorporates a wide range of perspectives and ideas, resulting in improved design, management and action. Promotes stakeholder empowerment. Guarantees sustainable implementation of strategies in order for divergent interests to reach a consensus (Edward, 2014).

2.15. Community Readiness

One of the more critical steps in initiating a local economic development program is to determine if in fact the community is properly prepared and positioned to undertake the effort. This means not only whether the community or municipality has the wherewithal to make local economic development happen, i.e. sufficient assets, opportunities and a competitive advantage, but also whether it has the attitude, commitment, dedication, climate and leadership among other things to ensure the process will be successful. This state of preparedness is also known as community “readiness” or community “vitality.” The following figure highlights a number of common readiness factors, the definitions/explanations of which are contained in the chart following it (Edward, 2014).



Fig 2. Adopted from George Edward (Ted) Treller (2014).

2.16. Local Economic Development and Its Challenges

The challenges exist regarding the local economic development process from policy to implementation at the local government sphere. These include that policy doesn't automatically lead to implementation, improved skills levels are required, staff and funding shortages need to be resolved, poor community involvement in the planning and implementation of local economic development projects exist and poor monitoring and evaluation (Nel & Rogerson, 2005).

Municipalities do not have adequate economic strategies in place to address the issues of poverty, unemployment and inequality (SACN, 2004).

Local economic development is currently still not a priority at most local authority, and limited funding is made available from national government. Local economic development strategies lack detail for interventions and lack monitoring and evaluation. Small rural municipalities especially struggle to implement local economic development. The role and functions regarding local economic development is vague with a lack of willingness for partnerships with the private sector (Khanya-Aicdd, 2006). Local economic development is not yet well embedded in municipal structures, which is shown by the lack of local economic development units within the municipalities, limited funds and in some instances no funds allocated to local economic development. Local economic development has as its goals to create local jobs, to ensure economic stability and diversity, build on comparative advantages, assist the poor, and ultimately strive to improve the quality of life of all local communities. Local commitment, adequate skills and capacity is however non-negotiable for local economic development success (Swinburn, Goga & Murphy, 2006).

2.17. Local Economic Development Guiding Principles

George Edward (2014) argued that there are a number of common guiding principles inherent within every successful local economic development effort regardless of how local economic development is defined, structured and implemented. Some of these guiding principles are implied within the defining characteristics of local economic development; others are inherent within its adaptation and application: In aggregate these principles suggest that local economic development means more than just private sector development, higher incomes and economic growth. Premised on local dialogue, local economic development is about connecting people and their resources to enhance local opportunities and prosperity. Local economic development is about a better quality of life for men and women in a sustainable future.

1. Local economic development is a strategically planned process
2. Local economic development involves integrated interventions across multiple
3. Local economic development is premised on strong local leadership
4. Local economic development is about sustainable development

5. Local economic development is premised on stakeholder engagement/participation
6. Local economic development inclusivity focuses on enhancing gender equality
7. Local economic development promotes a strong enabling environment
8. Local economic development involves partnering and partnerships
9. Local economic development emphasizes creativity and flexibility in its approach
10. Local economic development knows the importance of existing businesses and pays attention to their needs
11. Local economic development efforts are proactive (Edward, 2014).

2.18. Generic Local Economic Development Strategies

Local economic development strategies typically emanate from a local government in an urban center, but the arena for positive change and market access includes developing linkages with rural areas, enhancing rural productivity, and developing agribusiness opportunities. The practice of local economic development requires a comprehensive assessment of the dominant and potential industries and conditions in a city in order to guide the planning process, as well as an identification of priority activities of the public sector designed to support local economic growth. Local economic development, once tailored to individual cities, is a targeted response to managing the challenges of recent decades population growth and economic decline and shoring up the forces of change. Local economic development activities can make change an intended and real outcome (Beyer, Peterson & Sharma, 2003).

As a result of ongoing research and practical policy formulation done in the study field by the author since 1994, the following generic local economic development strategies are proposed to be included in any local economic development strategy. Although a “one-size-fits-all” approach is not promoted, these generic strategies will give direction to the local economic development practitioner in both urban and rural settings (Meyer, 2013).

- A. Strategy 1: Strengthening of internal and external institutional structures and processes.
- B. Strategy 2: Strengthening and support of the agricultural sector.
- C. Strategy 3: Ensure optimal linkages and support to the mining sector.
- D. Strategy 4: Strengthening and support of the manufacturing sector.
- E. Strategy 5: Ensure optimal development of the “Green economy”.
- F. Strategy 6: Ensure accelerated tourism development.

- G. Strategy 7: Ensure optimal opportunities for development of the informal sector.
- H. Strategy 8: Support and development of entrepreneurship and small business development.
- I. Strategy 9: Support and development of education and skills development.
- J. Strategy 10: Ensure infrastructural development.
- K. Strategy 11: Provision of basic needs and social development.

According to ILO (2010) entry points and the specific balance of fields of interventions included in a local economic development approach will depend on the specific context and priority needs as identified by the community. However, a local economic development strategy normally consists of integrated interventions to:

- A. Improve the competitiveness of local firms;
- B. Attract inward investment;
- C. Upgrade employable skills; and
- D. Enhance local infrastructure.

The six phases of local economic development process includes:-

1. Start-up activities, consensus building
2. Territorial diagnosis and institutional mapping
3. Sensitizing and promoting the local forum
4. Local economic development strategy and action planning
5. Implementation of local economic development interventions and services
6. Feedback, monitoring and evaluation and sustainability of local economic development intervene.

2.20. The Sustainability Dimension

In the 1970s and early 1980s, environmental protection and economic development were often seen as conflicting goals. The introduction of the idea of sustainable development represented a move away from such a simple dichotomy. Although the concept of sustainability has since been rapidly embraced by international organizations and national, regional, and local governments, it has proved difficult to define. In its most narrow sense, sustainable development aims to reconcile economic growth with maintaining non-renewable environmental assets or natural capital. Local economic development strategies are particularly well placed to address

sustainability issues for several reasons. Firstly, the processes of economic globalization have not only increased the localization of economic activity, but also the spatial concentration of social and environmental problems (Andrés & Sylvia, 2005).

2.3 Summary

The aforementioned studies have tried to describe issues related community participation and participatory local community economic development. In this literature review many studies attempted to elucidate the experiences of community participation and local economic development by considering the positive and negative experiences. However, the majority of these studies focused on the experiences, factors, problems and challenges. The existing few studies are more reflects the western and developed countries context that may not compatible with the Ethiopian community participation and local economic development. Though, in the Ethiopian context of community participation and local economic development experiences there have been only a few studies conducted.

In this regard, Dinberu Tadesse and others conducted mixed research on community and local economic development, challenges and solutions of community economic development guiding principles, generic strategies, and sustainable dimensions. But their study left out the problems, motivating factors, the roles and responsibilities of community participation in sustainable local economic development. However, the findings of these studies or literature contributed the current study to understand the realities and dynamic of community participation in local economic development in different contexts.

Thus, this study intended to address the gaps observed in Dinberu Tadesse and others study and in the above literature by investigating the factors that affects community participation, roles and responsibilities, challenges and problems faced and the guiding principles and strategies of community participation and local economic development in the Ethiopian context.

Chapter Three: Research Method

This section deals with the methodology of conducting this thesis. Research design, participants, sampling techniques, instruments of the study, procedures of data collection and data analysis are explained. In addition, eligibility criteria, data quality assurance and ethical consideration are elaborated.

3.1. Research Design

The research design of the study was mixed research design meaning that both qualitative and quantitative research approaches were used. As De Silva (2010: 23) explained, “Mixed methods provide the opportunity for presenting a greater diversity of divergent views”. From such point of view, using a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods of analysis also reduces the limitation of each approach or helps to get more reliable data. In addition the (De Silva, 2010:24) indicate that, “It is advantageous to use mixed research for analysis as together the data analyses from the two methods are juxtaposed and generate complementary insights that together create a bigger picture.”

Similarly, John (2005) confirms:

Other important reasons for doing mixed research are to complement one set of results with another, to expand a set of results, or to discover something that will be missed if only a quantitative or a qualitative approach had been used (John, 2005, P.67).

Therefore, it was believed that very relevant to use mixed research method for the present study.

3.2. Rational for the selection of the Study area

The target area of study has been Wolayta Sodo Town of Wolayta Zone of Southern Nations, Nationalities and People Regional State (SNNP). Wolayta Sodo is selected purposively based on the following reasons: first familiarity of the researcher with the culture and language of the locality which helps him to collect data from different sources. Its accessibility enabled the researcher to get deeper understanding of the issues through frequent personal observation regarding the entire activities which take place at study area and interview with the different level of committees within the available time during the field work.

3.3. Population

Relevant to this study, all three sub cities are purposively selected. The justification all the three were effectively managed in the study and gain detailed data. The total of 26, 456 households are taken to determine manageable sample size.

3.4. Sample Size

As Mike Slovin developed a means of determining sample size from large population and becomes representative possible sample size. By using the Mike Slovin formula with confidence level: 95%, degree of variability: 50% (Maximum Variability), sample error: $\pm 7\%$ and makes easy to determine middle representative sample size from large population. Based on the Mike Slovin sample size determination formula 202 households were taken as a representative sample.

3.5. Sample Size Determination

In W/Sodo town the total number of households is probably around 26, 456. There are 3 sub cities and the researcher investigated all the three sub cities in the Sodo town i.e. Mehal k/ketema (sub city), Merkato k/ketema (sub city) and Aroge Arada k/ketema (sub city). The total number of households in each sub city was obtained from each sub city administrative office and comprised 26,456. To determine the appropriate sample size for the study; the researcher deals with three possible options which can provide different sample sizes. The basis for determining the sample size in each option is the level of precision or sampling error, the confidence level and the degree of variability in the attributes being measured. In this regard, the researcher used option 2 to determine sample size.

Since the population is large the following simplified formula was applied:

$$n = N / (1 + N (e)^2)$$

Where: N = Population Size

n = Sample Size

e = Precision (Sampling Error): 7%

Accordingly, to determine sample size the researcher assumed option 2

In this scenario the researcher assumed the confidence level, the degree of variability and the sampling error as follows:

Confidence Level = 95%

Degree of Variability = 50% (Maximum Variability)

Sampling Error = $\pm 5\%$

Total Population = 26,456

The sample size is computed as follows:

$$n = N / (1 + N(e)^2)$$

$$n = 2700 / (1 + 26,456(0.07)^2) \quad n = 202$$

In evaluating the sample sizes in the three options, the researcher was taken into account that the study employed multiple sources of data like interview, FGD, observation, survey and secondary sources of data with the questionnaire method. In addition, time and cost constraints are also considered. From the three options based on sampling error option 2 sample size is used and the quotient was 202 which is the better option among the analyzed scenarios. In this option the sampling error was decreased from $\pm 10\%$, $\pm 7\%$ to $\pm 5\%$ so as to get the middle sample size options 2 is more appropriate. Hence, the researcher utilized this option and the sample size was calculated to be 202 households. Since questionnaire was not the only and the dominant method of data collection in the study, considering this sample size could not have any negative impact on the credibility of evidences and the total quality of the paper. Therefore the sample size for the study is 202 households.

3.5. Sampling technique for qualitative method

Under qualitative method the sample selection has been guided by principles of non probability purposive sampling technique was employed in selecting the representative sample from different levels of committees and officials.

3.6. Sampling Technique for Survey

In selecting the representative sample size of the community members who are engaged in local economic development and active participants of community, probability sampling technique was employed.

3.7. Participants

Apart from the above survey participants, three Focus Group Discussions (FGD) were held. Each FGD had seven (7) members that were selected from each three sub cities. Because of the nature of the study the researcher opted to use both structured and unstructured interviews. Interview is conducted with 19 individuals. With regard to determining the number of FGD participants, various scholars provide different number. For instance, Morgan (2009, P.4) explains, “The ideal number for FGD is between six and eight.” On the other hand, as Escalada & Heong (2009, P.11) described that, “A good size for a discussion group is between eight to ten participants per session.” Considering the above arguments, the researcher has taken an average of seven participants for one group per a session. Here special care was given to select respondents who were not already participating on FGD again in the key informant interview or survey. Besides, three (3) sub city level managers and one (1) town level manager and the remaining kebele level and ketena committees were also selected for an interview assuming that they have better information about community participation and local economic development. All these participants were selected purposefully assuming that they were potential source of data for the study.

