Impact of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOS) on Increase of Social Economic Development in Rwanda

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Abstract
This study assessed the impact of NGOs on increasing of social economic development in Rwamagana District, Rwanda, with specific objectives to assess the impact of NGO,s in RWAMAGANA District, to analyze the increase of Social Economic Development in Rwamagana District. and to find out whether there is a relationship between NGO,s and increase of Social Economic Development in Rwamagana District. The study was guided by **institutional theory, social capital theory, c**ommunity development theory, and dependency theory. In its methodology, it used a quantitative with descriptive design, with a population of 72 and data was collected using a questionnaire. About the factors of socio-economic development, enhanced healthcare services (M=4.53, SD=0.69), social inclusion (M=4,1, SD=0.93), livelihood opportunities (M=3.44, SD=0.92), economic empowerment (M=4.14, SD=0.82) have been assessed. Socio economic development has been assessed with improved healthcare outcomes (M=4.36, SD=0.9), promoting social cohesion (M=3.86, SD=0.98), job creation (M=3.8, SD=0.9), economic resilience (M=3.96, SD=0.94). About relationship between the impact of NGOs on increasing socio-economic development, all independent variables showed a statistically significant relationship between NGOs and socio-economic development. Economic empowerment is (B: 0.234, p = .001), livelihood opportunities (Beta: 0.368, p = .042), social inclusion (B: 0.104, p = .048) and enhanced healthcare (B: -0.303, p = .014). The study recommended to strengthen economic empowerment initiatives, to enhance livelihood opportunities, to promote social inclusion and community cohesion. to improve healthcare services in increasing the impact of NGOs on socio-economic development in DREAMS and other NGOs in Rwanda in general.
Keywords: Impact of Non-Governmental, NGOS, Social Economic, Rwanda

Background of the Study
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) play a crucial role in addressing social and economic development challenges worldwide. They operate in diverse areas, including poverty reduction, healthcare, education, environmental protection, and human rights. However, measuring the true impact of their projects on broader social and economic development

remains a complex issue. This section provides a nuanced understanding of the role of NGOs' projects on the social and economic development of target communities with a focus on their impact in worldwide, Africa and Rwanda (Werker and Ahmed, 2010).

Globally, In recent decades NGOs have proliferated across the globe, operating in diverse sectors and regions to promote social and economic development. These organizations often work in collaboration with governments, international agencies, and local communities to implement projects aimed at addressing poverty, inequality, healthcare disparities, education gaps, environmental degradation, and other pressing issues. NGOs leverage their flexibility, expertise, and grassroots connections to design innovative interventions tailored to the specific needs and contexts of the communities they serve. In India there were NGOs like SEWA (Self-Employed Women's Association) have worked extensively to empower women in the informal sector, leading to economic empowerment and poverty reduction.Brazil is another global example where there was one NGO called Instituto Socio-Ambiental (ISA) which have been instrumental in advocating for indigenous rights, environmental conservation, and sustainable development in the Amazon region. In south America especially in Peru, NGO like Techno Serve have implemented projects supporting small-scale farmers and entrepreneurs, promoting sustainable agriculture and economic development in rural areas. (W.W.Powell & R. Steinberg, 2004).

In Africa, NGOs play a crucial role in supplementing government efforts to improve living standards and foster sustainable development. Many African countries grapple with challenges such as poverty, disease burden, inadequate infrastructure, and political instability, which necessitate concerted efforts from multiple stakeholders, including NGOs. These organizations implement a wide range of projects focusing on healthcare, education, agriculture, water and sanitation, women's empowerment, and livelihood enhancement. NGOs in Africa often collaborate with local communities, traditional leaders, and government agencies to ensure the Srelevance, sustainability, and impact of their interventions. (Makala et al., 2015), Numerous examples highlight the transformative impact of NGO projects in Africa. For instance, NGOs have contributed to reducing maternal and child mortality rates by improving access to healthcare services, promoting maternal health education, and facilitating community-based healthcare initiatives. In the education sector, NGOs have built schools, provided scholarships, and trained teachers, thereby expanding educational opportunities for marginalized populations. Moreover, NGOs have implemented agricultural development programs, microfinance initiatives, and vocational training projects, empowering individuals and communities to improve their livelihoods and achieve economic self-reliance.In Kenya, NGOs such as BRAC and the Kenya Red Cross Society have implemented various projects focusing on healthcare, education, and economic empowerment, particularly in rural areas.In Ghana, there was one NGO named Ashanti Development which has been involved in projects focusing on education, healthcare, clean water access, and sustainable agriculture in rural Ghana, contributing to socio-economic development.