3.8. Source of Data

To evaluate and assess the role of community participation in sustainable local economic development, both primary and secondary sources were used. The primary data was collected from three groups of FGD participants of sub city level, kebele and ketena level and town level government officials responsible on the area, community participation officers and members of different committees at different levels community members. 162 community members were selected to fill the survey questionnaires, key informants consists of 19 sub city level local community development main committee, kebele and ketena local community development main committee, sub city level community development office head (manager) and town level manager. Secondary data were collected from other additional annual reports of local community participation strategies, sustainable local economic development reviews, previous research, and other relevant literature.

3.9. Methods of Data Collection

In order to studying the role of community participation in local economic development, it was necessary to collect the data as follows:

3.9.1. Document Analysis

Documents like articles, books, project reports on community participation and local economic development strategies, implementation guidelines, reports of the community participation, local economic development and other relevant websites were used to collect necessary and supplementary information for the effectiveness of the study.

3.9.2. Focus Group Discussion

A focus group discussion is a qualitative research technique consisting of a structured discussion and used to obtain in-depth qualitative data from a group of people about a particular topic. The three FGD has been conducted with total of seven participants from each sub city and efforts were made to include both sexes, various ranges of age and educational, socioeconomic backgrounds. The purpose of discussion has been to use the social dynamics of the group and to stimulate participants and give the researcher the chance to reveal and collect essential information about their opinions, experience, perception, beliefs, attitude and grievances on the community participation and local economic development.

Table 1. The participants in FGD

Participants		No of participants in each sub city kebele			
		Sub city 1	Sub city 2	Sub city 3	Remark
	Sub city level development committee	1	1	1	
	Kebele level development committee	1	1	1	
	The Ketena and mender level development committee	2	2	2	
	Active Participants from the community	2	2	2	
	Sub city level community participation officers	1	1	1	
	Total	7	7	7	

Source: Own Survey, 2017

3.9.3 Interviews

The researcher believes that the information obtained from the questionnaires were not enough to finalize the study, as it is necessary to have a face to face contact with important people to take more information that may not be obtained otherwise. To generate necessary data structured and unstructured interview were conducted with the 19 (eighteen) key informants including. The reason only six (6) from each sub city is selected with the principle of proportional distribution for of interview participants and one coordinator (manager) from town level officials; the researcher believes that, to consolidate the quantitative data from representative respondents, nineteen key informant interviews were enough. Finally, three sub city coordinators from the three selected sub cities and one coordinator (manager) from town level officials were included as a participant in the key informant interview.

Table 2. The Lists of Key Informants

	Key informants	No	Description	Remark
	Kebele level development committee	3	One representative from each selected kebele	
	Qetena level development committee	9	One representative from each selected Ketena	
	The sub city level development offices heads	3	One person from each sub city	
	The town level development offices heads	1	The heads of the office	
	Sub city level Community participation officers	3	Two representatives from the officers	
	Total	19		

Source: Own Survey, 2017

3.9.4. Survey Questionnaires

Structured and unstructured questionnaires were prepared and employed to collect data. The researcher opts to use questionnaire as one of important tool to collect the necessary data from the local communities. Questionnaires were distributed to the members of the community. The questionnaire were prepared by the researcher contains both closed and open ended questions based on the nature of information the question is bringing about. Questionnaires were prepared for the members of the ketena, kebele, sub city and town communities. Important details regarding participation, relationship between the sub-city administration and the community, the work activity of different committees including their appointment process, the development activities undertaken, distributive justice, the roles, challenges, opportunities, sustainability of community participation in local economic development and the attitude of the community was obtained using questionnaire.

3.10 Data Quality Assurance

To assure the validity and reliability of a questionnaire the right questions phrased in the least ambiguous way and the researcher needs to get suggestions from colleagues and experts in the field. Moreover, questionnaires were designed on the basis of previous studies“ questionnaires and review of literature. For the interview and FGD items trustworthiness was assured by avoiding double barreled, long and complex questions. Efforts were made to avoid leading questions and false premises. In tandem to this, six peers were invited to comment and debrief on the prepared questions (Peer debriefing). Triangulation by method and data source was held to keep the trustworthiness of the data. In other words, different methods were used to collect the qualitative data. To authenticate the genuineness of data, the researcher was established good rapport relationship between study participants.

Content validity or inter judge validity was conducted to find out if the questions were representing what they were intended to measure in a proportional way. In doing so, the variables of community participation and local economic development was well defined and then the questions were given to four raters, two of them were staffs in at City Council of Addis Ababa, and the other two raters were second year post graduate students in the department of developmental studies. The questionnaires were translated in to Wolaitigna version for ease of communication to get genuine information.

3.11. Data Collection Procedures

After all participants are selected, certain procedures are followed. Deciding the venue where the questionnaire should be disseminated to the participants. Accordingly, the researcher was submitted the official letters of collaboration from school of public administration and policy analysis to W/Sodo town administration to the sub city coordinators and received permission. The participants/ respondents oriented the purpose of the study and direction of filling the questionnaire. As of the next day, all the participants are returned the questionnaire paper. There are three (3) data collectors along with the researcher who was disseminated and collected the questionnaires.

In the FGD, members of sub city with proportional sex distribution in each group despite age, educational background, religion affiliation and economical status restriction are selected and conducted. The FGD participants were selected based on duration of longevity and willingness to discuss personal experience freely. Possible attempts are made to make the discussion open, free, no domination and unreserved to ensure equal participation of each participant. The researcher was played the role of facilitator. Discussion time and place are determined with pertinent time of each group members (discussants). Not to make boring and tiresome the discussion is run only for an hour, even though some literatures say FGD was held to one and half hours.

With regard to the interview participants, all key informants are scheduled appropriate time and place with researcher. Each interview is held for half an hour assuming the average time of many scholars stated for key informant interview. To gather data during interview and FGD note taking is used for that most of them are not willing to record their response on tape recorder. Advance considerations are taken into account to other non verbal communications. In both the FGD discussions and key informant interview, respondents are given tea coffee health break and 40 ETB¹ each as transportation accommodation. Above all, in line with the interview and FGD discussions the researcher was reviewed documents to consolidate the collected data.

3.12. Data Analysis

As discussed in the methodology part, the primary data was collected by using questionnaire, interview, focus group discussion (FGD) and participatory observation. In addition information was obtained from each tools is analyzed separately and was conglomerated together carefully.

The quantitative data obtained from both primary and secondary sources was analyzed together. percentages and other simple statistical methods were applied to analyze quantitative data. Qualitative data for the study was obtained from both primary (questionnaire, interview, focus group discussion, participatory observation) and secondary sources (documents, different reports, rules and regulations, working manuals) dealt with in a careful way to organize all information from different directions. Generally all the information was obtained from all methods of primary data collection are combined together carefully to make sense full data from different sources together with due attention of each method of data collection has its own

¹ The Birr(ብር in Amharic), denoted by ETB, is the unit of currency used in Ethiopia, after 1979

advantage and disadvantage. The data was obtained from questionnaire, interview, FGD or participatory observation. It is not enough to construct reasonable finding. In order to make the data from this process meaningful, qualitative data matrix was used for data summary and analysis of findings from different categories of respondents. Hence both the primary and the secondary data were analyzed together to extract synergistic effect out of it. In general meta-analysis was conducted on secondary information so as to triangulate primary data results.

3.13. Ethical Consideration

Professional and research ethical values of this research will be fully recognized and assured. The ethical clearance letter was given from Addis Ababa University public administration and policy analysis and the three local sub city and town Administrations. All participants in this study were decided their participation willingly and the researcher let them know the purpose of the study; give them all necessary information regarding the research. Participants were pre-informed that, they can quit their participation if they felt discomfort without looking permission from the researcher. Participants were not forced to sign contractual agreement with the researcher at the beginning of their participation.

Conducting interview, document analysis, application of tape recorder and other necessary instruments were done only after the researcher has got consent of the participants. But since most of the beneficiaries were not willing, tap recording are cancelled and only used note taking. Moreover, issues of confidentiality, anonymity and privacy were communicated well. The researcher also was explained them that, the information they give were presented to public administration and policy analysis. All personal information was locked in a private folder and was destroyed ones the research is completed. The researcher and participants were also agreed to use pseudo name instead. They were also communicated the risks like they may felt anxious and emotional during discussion time and they can take time in between and refresh themselves. They are also communicated about the benefit of their participation and the value of the data they give, to themselves, community and other concerned bodies. The FGD and key informant interview participants were given with transportation allowance and health break refreshments. The time duration of the FGD and key informant interview were explained in the consent and the

place of interview and discussion are decided by the respondents and participants. Other possible research ethical considerations and norms are maintained accordingly.

Chapter Four: Findings and Analysis of the Study

This chapter presents the main findings analysis on basis of data collected from primary sources: key informants interview, focus group discussion, field observation and survey questionnaire. The methods and tools of data presentation, descriptions were vital based on the characteristics of the data set. The qualitative data is pre coded, coded, categorized and developed in to themes. The findings are organized in different sub theme and major thematic areas based on objectives of the study. Data collected from the survey questionnaire are also included and integrated within sub-theme and major themes.

4.1. Description of the Study Area

The research was conducted in South Nations Nationalities Peoples Region, Wolaita Zone, W/Sodo town. The Wolaita Zone is one of the fourteen zones of Southern Nations Nationalities Peoples Regional State (SNNPRS) of Ethiopia and covers approximately area of 11447.3 Km². Wolaita Sodo is one of the oldest towns in Ethiopia located at 395km and 165km from the capital city of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa and the regional capital Hawassa respectively. Wolaita Sodo is an economic center and strategic business town having rooms for peoples from different parts of the neighbored zones and Woreda's via six rings of accessible transport ways. Wolaita Sodo is a capital town of Wolaita Zone and the second referral town following Hawassa in SNNPR state. According to data collected from W/Sodo town Finance and Economic Development Office. Wolaita Sodo comprises a total population of 121504 of these populations male accounts 64136 and 57368 are female according to the 2008 E.C population and housing census of CSA. The current administrative division of Wolaita Sodo town comprises of three sub city (k/ketema) hoard with 11 regular town kebeles and 7 rural kebeles. Wolaita Sodo town have room for people of different ethnic groups', cultures, language, norms, values and social identities peacefully living together surrounded in its entirely areas of 216 hectares of land. The agro ecological zone of the town with suitable climatic condition for human beings and the urban dwellers. Astronomically, Wolaita Sodo lies between 6⁰49 N latitude and 39⁰45 E longitudes, likewise the average total annual rainfall is approximately 1000mm and the mean annual temperature varies from 11.9⁰C to 26⁰C.

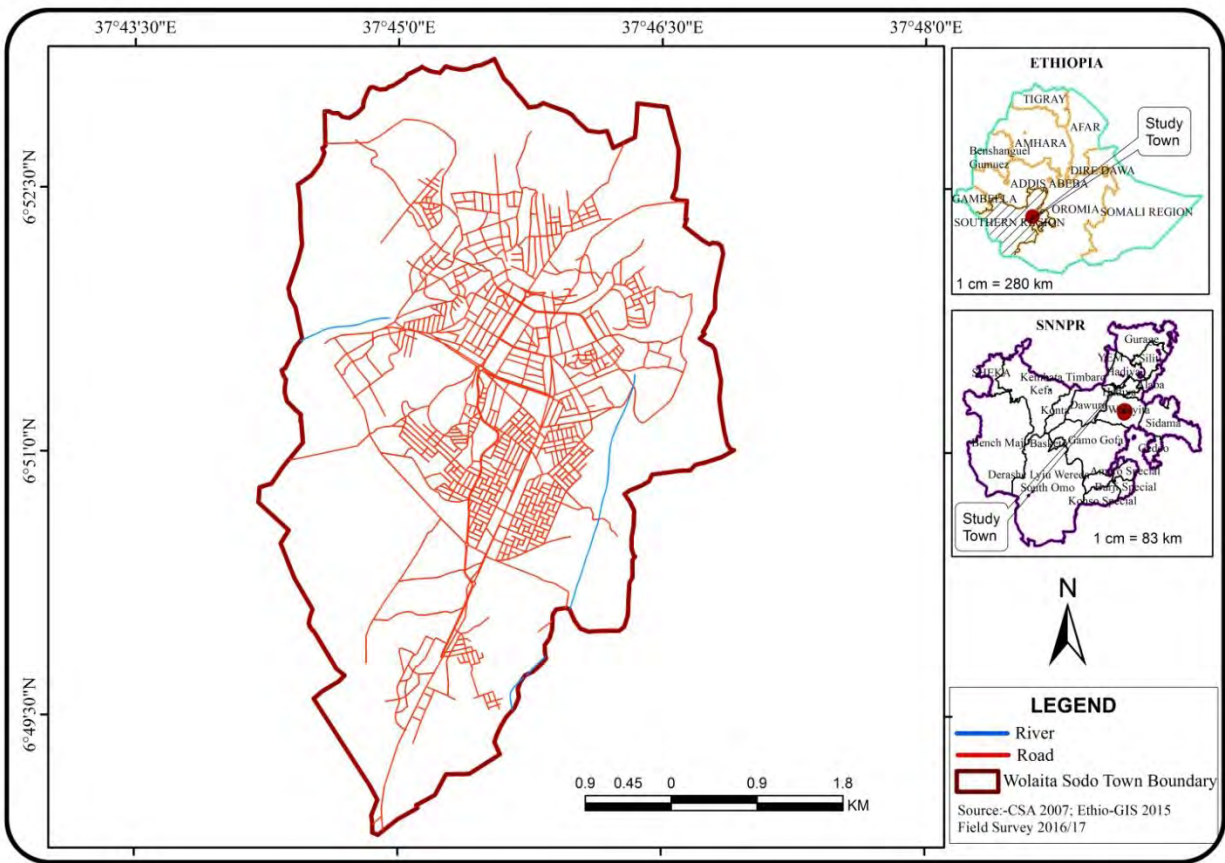


Fig 3.1 Map of Wolaita Sodo town, SNNPR, Ethiopia

4.2. Demographic characteristics of participants

The demographic characteristics examined in this study were; sex age, marital status, education level, main occupation and income. In order to have diversified understanding on the issue under discussion, it is important to provide the demographic characteristics of participants as sub-theme of the finding as indicated in table 3 below.

Table.3 Demographic characteristics of participants

No	Over all demographic characteristics of participants					
	Case		Key informants	Interview participants	FGD participants	Remark
1.	Sex	Male	6	9	12	
		Female	1	3	9	
2.	Age	<25	-	-	-	
		26-35	3	4	9	
		36-45	3	5	8	
		>45	1	3	4	
3	Marital status	Married	5	8	15	
		Single	2	3	4	
		Widowed	-	1	2	
3.	Condition of Employment	Government Employed	7	7	10	
		Private	-	5	11	
		Job seeker	-	-	-	
4	Level of Education	< Grade 8	-	-	-	
		Grade 8-12	-	2	4	
		10/12+1/2/3/4	-	4	4	
		Diploma	-	4	6	
		1 st degree	5	2	7	
		≥ Masters	2	-	-	

Source: Own survey, 2017

The above table presents the demographic characteristics of participants on this study. From the above data we can understand that the highest number of participants were males in which 27(67.5%, N= 40) followed by females 13(32.5%, N= 40). Nineteen participants involved in the interview from these eleven were males and the remaining eight were females. All of participants were adult members of the household comprises with varying age, family size, marital status, and occupations. Description based on the allocation of specific purpose reveals that seven government officials were involved as key informant. The first key informant was the town level community development coordinator and heads of community participation office. The other six key informants were the sub city level community participation office heads and officers. The last twelve participants involved in interview were Kebele and Ketena (local administrative structure) community development committees' representative members. In addition, the study

also included focus group discussion participants consisting of twenty one people of either gender. Twelve were males and the remaining nine were females. Since the composition of the participants in the focus group discussion was highly diversified, different perspectives were reflected.

4.3. Demographic profiles of the respondents

Respondents were asked to state their age, sex, marital status, education level, main occupation and income accordingly. The purpose of choosing these characteristics was to get the general overview of what the respondents are composed of and how they contribute to community participation and local community economic development. In order to have diversified understanding the demographic profile of the respondents as sub-theme of the finding is vital.

Table 4 *Demographic profiles of the Respondents*

No	Description		Frequency	Percentage
1	Sex	Male	98	60.4%
		Female	64	39.6%
2	Age	<25	5	3.6%
		26-35	32	14.3%
		36-45	75	53.6%
		>45	40	28.6%
3	Education status	Below grade 8	24	14.3%
		Grade 8-12	42	30%
		10/12+1/2/3	39	12.1%
		Diploma	23	16.4%
		Degree	27	19.3%
		Masters and above	7	5%
4	Job status	Government employed	82	53.6%
		Private workers	50	28.5%
		Job seekers	30	17.9%
5	Income status	<500 birr	53	30.7%
		501-1000 birr	32	15.7%
		1001-1500 birr	33	22.1%
		1501-2500 birr	24	17.1%
		2501-4000 birr	13	9.3%
		4001-6000 birr	7	5%
		>6000 birr	0	0%

Source: Own survey, 2017

From the above demographic profile of the survey respondents it is simple to understand their gender, age, education, job status and income status. Based on the survey data from the total number N=140 (100%) about 54.3% of respondents are males and 45.7% are females. As the age composition reveals 115 (81.9 %) and 25 (17.9%) consist of age >36 and 25-35 years old. Concerning education of total number N=140 (100%): 24 (14.3%) are below grade 8 and 42 (30%) are between grade 8 and 12. About 17(12.1%) of the respondents achieved 10/12+1/2/3, 23(16.4%) are diploma holders and the remaining 34(24.3%) of the respondents are holders of first degree and above. The analysis of job condition reveals that, the majority of the respondents comprises from the total of N=14 (100%), 40 (28.5%) are private workers/self employed and about 70 (53.8%) of respondents are government employed while the remaining 25(17.91%) are job seekers. In relation to income generation from the total population N=140 (100%), about 65(46.4%) of the respondents are private and government employed earning monthly income of birr <1000.00 birr; 55(39.2%) of the respondents are with the income of between 1001-2500 birr, 13(9.3%) of the respondents have income of 2500-4000 birr and the remaining 7(5%) of the respondents have income level greater than 4000 birr.

4.4. Residency and Number of respondents

The following table indicates the overall reaction of respondents to residency and population size to understand the number of households, population size and the percentage it covers. This table presents survey respondents reactions analysis toward residency and population size of each sub-city.

Table 5. Demographic and general characteristics of survey respondents of Merkato K/Ketema

Merkato K/Ketema								
No	Sub-city		Frequency and percentage					
1.	Merkato	%	Kebeles	Frequency	Total household			
					Residence	Number	%	Total %
			Gola	1952	Private houses	1800	92.3%	24.7%
					Kebele houses	152	7.79%	
					Condominiums	----	0%	
			Gebeya	1960	Private houses	1725	88%	24.8%
					Kebele houses	175	12%	
					Condominiums	0	0%	
			Kera	2010	Private houses	1900	95.14 %	25.5%
					Kebele houses	210	4.86%	
					Condominiums	0	0	
			Fana	1970	Private houses	1760	89.3 %	24.9%
					Kebele houses	330	10.7 %	
					Condominiums	0	0%	
Sub total				7890	Total	7890	100%	100%

Source: Own survey, 2017

Table 6. Demographic and general characteristics of survey respondents of Mehal K/Ketema

Mehal K/Ketema								
No	Sub-city		Number of households, residence and percentage					
2.	Mehal	%	Kebeles	Number of households	Total house holds			
					Residence	Frequency	%	Total %
			Damota	1930	Private houses	1680	87 %	24.5%
					Kebele houses	250	13 %	
					Condominiums	0	0%	
			Gido	1960	Private houses	1758	89.7%	24.8%
					Kebele houses	202	10.3%	
					Condominiums	0	0%	
			Wadu	2160	Private houses	1653	76.69%	27.9%
					Kebele houses	107	4.8%	
					Condominiums	400	18.1%	
			Gandaba & Waraza	1800	Private houses	1764	98%	22.8%
					Kebele houses	36	2%	
					Condominiums	000	0%	
Sub total				7490	Total	7890	100%	100%

Source: Own survey, 2017

Table 7. Demographic and general characteristics of survey respondents of Arada K/Ketema

Aroge Arada K/Ketema								
No	Sub-city		Number of households, residence and percentage					
3.	Aroge Arada	%	Kebeles	Number of households	Total households			
					Residence	Frequency	%	Total %
		K/Mihret	2660		Private houses	2096	78.8%	24.95%
					Kebele houses	300	11.3%	
					Condominiums	264	9.9%	
		Hibret	2473		Private houses	2171	87.8%	23.2%
					Kebele houses	302	12.2%	
					Condominiums	-----	-----	
		Selam	2740		Private houses	2522	92%	25.7%
					Kebele houses	218	7.9%	
					Condominiums	----	-----	
		Dili Betigil	2803		Private houses	2600	92.8%	26.3%
					Kebele houses	203	7.2%	
					Condominiums	-----	----	
		Sub total			10676	Total	10676	100%

Source: Own survey, 2017

Based on the above table and data obtain from each sub-city's government, Finance and Economic Development Office, the total households in the three sub-cities (k/ketema) were probably 26,456. According to the figure represented in the above table the total number of households comprised in three sub-cities in center of attention: Merkato, Mehal and Aroge Arada were 7890, 7490 & 10676 respectively. In Merkato sub city, there are four kebeles: namely Gola, Gebeya, Kera and Fana. In Gola there are 1800 households' live in private homes and 152 live in kebele homes. In Gebeya there are 1725 households that live in private homes and 175 live in kebele homes. In Kera there are 1900 households that live in private homes and 210 households live in kebele homes. Moreover, in Fana, there are 1760 households living in private homes and 330 households live in kebele homes. In Mehal sub city, there are four kebeles. These are Damota, Gido, Wadu & Gandaba and Waraza. In Damota, there are 1680 households living in private homes and 250 households live in kebele homes. In Gido, there are 1758 households living in private homes, 202 households live in kebele homes. In Wadu, there are 1653 households live in private homes, 107 households live in kebele homes and 400 households live

in condominium homes. Besides, Gandaba and Waraza, there are 1764 households that live in private houses and 30 households of which live in kebele homes. Finally, in Aroge Arada sub-city, there are four kebeles. These are K/Mihret, Hibret, Selam and Dil Betigili. In K/Mihiret, there are 2096 households living in private homes, 300 households live in kebele homes and 264 households live in condominium homes. In Hibret, there are 2171 households living in private homes and 302 households live in kebele homes. In Selam, there are 2522 households living in private homes and 218 households live in kebele homes. Lastly, in Deli Betigil, there are 2600 households live in private homes and 203 households live in kebele homes. The demographic and general characteristics summary of survey respondents reaction confirm that the highest number of households were residing in Aroge Arada Deli Betigil, consist of 26.3 % of the total population, and Mehal Gandaba & Waraza has the least number of households accounts for about 22.8% of the total population.

4.5. Questionnaire distribution and reaction rate

Bearing in mind that survey questioners distribution and collection data table revealed below; the data distributed and the reaction rate collected carefully: about N=140(100%) survey questioners 49(35%), 49(49 %) & 42(30%) were disseminated in the three K/Ketema namely: Merkato K/Ketema, Mehal K/Ketema & Arada K/Ketema communities respectively. 45(32%), 46(32.8%) & 42(25%) were collected safely. The net questionnaires filled and collected cautiously from the three sub cities were 126(90 %). At last, the questionnaire distributed and collected simply shown and supported by the survey response Table 8 indicated below.