In Uganda, we have NGO such as BRAC which has implemented various projects focusing on microfinance, education, healthcare, and women's empowerment, contributing to poverty reduction and socio-economic development. (Anheier and Salamon, 2006)

In Rwanda, as it a small landlocked country in East Africa, has undergone remarkable socio-economic transformation in the aftermath of the 1994 genocide. Despite facing immense challenges, including widespread poverty, ethnic tensions, and post-conflict trauma, Rwanda has emerged as a success story in terms of development progress. The Rwandan government, in partnership with NGOs and international donors, has implemented various initiatives aimed at rebuilding the nation, promoting reconciliation, and fostering inclusive growth. NGOs have played a vital role in this process by supporting community-based development projects, promoting social cohesion, and facilitating economic empowerment initiatives.DREAMS is a project operating under François Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Rwanda and started its work in 1995 under FXB International created in 1989, In 2012, FXB Rwanda was registered as a local Non-Governmental Organization and continued to be affiliated to FXB International. Right in 1995, the organization started implementing the programs which were to back economically the vulnerable families specifically due to increased vulnerabilities resulting from Genocide.

It targets HIV affected and/or infected Orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and their households, Adolescents Girls and Young Women (AGYW), key population as well as general population at HIV risk with HIV interventions. The organization also targets poor families with economic empowerment interventions. The nutrition and WASH interventions are designated to beneficiaries with nutrition needs (both capacity building and material support needs) as well as the families with unimproved sanitary practices. The target beneficiaries do also include the families with children in early childhood to empower their families with capabilities of supporting effectively their children in early childhood stages. (https://fxb.org/countries/rwanda/).

This study assessed the impact of NGOs on increasing of social economic development in Rwamagana District, Rwanda.

Problem Statement

Despite the growing prevalence of NGO interventions aimed at promoting socio-economic development in rural communities, there remains a significant gap in understanding the long-term sustainability and scalability of these initiatives, as well as the mechanisms underlying their effectiveness (Dogarawa, 2010). Furthermore, there is limited insight into the perspectives and voices of the communities affected by these interventions. While some studies (Patel's, 2018), (Sherpa's, 2016), (Khan's, 2015), (Johnson, 2017), (Nguyen, 2020), (Paul Farmer, 2003) highlighted success stories or isolated examples of positive outcomes attributed to NGO interventions, there is limited analysis of the scalability and sustainability of these impacts. Additionally, there is a need to delve deeper into the underlying mechanisms through which NGOs contribute to socio-economic development, including their approaches, strategies, and partnerships with local stakeholders. In Rwanda, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play a crucial role in promoting socio-economic development, particularly in rural areas where access to resources and opportunities may be limited. However, despite the widespread presence of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Rwanda, there remains a significant gap in understanding the comprehensive and long-term impact of their interventions on socio-economic development outcomes. This study sought to address these gaps by investigating the enduring impacts of NGO interventions on socio-economic development, exploring the factors contributing to their effectiveness, and capturing the experiences and perceptions of members of DREAMS in

Rwamagana district. By doing so, the research aimed to provide valuable insights for designing more sustainable, scalable, and community-cantered interventions to foster socio-economic development in rural areas. Understanding the contextual factors that influence the success of NGOs' projects in diverse settings is essential for optimizing their impact and ensuring long-term development outcomes. By evaluating the strengths, weaknesses, and lessons learned from past NGOs initiatives and researchers can inform evidence-based decision-making and contribute to the advancement of sustainable social and Economic development in Rwanda and beyond.