Table 8. Distribution of questionnaire and reaction Rate

N o	Sub-cities	Kebeles'	The frequency of questionnaire distributed	%	The frequency of questionnaire collected	Defects made	Total	%
1	Merkato	Gola	14	8.6%	12	2	55	35%
		Gebeya	15	9.3%	12	3		
		Kera	16	10%	12	3		
		Fana	12	7.1%	9	3		
2	Mehal	Damota	14	8.6%	12	2	55	35%
		Gido	15	9.3%	12	3		
		Wadu	16	10%	12	3		
		Gandaba	12	7.1%	10	2		
3	Aroge-Arada	K/Mihret	13	8.6%	9	3	52	30%
		Hibret	13	9.3%	9	4		
		Selam	12	10%	8	3		
		Dili Betigil	12	7.1%	9	3		
		Total	162	100%	126	36	162	100%

Source: Own survey, 2017

4.6. From the perspectives of community mobilization clusters

Local economic development focuses on the region's potential and identifies specifically what local stakeholders can and need to do to ensure their local community reaches its potential. Local economic development is a participatory process in which local people from all sectors work together to stimulate local commercial activities, resulting in a resilient and sustainable economy. Likewise, Key informant stated that participation is not limited to development projects but includes many activities that take place in normal day to day city life outside of the project context. These range from the micro scale, including such activities as community based maintenance of local drains, to the macro-scale, public support for government sponsored environmental protection programs. Key informant added that although isolated self-help activities as such are not regarded as participation, participatory strategies built on existing processes of urban development supporting them where possible and rendering them more effective by linking them with urban systems.

Both key informants revealed that, organizational clusters created are rights of citizens as stipulated in the constitution to operate in organized manners for community participation and resolving issues of good governance which in turn creates opportunities to better resolution. From these perspectives three sub cities of the town and 11 kebeles community participation organization at cluster directive is implemented. Accordingly, in 83 villages of the city, 485 blocks/development groups and 2222 1 or 5 organizational clusters were created and have been operating. This enables the organizational clusters better develop participation and strengthened their contribution to development endeavors of their area.

4.7. Survey response on the knowledge of the community towards directive

With regard to directive and the directive plays very great role leading the participation of the communities and participatory local community economic development works. From the table 6 it is possible to understand that the knowledge of the community about the directive is more comfortable and strongly needed by survey respondents from the community. Out of the total respondents (N=162(100%)) majority of them 100(61.7%) of the respondents were felt more comfort and shown strong agreement on the availability of the knowledge of the community over the directive. The remaining 58(38.3%) survey respondents were disagreed and suffered discomfort. This survey response result was supported by key informants interview indicated below.

Table 9. Survey response on the knowledge of the community towards the directive

No	Description	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	100	61.7%
2	No	62	38.3%
Sum total		162	100%

. Source: Own survey, 2017

According to key informant interview response highly structured directives secure local economic development via mobilizing resources, communities, committees and councilors including top level officials.

4.8. Local Community Economic Development Coordinating Committees

Investing in community development can be an important contribution to the development of civil society and the long term reorientation of development efforts towards citizens' rights based approach which also includes duties and responsibilities. Such an approach seems to be more appropriate than the romantic construction of the idea of the community. Likewise, the key informants stated that, communities within under different committees and institutions are intertwined and contributed their resources begin from problem identifications up to plan/policy implementation via financially, materially and in the form of human labor uphill participatory local community economic development work. Key one of the informant also revealed that there are high official framework on different committees including development councilors to assure sustainable local community economic development. Moreover, there are also remarkably planned directions leading community participation and local economic development.

Another Key informant added that this preset arrangement of committees kept well conscious to organize each committee accordingly based on the directives do so. This key informant also added that community participation within local economic development was driven by local government to bring job opportunities, local governance secure and local economy stable via mobilizing the resources from the community and other partnerships. Likewise, focus group discussion participant also added that to bring authentic and well-designed local economic development the role of each level of committees should work hard on resources mobilization. Correspondingly, survey reaction presented in table 10 below.

Table 10. Local community economic development coordinating focal committees

No	Description	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	99	61.1%
2	No	63	38.9%
Sum total		162	100%

Source: Own survey, 2017

As the above table indicates the survey respondents showed better convince on local community economic development coordinating focal committee's mobilization. Based on survey reaction

regarding coordination committees from the total number N= 162 (100%): 99(61.1%) have shown positive reaction and given positive consent and 63(38.9%) shown their disagreement.

In the same manner survey reaction supported by and the FGD participants from Aroge Arada and Merkato K/Ketema community development committees pointed out that:-

Like other development plan this local economic development plan is the most vital one. Organizing the local resources and community even orientation brings sustainable local economic development via community participation and forming different level of committees in the ground. Likewise, another FGD participant, added that to bring long-lasting local economic development and community participation excitement of pattern full organized level of coordinating committees' development was available.

4.9 Roles and responsibilities of communities in local economic development programmes

Most community development work involves the participation of the communities or beneficiaries. Thus, community participation is an important component of community development. Effective community participation may lead to social and personal empowerment, economic development, and sociopolitical transformation. Likewise, the key informants strongly indicated that community participation for development and local community economic development plays very great role in developing good governance and anti rent seeking, conducting discussion with the management/leadership, professionals and resident communities thereby creating public awareness and coordination of public wing information flow between 1 to 5 organizational clusters in blocks and village mobilization. Equally, key informants stated the local development and local government plays the role of administrator, provider, facilitator, law maker and planner.

According to the FGD discussants, focusing on community participation development, good governance, economic development, infrastructure development, and social development and justice development agendas movements were highly determines community participation. Furthermore, one of the Key informants pointed out that community participation plays a very great role in identifying development queries and challenges that will be raised in compliant

handling of the city and work in coordination with the community and concerned bodies for resolution perspectives. Another interview participant stated that community participation and local economic development ensuring support and follow up activities for implementation of economic, social, justice and infrastructure development agendas. Finally, one of the FGD participants added that community participation and local community economic development played very great role in ensuring saving cultures and open bank account for deposit. Likewise, community participation can improve the effective and efficient use of local information and resources.

To create new jobs, help communities retain existing jobs, help businesses access capital so that they can take advantage of new market opportunities and ultimately local economic development should contribute to a broader, geographically balanced general framework to increase each country's comprehensive competitiveness. According to the information gathered from town level key informant efforts has been exerted to fulfill increasing development demands of cities from time to time. In this regard concrete results were registered including creating job opportunities. Whereas, it is difficult to fulfill development needs of cities only with the effort of the government, the participation of the community in development activities is necessitated; sense of ownership/belongingness and creating organized performance systems should be developed. Equally, the key informant also added in these perspective development queries of the community should be resolved through participation of residents of cities. On the other hand resources allocated for development activities are applicable based on laws and regulations prepared and implemented.

In the new line key informants added, enabling resource collection from residents of the city efforts were exerted to strengthen development operations via preparation of support manual and accreditation giving through participation by focusing on good governance and extend incentive mechanism for those engaging in development activities through mobilization of the residents. Moreover, the FGD participants indicated that, using this mobilization created, the resident community of the study area has been contributing in terms of finance, labor, materials and knowledge through designed performance systems; According to the town level key informant:-

In this regard, the interview participants said that based on the systems of performance designed, discussion on development and challenges of good governance is conducted at village (mender) levels for 15 days, at kebele level for a month and at sub city level every 2 months as well as at city level every 3 months through public forums discussing on results and gaps observed and from performance system installation these have key roles. Operations observed in most of the areas should be encouraged and in certain places especially at village level discussions are conducted on and off and therefore should be more encouraged hand in hand with solving challenges of good governance that supports development efforts a step forward requiring effective support and cooperation for participation in development endeavors.

As, both two Key informants stated there are community movement agendas in the locality of study area and these community agendas are adjusted from the perspectives of creating organizations in the town with transparent missions, through discussion with the public in creating agendas focusing on for key sections through community participation and implement them in all areas of mobilization. The key informants added that there are different types of community movement agendas to boost community participation vs local economic development. The findings of this study highlighted the community movement agendas including: area development and infrastructure agendas etc. With these agendas perspective every resident of the city should engage in different grades of road construction, maintenance and care activities through financial contribution, labor and material support, every resident of the city should be participated in internal road construction, electricity lines installation activities, water lines installation and maintenance. Last but not least, in order to dispose sewerage and waste from every home all residents dig bore holes in their home for waste management.

According to key informants, the community participation played very high in accordance with community movement agendas first including agendas of economic development including opening of bank account and depositing to develop the saving culture. Similarly, second agendas of social development; these type of agendas mainly focus and develop community of the town

by participating in assurance of development of quality education and implementing the 16 health extension packages at household level.

At last, the key informants declared, community participation practically secured the development agenda of area security and safety protection movement. In this regard, every resident of the village should be mobilized in one to five clusters and participate in night shift observation; residents of the village should protect its area from risks and hazards by installment of bulbs; every resident of the village should respect and obey traffic rules and regulations; every resident of the village should protect and control any illegal construction activates and every resident of the village should respect plan, get respected and obey residential house construction plan standards. Equally, the survey reaction indicated strongly proves the above finding in table 11 below.

Table 11. Response about the existence of community participation in the study area

No	Description	Number respondents	%
1	Yes	142	87.45%
2	No	20	12.55%
Total		162	100%

Source: Own survey, 2017

As can be observed from the above table, the number of survey respondents' reacted with the community and the participation of community over different community movement agendas has gone up and ever increasing. From the total response of survey respondent N=162(100%), individually the number of survey respondents reacted positively and agreed positive were accounted 142(87.45%) and the remaining 20(12.55%) were reacted negatively and disagreed. Based on survey respondents result it is highly possible to deduce the community participation development in local economic development agendas was remarkably increasing. The survey response data assured that more than 85% of the respondents have shown that the existence of participatory local community economic development works was under taken in their locality.

4.10. Response on the participation of communities in development projects financially

To make local community economic development sustainable, it is necessary to provide it with funds. It concerns development services for targeted groups, relevant institutional and financial managements. According to the key informant the petition for funds from various sources to keep participatory local community economic development works sustainable needs effort and commitments. Similarly, the key informant added that the basis for funds to carry out these developmental activities obtained from community, government and NGOs. Likewise, key informant added that the communities and the NGOs contributed money for the developmental activities. Through community mobilization the local communities contributed resources voluntarily and the government cascaded capital budget for development projects. The communities and NGOs collect about 65% of the total amount of money for the project and government provided the remaining 35% of the total amount.

Likewise, the key informant indicated local community institutions work together and submit their applications to donors to raise funds as much as they can. They worked closely with donors' agencies implemented the projects selected by them, especially when the institution representative is a politically influential person or has his channel to grants and donors. Key informant also added that many local institutions suffered from the scarcity of fund from donors due to lack of ability in fund raising, non-adequacy of the proposed sector served by the grant, and difficulties in meeting the criteria announced by the program. Some of the town community groups worked closely where they were assisted in raising fund by identifying the needs, priorities and meeting the criteria of the grant program.

One of the key informants added right now, the majority of the local communities are contributing money and other materials for participatory local community economic development works. Moreover, the local communities were participating in the participatory local community economic development works explicitly in access road construction, walk ways maintenance, drinking water pipe construction, health post construction, sports centers, community policing, housing for elders, kitchen construction and maintenance and security works etc. Likewise, one of the FGD participant stated that execution of project based current concrete situation of participatory development projects the community undertaken money as well as material contribution in advance. These qualitative findings obtained from key informant

interview and FGDs discussion were highly supported by survey reaction as indicated in the table 12 below.

Table 12: Response on the participation of communities in development projects (financially) in the study area

No	Description	Number	Percentage
1	Access road construction	120	85.7%
2	Walk ways construction	130	92.9%
3	Drinking water construction	96	68.6%
4	Health post construction	32	22.86%
5	Sport centers	15	10.7%
6	Toilet construction	30	21.4%
7	Sewerage tube	42	30%
8	Greening environment	60	42.9%
9	House construction for elders	25	17.86%

Source: Own survey, 2017

From the above survey reaction of community participation on development project financially; it is simple to understand commitment of the community on each of the development projects as indicated in table 14. As can be observed from the above survey reaction table all the participants contributed their resource over the above local development project. As it is clearly indicated 130 (92.9%), 120 (85%) & 96(68.6%) of the respondents participated on walk ways, access roads and drinking water construction respectively. Likewise, remarkable number of communities were participated in greening the environment and sewerage tube and its quantitative terms 60(42.9%), 42(30%) respectively. Based survey response data about 32 (22.86%), 15 (10.7%), 30 (21.4%) & 25 (17.86%) communities were put their hand on the projects and contributed their resource over health post construction, sport centers, toilet construction and housing construction for elders respectively.

4.11. Participation of the local communities in local economic development strategic

Planning

Strategic planning for local economic development is important. It is cornerstone of sustainable development. It involves wise resource use, integrating values and thinking ahead. Local and

regional economic development strategies are becoming a necessary and viable complement to traditional development strategies in humankind that has been radically changed by the parallel processes of economic globalization. Local economic development is a process of strategic planning through partnerships between local government, the business community and NGOs. See from this perspective, one of the key informants stated that the local economic development activities are planned from the 1 to 5 organizational development clusters team up to the kebele development committees and goes through sub city development committees and pass to the sub-city; finally at town development committees and councils get decision.

Likewise, one of interview participant revealed that the community is involved in every steps of the local economic planning process but on the contrary some of the respondents from the community said that they haven't ever been involved in local economic development strategic planning process. Equally, FGD participant added that neither the committees nor the concerned officials are working together with the communities and a small number of people in the locality are active participants in the local economic development works while majority of the residents are not that much active.

In this regard, FGD participants said that participating during strategic planning is the most worth having issue but no thought developed at that level. Another FGD participant revealed community participation in local economic development including strategic planning hopefully increasing but still lack of awareness in local economic development theme. Likewise, key informant declared across budget year the participation of community in different local economic development is exceeding alarmingly but still it requires a lot of works. Besides, both key informants disclosed the importance of participating on strategic planning is baseline for local economic development and community participation. Consecutively, the survey reaction rate indicated in the table 13 below consolidates the interview and discussions forwarded.

Table 13. Participation of the local communities in local economic development strategic Planning

No	Description	Number	Percentage
1	Need assessment	80	57%
2	Designing development strategy	70	50%
3	Determining the components in the plan	20	14.3
4	Development evaluation	45	32.14
5	Prioritization of the plans	38	27.14

Source: Own survey, 2017

From the above table it is simple to understand the level of participation of the local communities in local economic development strategic planning varies with issues of development agendas. As survey reaction rate result showed the level of participation at need assessment stage and during designing development strategy were 80(57%) and 70(50%) respectively. From the table 16 we can easily observed that the survey respondents response data shown and confirmed 20 (14.3%), 45 (32.14%) & 38 (27.14%) of the respondents participated in determining the components to be included in the plan; evaluation of the development activities after their involvement and participated in prioritization of plans.

4.12. Challenges and problems of community participation on local economic development

Regarding the challenges these study disclosed a lot and one of the FGD participants indicated that within the community sense of asset based community development mentality and skill is not developed well yet and this mainly emanated from the attitude of impossible and developed the attitude of unreliability. The personal observation result also supports a kind of personal barrier for the participation of the community in local economic development. The FGD participant added that there is awareness and free participation problem to share their resources from the community side and coordination problem around local government and committees. Moreover, there are lack of care observed over developmental activities embarking areas and deficient in participation.

As, key informants indicated, to push further local economic development works there is shortage of resource and cultural incapacity is visible. Financial constraints of the community to contribute for the development projects and the backwardness, weak cultural thoughts lagging the community participate in local economic development practices are also observed as another kind of problem. In line with technical challenges and problems, there is no trained and devoted community participation professionals at different level of offices. Similarly, one of the FGD participants declared that there are no supportive researches regarding the issues of community participation and local economic development activities and practices in the study areas. Another FGD participant added that there is no formal work office for regular meetings and technological support. This key informants and FGD participants information is equally maintained with survey response presented in subsequent Table 14.

Table 14. Responses on the challenges and problems of community participation

No	Description	Number	%
1	Paternalistic role of professionals and officials	70	50%
2	Over reporting of development success	60	42.86
3	Selective participation	36	25.7
4	Miss representing the local communities development needs.	10	7
5	Gate keeping by local elites	12	8.5
6	Excessive pressure for immediate results than long term goals	20	14.3
7	Lack of public interest in local economic development works	40	28.3

Source: Own survey, 2017

From the above table of survey response it is straightforward to figure out the reaction rate of the respondents with regard to description of challenges and problems predetermined. According to the survey data table we can observe about 70(50%), 60(42.86), 36(25.7%) & 10(7%) of the respondents reacted over the paternalistic role of professionals and officials; over excess figure of reporting on development success, problem of selection process and misrepresenting the local communities development needs observed. At last the survey respondent reaction concludes about 12 (8.5%), 20 (14.3) and 40 (28.3%) survey data result shown as problem of gate keeping by local elites, excess pressure for immediate results than long term goals and lack of public interest in local economic development works.

4.13. Response on the importance of participation in local economic development activities

Local economic development offers local and national governments, the private sector, the not-for-profit sectors and the local community the opportunity to work together to improve their economy. It focuses on both enhancing competitiveness, and increasing growth mainly through job creation. In congruent to this, the key informant point of view it is clear that local economic development is seen as a strategic tool to be used in the quest to alleviate poverty and unemployment by municipalities. In the new line another key informant stated that new thing happened after participatory local economic development strategy launched and focusing on the mobilization of local resources, redistribution of resources, promotion of local creativity and innovation, investment in human capital, the provision of technical assistance and training for self-employment and business start-up and support for enterprise creation developed in advance addressed particular social and economic challenges at the local level.

Likewise, key informant added that community participation in sustainable participatory local community economic development securing transparency and accountability, social development like general equality, environmental development like green alternatives and opportunities like enterprise character, income and employment opportunities. Equally, the key informants stated participatory local community economic development is change oriented strategic plan and changes observed are the locality of the town are first beginning of the community to participate and organize under clusters based on their unity and freewill forwards changing their attitude and which has been remarkably observed and registered good results.

As the key informants revealed second change observed was installation of systems of rapid response to queries of good governance and development activities of the community. The community has commenced to discuss on development agendas and challenges of good governance through identification of challenges and commenced to resolve challenges linking with the government and raising challenges in every forums to resolve and the government and public has been closely working. Likewise the Key informants stated that resolving the gaps observed in awareness mobilization of residents, creation of development mind and participation

as well as assuring beneficiary community and improving its implementation was in progress and assure the sustainability of every day's works of local economic development strategy.

Likewise, FGD participants also indicated that participatory local community economic development was highly remarkable strategic agenda via community movement to assure the town transformation. In conclusion, as the key informant indicated reacting to development challenges of the resident community through development and good governance through organizational clusters has created and implementing systems of benefit. The organizational clusters so created through public development partnership, participation and beneficiary community for joint values and encouraging contributions transparently. The key informants and FGD participants response equally maintained by the survey respondent response indicated in subsequent Table 15.

Table 15. Response on the importance of participation in local economic development activities

No	Description	Number	Percentage
1	Awareness of the problem and solution by local economic development	130	92.86%
2	Confidence in the fairness of local economic development activities	73	52.14%
3	Provide brand new ideas in development plan	25	17.85%
4	Effectiveness and efficiency in conducting local economic development	20	14%

Source: Own survey, 2017

From the above table, it is possible to observe that the reaction of survey respondents on the importance of participation in local economic development activities and it illustrates 130(92.86%), 73(52.14%), 25(17.85%) & 20(14%) of the respondents were put their free answer on get ready on awareness of the problem and solution by local economic development, confidence in the fairness of local economic development activities, providing brand new ideas in development plan and effectiveness and efficiency in conducting local economic development respectively.

4.14. The level of the community participation in local economic development in the study areas

Base on literature review community participation has been the most important with regard to service provision and public space development. Simple measures of public space improvement which can be implemented quickly are more likely to succeed than complex interventions with individual components depending on each other for their success. This is particularly true during the initial stages of a project when basic concepts are still not widely understood. The system is not yet functioning and has to overcome a number of legal and procedural obstacles. Community involvement will be crucial in awareness raising, monitoring and problem solving. This can lead to better decision making, enhanced programme delivery and improved sustainability.

In connection to level of the community’s participation the FGD participants pointed out that the level of the community participation in local economic development raises the question how do the participants evaluate degree of participation of the local community in different matters concerning their locality? In the mean time two of key informants shared their opinion and stated generally a handful of active communities are participating in evaluation of participatory local community economic development works and the majority of the communities are not active participants and they are hardly able to evaluate. The key informants and FGD participants response equally maintained through the survey respondent reply as indicated in subsequent Table 16.

Table 16: The level of the community’s participation in local economic development of their locality

No	Description	Number	Percentage
1	Very Good	22	13.6%
2	Good	60	37.7%
3	Medium	50	38.86%
4	Low	30	18.5%
5	Very Low	0	0%
Total		162	100%

Source: Own survey, 2017

As can be seen from the above table, regarding the level of communities participation in development activities were being progressive and about 22(13.6%), 60(37.7%), 50(38.86%) & 30(18.5%) of the survey respondents were reacted at a very good, good, medium, low and below low.

4.15. Concerned institutions for implementations of public movement agendas

Local economic development is a unique field of government policy that directly connects the programmes and resources of central government, both national and provincial, with the combined initiative and coordinated efforts of local institutions and communities working together to address their agreed priority needs and opportunities (DEDEA, 2008). Likewise, the key informant indicated that the local community institutions work in different attitude at alternate sector depending on the focus of the organization itself and access of funding. These institutions are participating in different fields of local economic development works; contributes job creation, develops local people capacity via trainings to enhance local knowledge and skills. Finally, each and every one of the above institutions is working with delivery of essential training to advance awareness creation development. Based on the key informant interview and document analysis public movement agendas and concerned institutions were willing and committed to enhance public participation development as indicated in table 17 below.

Table 17. Concerned institutions for implementations of public movement agendas in the 18 public Development participation organizations.

Concerned institutions for implementations of public movement agendas			
No	Main/chief Agendas	Detailed Agenda	Concerned office for implantation of Agenda
1.	Economic Development Agendas	1. Enhancing job creation opportunities	Food security and employment creation sector
		2. Enhancing saving culture	OMO Micro Finance
		3. Protection of land grabbing and illegal crimes	Land development sector
		4. Developing culture of tax payment obligation using receipts	Revenues authority office
		5. Illegal trade protection and distribution of consumption goods (oil and sugar) assurances of fair distribution	Tread and Industry Development Bureau/Department/Office
2.	Infrastructure agendas	6. Road construction, maintenance and care	Integrated infrastructure supply and administration core process owner
		7. Road size electric installation, care and telecom infrastructure care	Electric power institution, telecom and integrated infrastructure development supply and administration core process
		8. Water lines installation, public water installation and care	Water services office and integrated infrastructure Development supply and Administration Core Process
		9. Dry and sewerage waste disposal, reuse, recycling sanitation and beautification as well as green development	Sanitation Administration and green Development Core Process
		10. Improving house and fence construction as well as communal residence methods	Housing Development and Administration Sector
3.	Social development agendas	11. Accessibility of quality urban	Education Sector

		education package	
		12. Urban health extension program	Health Protection Office
		13. Children elderly and disabled care as well as developing youth code of conduct	Labor and Social Affairs Office and Youth and Sports Office
		14. Protecting illegal child trafficking and abuse	Women’s and Children Affairs Office
4.	Justice/fairness administration agendas	15. Assurances of peace and security of the area	Police office
		16. Road safety	Police commission, Department/Office and Transport Bureau/Department
		17. Obeying and respecting and get respected plan	Urban Organization and Planning Institute
		18. Protection of illegal child trafficking and child labor	Municipal services and Human Resources Development Standardization Core.

Source: Own survey, 2017

As can be seen from the above table, regarding concerned institutions for implementations of public movement agendas; around 18 public developments participating organizations were comprised to perform four pillars of community movement agendas includes economic development, infrastructure, social and justice development agendas.

4.16. Execution and evaluation of participatory local community economic developmental activities

Around the world local governments, the private sector and civil society are demanding better ways to achieve local economic development, a corner stone of sustainable development. Participation of local communities in local economic development strategic planning is the emerging experiences in the now a day’s world. Implementation of the local economic development strategy needs to be monitored on an ongoing basis. In this regard key informant K1 and one of the interview participant pointed out that there are progresses with respect to new

investments and the impacts thereof on W/Sodo economy was constantly assessed and monitored over the implementation period of the strategy.

To enhance efficiency and effectiveness of the strategy, continuous adjustment was made, based on market fluctuations and demand changes. In this respect, monitoring mechanism like quarterly evaluation and review, bi annual evaluation, annual report and proactive communication was considered. As the key informant revealed development plan is prepared in block and mender level and transferred to the Ketena development committee and the Ketena development committee discussed on it and sent to the kebele development main committee and the kebele main development committee go through the same analysis and shortlist the plans and sent to the sub-city development main committee. Finally, the sub-city development main committee did the same thing and passes it to the town level development committees. At last, the town level development committees have sole right to approve or throw. In the mean time the key informant added that each of development agendas was got pay attention to be executable within community, committees and government officials. Similarly, key informant revealed that the local communities became active in the evaluation and the developmental activities undertaken were evaluated by local community, committees, government organizations and any other stake holders. At the end FGD participant added that community developed sense of belongingness, ownership over different development project and evaluate as local capital.

With regard to job creation participatory local community economic development work created a lot of works and the evaluation results and fed back collected approved its sustainability. Likewise, key informant and an interview participant approves that after the launching of participatory local community economic development works plan all the three sub cities securing job opportunities progressively. The high number of jobs was created by different institutions meaningfully municipalities including small and medium micro enterprise agencies and World Bank donation programs.

Equally, the town level key informant acknowledged that the evaluation outshined as internal factors like strengths need to be sustained and weaknesses need to be determined. In tandem with strengths point of view community skills and availability, work related skill including trainings,

consultations and financial capitals related issues from private sector, public sector, and external grants of community are considered as key issue and vital resource for any potential local economic developments. Finally, local economic development process role in process facilitation and cooperation. Correspondingly, the key informants point out weakness of productivity by indicating please improve the environment for better productivity, despite the availability of different capital resources willing for investments, increases the need for awareness campaign and improving the investment environment to encourage the local investment. At last, weakness out shined was applicability the laws and regulations.

4.17. Sustainability of participatory local community economic development works

Make no mistake: community and economic development are intertwined. It is important to distinguish them theoretically but in reality they depend on one another to make a community development sustainable. Moreover, participatory community economic development works allows residents to mobilize and build assets to improve their quality of life in a sustainable way. Local economic development retains jobs to develop community self reliance that alleviates poverty for a sustainable livelihood. At the town level key informant stated all development activities/agendas were going in sustainable manner with the motto of “let’s stand together for joint/common agenda and encourage our culture of resolving challenges of community participation over local economic development in unity”. Likewise, another key informant stated that economic, social, area development and infrastructure, security and safety agendas were the most principal ones where participatory community economic development works looked forward to make sustainable development.

Different scholars agree that community participation is vital for sustainable development either at local, regional and national level and accepts as one of the criteria of sustainable development. Equally, key informants added all development activities performed in the town were induce the community to ward sustainability and develop sense of sense of belongingness, ownership and assure sustainable community and local economic development.

In this regard, the development activities done in different budget years are worthy and hopeful to stabilize good governance and fight anti rent seeking ideologies. Finally, one of the interview participants added that to bring sustainable local community economic development the town

community participation development office should work hard on resource mobilization, awareness creation works based on series of training and consultations.

In conclusion, one of the key informant indicated that different kinds of participatory community economic development activities seems going on and assures sustainability of local economic development observe in study area were:- new toilet construction, toilet maintenance, new kitchen construction, road light, road maintenance, new cobble stone construction, walk ways maintenance, sewerage tube work, new open ditch, tube maintenance, environmental cleaning, maintaining the home of the elders, community police, greening the condominium areas, drinking water, kitchen maintenance and new shower construction were infrastructural agendas and essential in nature.

Chapter Five: Discussion

In this discussion part of the study, the research findings are presented; comparisons and contrasts were made between the current study and the works of other researchers. Moreover, major findings of this study are presented in the previous chapter. Here, the findings are discussed against the local and international literature in accordance with the sub topics cascaded in the literature and findings part of the study. The discussion part of this study is begins with elaborating the participatory approach with the study.

5.1 Response on the importance of participation in local economic development activities

The participatory approach is considered as the reaction to the shortcomings of top down development practices, externally imposed and expert oriented (Ayman M. Nour, 2011). According to Kothari U. et al (2001) the advantage of these new approaches is that they are centered on the role of the local community as a primary actor that should be allowed and enabled to influence and share the responsibility and possibly the costs of the development process affecting their lives. In similar manner the current study finding revealed, community involvement brought awareness, monitoring and problem solving ability. This can lead to better decision making, enhanced programme delivery and improved the performance of sustainable of participatory local economic development works. Moreover, the participatory local community economic development strategies and principles give wide opportunities to use the local resources and to evaluate their progress over time.

Different literatures reviews indicated that in an ideal world, using a participatory approach would avoid mismanagement of projects because participation can improve effectiveness and efficiency through use of local information and contributing labor and resources of the community which in turn can lead to local ownership and promote self-reliance and increase the commitment of the local people. In congruent to this, the finding of the current study revealed, community participation became the most powerful tool via mobilizing the local resources and developed sense of ownership, belongingness and assured sustainability. In matching to this, the study by Hall et al (2005) revealed, sense of community plays an important role in fostering support for local development and may enhance its long term sustainability as a broad basis for local economic development planning. Likewise, current study finding also clearly revealed,

community participation assured community sense with having a mentality of make, creative and innovate. Similarly, the community participation developed the mentality of impossible possible having public movement agendas and concerned institutions committed enhancement on public participation discussion to bring sustainable local economic development.

Alternatively, Michael Parnwell (2008) argues that, it is unrealistic to believe that participatory development is becoming the new mainstream paradigm for development and advocates for a practical mixed approach to development that combines alternative and more traditional forms while strengthening the relations between government entities and non-governmental actors. The survey finding also assured that the level of the community's participation in local economic development in their locality and as per survey respondents reaction rate around 10(7%), 50(35.7%) & 50(35.7%) are at very good, good and medium level accordingly. Furthermore, in matching to, the study by Mikkelsen (2005) indicated, local information can clarify problems and needs, enhance solutions, lessen the chance of misunderstandings, reach more people, and increase the commitment of the local people to the project, thus increasing the chance of sustainability and success of the project.

Equally, as new finding declared the local economic development assured its importance within local community with practical terminology. During survey data collection it has been observed that the field work assured sustainability and sense of ownership, witnessed project caring progress data shows and shares bright, progressive and innovative future over local economic development and community participation. The works of Mikkelsen (2005) also contends that it is a widely held belief among development professionals that a higher level of participation among community members will lead to more sustained projects and better long term results observed.

5.2. The participation of the community in local community economic development work

Participation plays a central role in the development of local economic development strategies. Participatory local economic development strategy acknowledges the linkage between open and democratic political systems, individual economic empowerment and local economic development (Beyer, Peterson & Sharma, 2003). Equally, the findings of this study also revealed

that participation is not limited to development projects but it included many activities that take place in the normal day to day city life outside of the project context. These range from the micro scale, including such activities as community based maintenance of local drains, to the macro-scale, public support for government sponsored environmental protection programs.

Generally the current study findings revealed that community participation in development activities is highly significant by stabilizing sense of ownership, belongingness and assured sustainable organized performance systems. In similar manner, the current study also shown that the community participation rate has gone up promotes development works accordingly. This is congruent to the work of Nekwaya (2007) where as he highlighted community participation has the close link with the buildings blocks of development. Community participation and the building blocks of development are linked in the sense that the building blocks have influence on community participation. Concomitantly, the current study of survey reaction of community towards local economic development exceeding ahead and from the total of N=140 (100%) of survey respondents 120 (85.7%) were participated reacted positive towards community participation in sustainable local community economic development works.

This result was consistent with the findings of a study by Theron (2005) posted in focus of community participation as a process to give communities an opportunity to determine their own destination in terms of their needs and resources. This means that provision at grassroots level with abilities, which could enable them to negotiate development delivery systems and be able to take informed decisions, in terms of their development needs and priorities. Besides, the current study finding also assured organizational clusters created are rights of citizens as stipulated in the constitution to operate in organized manner for community participation and resolving issues of good governance which in turn creates opportunities to better resolution. Moreover, with these perspectives all the three sub cities of the town and 11 kebeles developed sense of community participation organization and implemented in the agendas in the cluster directive. Accordingly, 83 villages of the city, 485 blocks/development groups and 2222 1 to 5 organizational clusters were created and have been operating. This enables the organizational clusters better develop and strengthened their contribution to development endeavors of their area.

The study by Speer (2012) indicated experiences of participatory governance mechanisms as a strategy for increasing government responsiveness and improving public services. These mechanisms involve citizens in decision making over the distribution of public funds between communities and the design of public policies, as well as in monitoring and evaluating government spending. Likewise, the new finding of this study also revealed that different committees and institutions are intertwined on coordination of participatory local community economic development work identifications and implementation. Moreover, the committees of local communities' are ready on a local coordination system and utilize their experience.

In addition, there is high official framework on different committees including development councilors to assure local community economic development. Furthermore, there are also remarkably planned directions leading local economic development with medium community participation. As per participation the survey respondents' response rate showed better convene on local community economic development coordinating focal committee's mobilization. Based on survey reaction regarding the mobilization of local community's economic development coordination committees from the total households N= 140 (100%), 77(55%) have shown their positive consent to ward participation.

5.3. The roles of participation of the community in local economic development

As it has been presented and analysed in the current study finding section community participation in local community economic development works plays great role over the issues especially in developing good governance and creating anti rent seeking attitude, creating public awareness and coordination. This is also fitting to the work of Theron (2005) indicated, in such a way that, community participation empowering people by developing their skills and abilities so that they can negotiate with the urban development system and can make their own decisions in terms of their development needs and priorities. As well, the current study finding revealed, the participation of community in development activities necessitated and ensured sustainability and created sense of belongingness. The outlook of development query of the community was resolved via residents' participation and organized public development participation movement in each level of the administrative hierarchy and premeditated presentation of instructions.

Concomitantly, Key informant K1 & K2 stated participatory local community economic development is change oriented strategic plan by assuring sustainability and brought visible economic development, infrastructural development, social development and justice/fairness development. This is congruent to the report of IRINBI (1998) indicated, in such a way, local economic development is a locally driven process that seeks to identify, harness and utilize resources to stimulate the economy and more importantly create new job opportunities in a locality. It is the sum total of the individual contributions of a broad spectrum of the community local authority, business, labour, non-governmental organizations and individuals in improving their economic status by combining their skills, resources and ideas.

According to the verification of the current study finding the systems of performance designed, discussion ahead on development and challenges of good governance conducted at village (mender) levels for 15 days, at kebele level for a month and at sub city level every 2 months as well as at city level every 3 months through public forums discussion and observed gaps. Operations observed in most of the areas were encouraging and in certain places especially at village level discussions are conducted on and off and therefore should be more encouraged hand in hand with solving challenges of good governance that supports development efforts a step forward requiring effective support and cooperation for participation in development endeavors.

In matching to this, the work of Sibiya (2010) stated as community participation implies consultation and working with and not for people. People will participate and contribute meaningfully to something they feel part of, identify with, and associate with their efforts. The development programmes will be much improved, only when the local community plays a vital role in its implementation. It is believed that community participation will enable communities to contribute towards designing acceptable and user friendly projects and make communities develop an interest in the operation and maintenance of projects. In fitting to this, the current findings pointed out that the community participation can thus be enhanced by addressing barriers to participation while at the same time taking the necessary steps to promote the principles of sustainable participation. Likewise, the current work finding based on focus group discussion participants showed, community participation in local economic development including strategic planning hopefully increasing but still lack of awareness in local economic

development theme. In the new dimension similarly, the key informants declared across budget year the participation of community in different local economic development is exceeding alarmingly but still requires a lot of works.

Besides, both key informants disclosed the importance of participating on strategic planning is base for local economic development and community participation. This is supported by the work of Swinburn, Goga & Murphy (2006) stated, in such a way that, local economic development is goal oriented and created local jobs, ensured economic stability and diversity, built comparative advantages, assisted the poor, and ultimately strive to improve the quality of life of all local communities. This agreed with the current study survey reaction rates going ahead with about 80(57%) &70(50%) at need assessment stage and during designing development strategy participation respectively. As observed from table 14 in chapter four of the current study, the participation of community in local economic development differs across each development agendas and the survey respondents' response rate confirmed accordingly. About 20(14.3%) of the respondents participated in determining the components to be included in the plan; 45(32.14%) of the respondents that have participated in evaluation of the development activities after their involvement in the rest of the planning process and 38(27.14%) of the respondents have participated in prioritization of plans.

5.4. Factors affecting the effective participation of stakeholders in local economic development programmes

From different document analysis point of view community participation in local economic development has been largely limited to consultations. These consultations were, however, crucial to develop demand driven service products. Sometimes, they produced an unexpected result which stimulates new ideas. The current works found out different factors that determining participatory strategies and hindering the success of effective participation on development programs in developing countries includes legal issues, technical issues, financial issues, factor related with project management procedures and workable model. The new finding revealed with the relation to legal constraints: it is the most known constraint and the main contributing factor. In this regards, the entire and a variety of community in the town have been trying to cheat when you see from legal perspectives. On this base the current work also pointed out high proportion

of the residents do not possess legal title deed to their plan which constitutes an important constraint to their participation. In the new dimension key informants of the current study indicated that further constraints to participation derived from the regulations and technical values. Moreover, in similar vein current planning methods and procedures are another most dominant factor that makes delay on local community economic development participation.

In congruent to this study Kuppusamy (2008) indicated that, there are four factors that influence community development that would give big impact in bringing an excellent local government. He comes up with four factors that affect community economic development such as self-motivation, socio-economic status, greater awareness and opportunity for participation. In similar avenue key informants and FGD participant of the current study also revealed the constraint of community participation in local community economic development was absence of a workable model and also lack of knowledge of required inputs of time, skills and resources may lead to unworkable compromises.

In congruent to the current study the works of Swinburn, Goga & Murphy, (2006) indicated, in such a way that, factors affecting labor productivity in the local economy include the availability and quality of housing, health and education services, skills, security, training opportunities and public transport. These ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ infrastructure factors are major determinants of a community’s relative advantage. The quality and provision of hard and soft infrastructure forms the cornerstone of a successful local economy.

5.5. Challenges and problems of community participation on local economic development

As Nel & Rogerson (2005) indicated, challenges exist regarding the local economic development process from policy to implementation at the local government sphere. These include that policy doesn’t automatically lead to implementation, improved skills levels are required, and staff and funding shortages need to be resolved, poor community involvement in the planning and implementation of local economic development projects exist and poor monitoring and evaluation. In congruent to this, new findings of current study indicated, lack of the involvement of the community in the local community economic development has a negative impact on the overall performance and community’s attitudes towards local community economic

development. Besides, challenges of participation that are gathered from interviews include dependency, loss of interest, lack of local management and harmonizing conflicting interests. The finding of this study demonstrated the communities did not have the initiative to go to the local community economic development work and within the community there are need based community development sense rather than asset based and this is mainly from the community experiencing the attitude of impossible and developed the attitude of unreliability.

However, there are powerful factors that act as barriers to participation, thereby weakening the participation chain (Joshi M. et al, 2007). These are themed as personal barrier, institutional and political barriers, economic and cultural barriers and technical barriers such as the lack of accessible formats and technological support for groups to enable service users to participate effectively or difficulties in getting small amounts of funding for support costs (Moriarty et al, 2007). The current findings of the survey reaction supported that the prevalence of challenges and problems towards community participation over local economic development varies accordingly 70 (50%) of the respondents reacted over the paternalistic role of professionals and officials; 60 (42.86) of the respondents reacted over excess figure of reporting on development success.

Likewise, challenges and problems observed in study and covers 36 (25.7%) and 10 (7%) are the problem of selection process and misrepresenting the local communities development needs. At last the survey respondent reaction concludes about 12 (8.5%), 20 (14.3) and 40 (28.3%) are observed as the problem of gate keeping by local elites, excess pressure for immediate results than long term goals and lack of public interest in local economic development works. This current study finding also revealed technical challenges and problems focusing there is no trained and devoted community participation professionals at different level of offices. Financial constraints of the community to contribute for the development projects and the backwardness weak cultural thoughts lagging the community participate in local economic development practices are also another kind of problem observed. This is congruent with report of SACN (2004) indicated, in such a way that, municipalities do not have adequate economic strategies in place to address the issues of poverty, unemployment and inequality. Similarly the finding of the current study demonstrated that awareness and free participation to share from the community

side and coordination problem to conduct formal meetings in government officials' side observable as challenges to address different development agendas. Moreover, there is carelessness to have care over developmental activities embarking on and deficient in participation.

This went in line with work of Nel & Rogerson (2005) work indicates, the challenges exist include that policy doesn't automatically lead to implementation, improved skill levels are required, staff and funding shortages need to be resolved, poor community involvement in the planning and implementation of local economic development projects exist and poor monitoring and evaluation.

5.6. Participatory local community economic development works and fund raising system

According to different literatures review local government identifies specific program attributes that may directly influence community development outcome and impacts. For that, local governments attempt to identify defined mission, vision, adequate resources and community support to generate greater awareness among the public. This would help the local government actively plan for a critical successful community development in the future (Desai & Potter, 2008). Equally, the current study finding shown that the community mobilization works linked to make local community economic development sustainable, it is necessary to provide it with funds. It concerns development services for targeted groups, relevant institutional and financial managements.

In the same avenue, the works of Khanya-Aicdd (2006) indicated that, local economic development is currently still not a priority at most local authority, and limited funding is made available from national government. Local economic development strategies lack detail for interventions and lack monitoring and evaluation. Small rural municipalities especially struggle to implement local economic development. The role and functions regarding local economic development is vague with a lack of willingness for partnerships with the private sector. In congruent to this, the key informant revealed the petition for funds from various sources to keep participatory local community economic development works sustainable needs effort and

commitments. Similarly, the key informant added that the basis for funds to carry out the developmental activities obtained from community, government and NGOs.

Equally, the works of Swinburn, Goga & Murphy (2006) indicated that, local economic development is not yet well embedded in municipal structures, which is shown by the lack of local economic development units within the municipalities, limited funds and in some instances no funds allocated to local economic development. Likewise, key informant of the current study added that the communities and the NGOs contribute money for the developmental activities. Through community mobilization the local communities contribute resources voluntarily and the government cascaded capital budget for development projects. The communities and NGOs collect about 65% of the total amount of money for the project and government provide the remaining 35% of the total amount. In the manner, the study by Speer (2012) indicated experiences of participatory governance mechanisms as a strategy for increasing government responsiveness and improving public services. These mechanisms involve citizens in decision making over the distribution of public funds between communities and the design of public policies, as well as in monitoring and evaluating government spending.

In the new dimension key informant of the current study indicated local community institutions work together and submits their applications to donors to raise funds as much as they can. They work closely with donors' agencies to implement the projects selected by them, especially when the institution representative is a politically influential person or has his channel to grants and donors. Similarly, Key informant K4 added that many local institutions suffered from the scarcity of fund from donors due to lack of ability in fund raising, non-adequacy of the proposed sector served by the grant, and difficulties in meeting the criteria announced by the program. Some of local community groups worked closely where they were assisted in raising fund by identifying the needs, priorities and meeting the criteria of the grant program.

Similarly, the works of Khanya-Aicdd (2006) indicated that local economic development is currently still not a priority at most local authority, and limited funding is made available from national government. Local economic development strategies lack detail for interventions and lack monitoring and evaluation. Small rural municipalities especially struggle to implement local economic development.

Chapter Six: Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1 Summary

The tenet of the study was to assess community participation in sustainable local economic development: the case of Wolayta Sodo town. There are many situations that call for the study to be conducted over this research topic. Most community participations and local economic development programs targeting focus on digging out over job opportunity and provides an opportunities to accumulate assets like sense of ownership, belongingness, fund raising and economical components. Despite its relevance the importance community participation is underestimated and excluded as part of the participatory local economic development for long years ago without clearly found. Communities who are seeking to have local economic development and exposed various states of guiding principles and generic strategies which in turn equilibrium their job opportunities and amplify their sense of ownership and belongingness.

It is widely accepted that community participation and participatory local economic development works affected by various aspects. As vast literature indicates, community participation and local economic development plays vital role in providing job opportunity and developing sense of belongingness. As per to this study, the main focus of this study is given to community participation and sustainable local economic development. The relevant data for this study were collected from the community of the towns, the different committees and government officials of different levels. To consolidate the data collected from communities, committees of different levels and officials from town level and sub city office have also participated. Depending on its relevance, other secondary data like documents were also used. To have comprehensive data, both qualitative and quantitative tools were used and the collected data were analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively.

In this study, the roles of community in local economic development, the responsibilities of the community, challenges and problems related with participation are analyzed; job opportunities and fund raising strategies are identified to be the main local economic development dimensions. In a very limited and unstructured way community participation and local economic

development are intentioned with a very great focus of the study town. The results of the study revealed that there was a significant effect on community asset accumulation was observed through community participation over participatory local economic works. The organizational clusters created are rights of citizens as stipulated in the constitution to operate in organized manners for community participation and resolving issues of good governance which in turn creates opportunities to better resolution.

Moreover, communities within under different committees and institutions are intertwined and contributed their resources begin from problem identifications up to plan/policy implementation via financially, materially and in the form of human labor uphill participatory local community economic development work. In other words, even though community never shows difference; through community mobilization the local communities contributed resources voluntarily and the government cascaded capital budget for development projects. The communities and NGOs collect about 65% of the total amount of money for the project and government provided the remaining 35% of the total amount. Furthermore, the participation of community in different local economic development is exceeding alarmingly but still it requires a lot of works. However, this does not mean that community without participation never benefited from community economic development.

In addition, community participation and local economic development are two intertwined issues. Community participation plays a very great role in identifying development queries and challenges that were raised in compliant handling. Local economic development has become one of the key development interventions and focuses on economic challenges which manifest the communities in unique localities. Despite widespread recognition of the need of community participation in sustainable local economic development, in reality community participation builds a sense of community ownership, assures sustainability and responsibility for project activities. Therefore, working up on community participation and local economic development works can develop social, economic, cultural, and infrastructural and justice economy as identified by participants.

5.2. Conclusion

This study has made an effort to assess community participation in sustainable local economic development. In the same token, it has assessed the roles and responsibilities, challenges, opportunities and problems, factors affecting the effective participation of stakeholders and communities in sustainable local economic development programmes. The study has been undertaken with the covert intention of exploring the asset, skill, attitude, knowledge, awareness level of participation of community in the sustainable local economic development. The study participants have been sub city, kebele, and Ketena and mender level development committees participated in the in FGD session. Moreover, the members of ketena, kebele, and sub city and town level active participants from the community participated in survey questions.

Besides, the town level community participation development offices heads, sub city level community participation officers, the sub city level community participation development offices heads and officers participated in the interview session. For its methodological convenience mixed research has been employed for this study. Under qualitative method the sample selection has been guided by principles of non probability purposive sampling technique was employed and in quantitative method the sample selection has been guided by principles of probability sampling technique that was also employed. Of the probability sampling techniques, clustered and simple random sampling technique was used. Additionally, FGD, key informants, interview participants and document analysis was done to support the data collected from the study participants.

The finding of this study revealed that community participation plays a very great role in identifying development queries and challenges that were raised in compliant handling of the city and work in coordination with the community and concerned bodies for resolution perspectives. Moreover, the participation of community in local economic development differs across in each development agendas and the survey respondents' response rate confirmed this accordingly. Furthermore, the community has commenced to discuss on development agendas and challenges of good governance through by identifying the challenges and commenced to

resolve challenges linking with the government and raising challenges in every forums to resolve them, the government and public has been closely working.

Despite widespread recognition of the need of community participation in sustainable local economic development, in reality community participation builds a sense of community ownership, assures sustainability and responsibility for project activities. Likewise, provides a better understanding of local economic development issues and their complexities. Moreover, provides a commitment to address priorities in a cross-sectoral manner. Furthermore, incorporates a wide range of perspectives and ideas, resulting in improved design, management and action. Finally, promotes stakeholder empowerment, guarantees sustainable implementation of strategies in order for divergent interests to reach a consensus.

The focus group discussions, key informant interviews and survey data clearly indicates that the biggest obstacles toward community economic development are community's attitudes towards local community economic development, sense of personal powerlessness; institutional and political barriers, economic and cultural barriers and technical barriers such as technological support that hamper the communities' participation in local community economic development work.

As per the participants, working on areas of community participation, sustainable local economic development evaluation points view, the evaluation outshined as internal factors like strengths need to be sustained and weaknesses need to be determined. In tandem with strengths point of view first community skills and availability of community are considered as key issue and vital resource for any potential local economic developments. Second work related skills including trainings and consultations are being availability but not for the whole community. Third the financial capitals related issues from private sector, public sector, and external grants. Finally, local economic development process may be built upon the potential strength of having local authority role in process facilitation and cooperation.

Correspondingly, the key informants pointed evaluation findings over weakness including: first productivity by indicating please improve the environment for better productivity, second despite the availability of different capital resources willing for investments, increases the need for

awareness campaign and improving the investment environment to encourage the local investment. Third, weakness out shined was applicability of relevant laws and regulation need to updated as the laws and regulations and put them on place.

In new dimension, different institutions are participating in different fields of local economic development works contributes job creation, develops local people capacity via trainings on different issues to enhance local skills. Moreover, each and every one of 18 institutions is working on training, awareness creation and to enhance further local development. Finally, many local institutions suffered from the scarcity of fund from donors due to lack of ability in fund raising, non-adequacy of the proposed sector served by the grant, and difficulties in meeting the criteria announced by the program. Some of local community groups worked closely where they were assisted in raising fund by identifying the needs, priorities and meeting the criteria of the grant program. In conclusion, local economic development is built upon four fundamental pillars: economic, social, environmental and institutional.

5.3. Recommendations

Based on the above finding the following recommendations are forwarded.

1. The aim of making better directives is to produce better community movement agendas resulting in better community participation and local economic development. This is achieved by constructive communication between the respective parties (including different committees, councilors, government and non government officials and community forums), participation and pursuing greater transparency. Thus, better directive making will result in securing community confidence and develops sense of ownership and belongingness.
2. The current program of local economic development has limited room to be the community movement agenda by empowering the community'. As the literature indicates, empowerment is the best way to bring about community participation in sustainable local economic development. Therefore, it is clear that the current program does not empower all the community as much as needed and that there has to be a role for stakeholders to ensure that this gap should be filled.
3. Results in this study showed that, coordination problem, lack of conscious community participation and resources are found to be the best predictors of the poor participation and low local economic development. In the absence of effective coordination and strong community involvement; realizing assuring community participation and sustainable local community participation is unthinkable. Therefore, each of concerned institutions and bureaus of community participation development should work hard to establishing separate structure that totally dedicated to community participation development and coordination. Strong community mobilization works should be done at grass root level. Likewise, local government should look forward to develop community development professionals.
4. Participatory local community economic development works and fund raising system should be supported by community mobilization and the local communities must contribute resources voluntarily.

Reference

- Alysha B., Claire P & Anita S (2003) the role of participation and partnerships in Local Economic Development in Africa. New York University's Robert Wagner Graduate School of Public Service Capstone: Advanced Project in International Policy, Management, Finance, and Planning Working Paper, May 2003.
- A.H.J. (Bert) Helmsing (2001) Local Economic Development New generations of actors, Policies and instruments. A summary report prepared for the UNCDF symposium on Decentralization Local Governance in Africa Institute of Social Studies,
- Anne D. S. (2010). Benefits of mixed methods in environmental reporting research: Lincoln University, Commerce Building.
- Andrés R., P & Sylvia T (2005) Local Economic Development as an alternative approach to economic development in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Andrés R., P & Sylvia T (2005) On Emergence and Significance Of Local Economic Development Strategies CAF Documentos De Trabajo CAF Working Papers the N° 2009/07.
- Asnarulkhadi S & Fariborz A., (2011). The Theoretical and Conceptual Framework and Application of Community Empowerment and Participation in Processes of Community Development in Malaysia. *Journal of American Science*, 2011; 7(2).
- .Ayman M. Nour (2011) Challenges and Advantages of Community Participation as an Approach for Sustainable Urban Development in Egypt Associate Prof. of Architecture, Helwan University, Egypt E-mail: a_afify@helwan.edu.eg.
- Blakely, E.J., & Bradshaw, T.K. 2002. *Planning local economic development: Theory and practice*. 3rd edition. California. Sage Publications.
- Chambers R. (1983). *Rural Development: Putting the Last First*, Longman, London;
- CHAMBERS R. (1997), *Whose Reality Counts? Putting the First Last*, IT Publications, London.
- Cole, S. (2007). *Tourism, culture and development: hopes, dreams and realities in East Indonesia*. Clevedon, UK: Channel View Publications.
- Cupples, J. (2005). What is community capacity building? Retrieved 3, March, 2008,
- DEDEA (2008) *Local Economic Development Information booklet* Department of Economic

Development and Environmental Affairs.

- Dinberu Tadesse (2014) Assessment of Community Participation in Sustainable Local Economic Development: A case of three selected Woredas in Lideta sub-city, Addis Ababa city Administration, Masters of Arts in Public Administration and Development Management.
- DPLG, (2005). Case study Experiences in Declining and Thriving Municipalities; Local Economic Development Manual Series, Pretoria: Government Pretoria, January
- Francois Meyer (2013) Local economic development (LED), challenges and solutions: The case of the northern Free State region, South Africa North-West University (NWU) South Africa.
- Gaventa, J., and G. Barrett (2012), Mapping the Outcomes of Citizen Engagement, World Development, Vol. 40 No. 12, pp. 2399–2410
- George Edward (2014) a guide “building community prosperity through local economic development: an introduction to led principles and practices” has been produced by Loc haven management consultants ltd. at the request of the international technical assistance project “Ukraine municipal local economic development”
- Guzman H., C & Patricia Auspos (2011) Community Economic Development and Community Change.
- Hall, D. R., Kirkpatrick, I., & Mitchell, M. (2005) Rural Tourism and Dimensions of Community Capacity Building, Sustainable Business: Channel View Publications.
- Harris, D. D., (1997). Do Colleges Promote Local Economic Development? Tribal College Census Data Shows Marked Important in Personal Income and Poverty Levels. Unpublished doctoral dissertation. Cournell University. Ithaca, NY.
- Hindson, D. & Vicente, V. (2005). Whither LED in South Africa? A commentary on the policy Guidelines for implementing local economic development in South Africa. INTERNET (<http://www.sarpn.org.za>)
- ILO (2010) Gender mainstreaming in local economic development strategies: a guide / International Labour Office, Local Economic Development Programme, Bureau for under Equality. Geneva: ILO, 2010.
- Joshi, M. et al., (2007) Centre for Environment Education (CEE), the South Asia Youth

- Environment Network (SAYEN) Secretariat and Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC). Sustainable Development: An Introduction: Volume-1.
- Kadmiel W (2014) Local Government and Local Economic Development in Southern Africa. Draft for discussion at the Southern African Regional Conference ‘Creating opportunity for developmental local government through regional engagement on Local Economic Development’ Lilongwe, Malawi.
- Kerns, I. (2005). How to develop effective customer satisfaction survey: Guide Star Research Center White Paper.
- Khanya-AICDD (2006). Investigating pro-poor local economic development in South Africa. Briefing no 1, April 2006. Bloemfontein.
- Kothari U. et al. (2001). The case for Participation in Development, in KOTHARI et al, p. 5.
- Kwan, B., Frankish, J., Quantz, D., & Flores, J. (2003). A synthesis paper on the conceptualization and measurement of community capacity. Vancouver: Institute of Health Promotion Research, University of British Columbia.
- Manitoba, (n.d) Community Economic Development for the Local Economic Development officer. Hand book, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development.
- McNutt, A. S. (1995). Program Development in the Rural Community College. In Killacky and Valadez, 1995, pp. 71-78.
- Meyer, D.F. (2013). An exploration of solutions for rural development: The case of the northern Free State. NWU: Vaal campus. Vanderbijlpark (PhD thesis)
- Meyer, D. F. (2014). Local economic development (LED), challenges and solutions: The case of the northern Free State region, South Africa North-West University (NWU) South Africa email: daniel.meyer@nwu.ac.za.
- Mike R (2000) Assessing community participation in local economic development lessons for the new urban policy. Department of Urban Studies, University of Glasgow, 25 Bute Gardens, Glasgow G12 8RS, UK.
- Morgenrood, P (2007): Local Economic New Agenda Development: At the Municipal Level, Government Digest. 26(7).
- Morgan, D. (2009). Research tools: Participants determination for focus group discussion: Qualitative Research. Sage, UK.
- Mufamadi F., (2003). Department of Provisional and Local Government. Local

- Economic Development Manual Series. Consolidated edition, Chapter 2, section A, 37, and 39. www.dplg.gov.za/documents/manuals/pb204 (April, 2006).
- Nekwaya, J. H. (2007). *Assessing Community Participation in Development Planning and Service delivery. A case study of the Omusati Regional Council. Master of Sustainable Development and management: University of Stellenbosch.*
- Nespoli, L. A., (1991). *Investing in Human Capital: State Strategies for Economic Development.* In Waddell, 1991, pp. 17-24.
- Nel, E., & Rogerson, C.M. 2005. *Pro-poor local economic development in South Africa Cities: Policy and practice.* *Africa Insight*, 35 (2) 5-20.
- Newman J., Barnes M., Sullivan, H., & Knops, A. (2004). *Public participation and collaborative governance.* *Journal of Social Policy*, 33(2), 203–223.
- Nhlakanipho S (2010) *an investigation of community participation trends in the rural development process in Nquthu, northern KwaZuluNquthu, northern KwaZulu NatalNatalNatal at the University of Zululand.*
- OERI, (1996). *U.S. Department of Education. Office of Educational Research and Improvement, Washington, DC, USA.*
- Organizing an LED Strategy, (2003). Local Economic Development, the World Bank Group.*
- Parnwell, Michael. 2008. *NGOs and the state.* In: Desai, V. and Potter, R. (2008) *The Companion to Development Studies.* Malta: Hodder Education, pp111-115.
- Putnam, R. D. (2000). *Bowling Alone: the collapse and Revival of American Community.* New York.
- Rogerson, C.M. (2009). *Strategic Review of local economic development in South Africa. Final report submitted to Minister S Shiceka of Department of Development Planning and Local Government (DPLG). Commissioned by DPLG and GTZ. May 2009.*
- SACN, (2006). *State of the Cities Report 2006, South African Cities Network, Johannesburg.*
- South African Cities Network (SACN). 2004. *Local economic development of South Africa State of the Cities Report 2004. Johannesburg. SACN.*
- Samuel P. (1987) *Community participation in development projects the World Bank experience, World Bank discussion papers. Manufactured in the United States of America first printing February 1987.*

- Stohr, W. B. (ed) (1990). *Global Challenge and Local Response*. London: Mansell Publishing limited.
- Speer, J. (2012), *Participatory Governance Reform: A Good Strategy for Increasing Government Responsiveness and Improving Public Services?* *World Development*, Vol. 40 No. 12, pp. 2379–2398.
- Sproule, K. W. (1996). *Community-based ecotourism development: Identifying partners in the process*, *The Ecotourism Equation: Measuring the Impacts*. Bulletin Series, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, No. 99, New Haven, CT: Yale University, 233-250.
- Swinburn G, Goga, S & Murphy, F. (2006) *Local Economic Development: A Primer Developing and Implementing Local Economic Development Strategies and Action Plans*.
- Theron, F. 2005. *Public Participation as a Micro-level Development Strategy*, in David's, F. Theron & K. J. Maphunye. *Participatory Development in South Africa. A Development Management Perspective*. Pretoria: Van Schaik Publishers.
- Tribal College Contribution to Local Economic Development, (2000). American Indian Higher Education Consortium, The institute for Higher Education Policy, <http://www.aihec.org> (March, 2006).
- Tuckett, A. (2005) *Rigour in qualitative research: complexities and solutions*, *Nurse Researcher* 13 (1) 29-42.
- Urban institute, (2003) http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411087_LED_initiative.pdf (March, 2006).
- UN – HABITAT (2005) *The Local Economic Development Series Promoting Local Economic Development through Strategic Planning*. Copyright © United Nations Human Settlements Programme.
- United Nations Habitat, (2009). *International Tripartite Conference on Urbanization Challenges and Poverty Reduction in Africa. Caribbean and Pacific Countries*. Nairobi; UN Habitat
- WHO (2001) *Community Participation in local health and sustainable development approaches and techniques*. World Bank Group Local Economic Development (June, 2006).

World Bank, 2002: Defining LED, available at www.worldbank.org/urban/led/defining.html
(June, 2006).

Yin, R.K. (2003). Case study research: Design and methods. (3rd ed.). USA, California: Sage
publication, Inc.