Research Objectives
In this research objectives, we are going to develop both general and specific objectives..**1.**
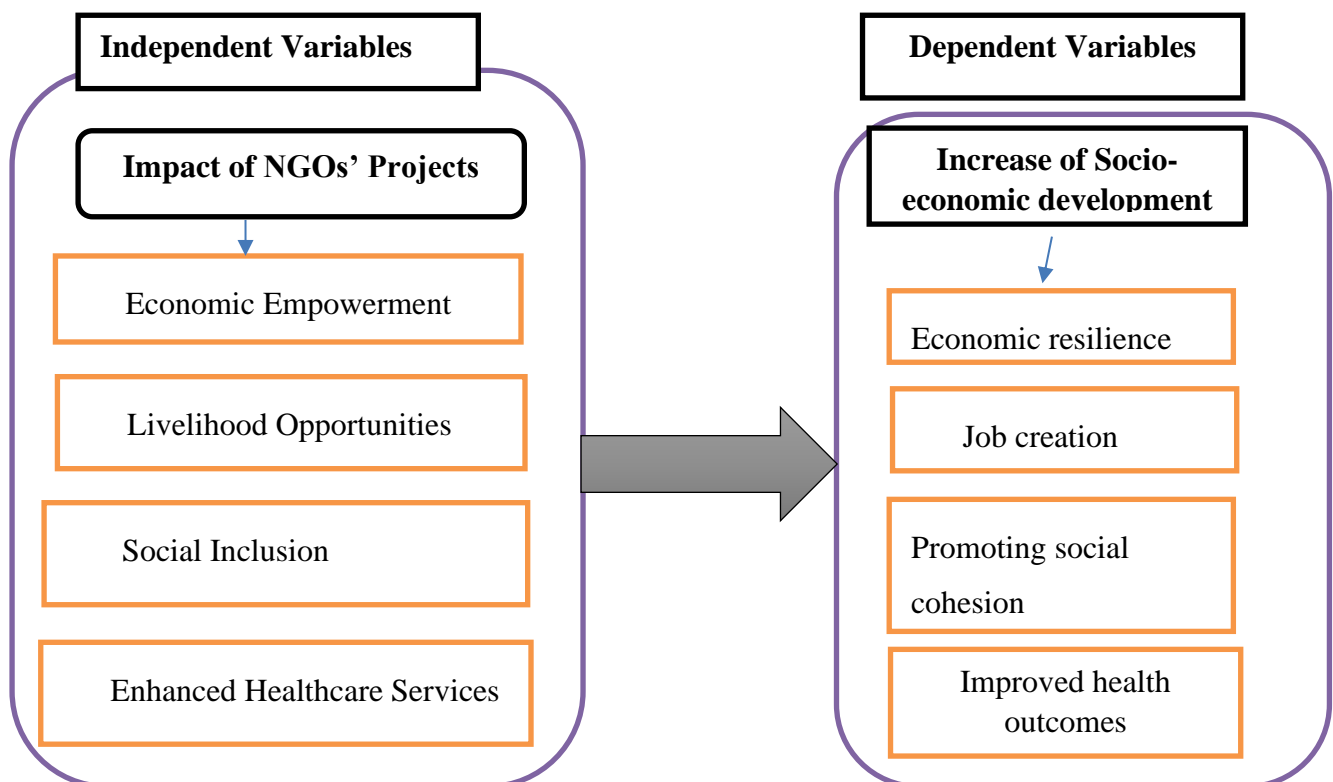
General Objective
To investigate the Impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) on increase of Social Economic Development in RWAMAGANA District.

Specific Objectives
i)   To assess the impact of NGO, s in RWAMAGANA District .
ii)   To analyse the increase of Social Economic Development in Rwamagana District.
iii) To find out whether there is any relationship between NGOs and increase of Social Economic Development in Rwamagana District.

Conceptual Framework
The Conceptual framework in this study offer theoretical structure of two variables that constitute the rational of the study. Independent variable is Impact of NGOs Projects and Dependent variable is Increase of Social Economic Development.

Independent Variables	Dependent Variables
Impact of NGOs' Projects	**Increase of Socio-economic development**
Economic Empowerment	Economic resilience
Livelihood Opportunities	Job creation
Social Inclusion	Promoting social cohesion
Enhanced Healthcare Services	Improved health outcomes

Source: Researcher compilation, 2024

The study was carried out in Rwamagana District, Eastern Province of Rwanda. It has Fourteen (14) sectors, Eight two cells (82) and four hundred seventy-four cells (474). FXB Rwanda implement its Project named Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe Project (DREAMS) in all its sectors. Rwamagana district is comprised of 14 sectors including Kigabiro, Musha, Fumbwe, Muyumbu, Nyakariro, Karenge, Nzige, Gahengeri, Mwurire, Rubona, Gishari, Munyiginya, Muhazi, Gishari, Mushutu and Munyaga. It has six hundred eight two kilometres Squares. It borders with other districts including Gatsibo, Kayonza, Ngoma, Gicumbi, Gasabo, Kicukiro and Bugesera.The Eastern Province has its headquarters in Rwamagana city which also doubles as the Provincial capital. It takes 50 km drive from Kigali to Rwamagana which has an elevation of 1,528 m (5,013 ft). It has the population of more than 47,203 people Economically, Rwamagana district is assembling an interesting industrial sector, there is a rapidly growing industrial park that is projected to create 5,000 direct jobs. Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey (EICV3)

Research Design
According to Saunders, Lewis, and Thornhill (2007), no single design exists in isolation. They argue that combining different designs in one study enables triangulation and increases the validity of the findings. Therefore, the current was cross-sectional and both quantitative and descriptive designs. The quantitative research design looked for explanations on the nature of certain relationships and investigates the cause effect relationship between variables, according to (Saunders, 2009).

Population of the Study
William fox (1992) defines population as «a set of cases from which a sample is drawn and to which a researcher wants to generalize». He continues by asserting that population is data pertaining to all or almost all cases to which a researcher wants to generalize.

For any study to succeed, information needs to be representative of the population covered by the research questions. The population of this study were 72 composed by local leaders, project officer, project volunteers and project beneficiaries as respondents.

Table 1
Research Population

Title	Number
Local leaders	8
Project officers	7
Project Volunteers	15
Project beneficiaries	42
Total	72

(Source: DREAMS, 2024)

Sample Size
According to Christensen (1991), the study must consider a sample size that is within the cost constraint but should provide the ability to detect an independent variable effect. Williamson

(1982) comments on the sample size as being a phase of research, which is crucial because of its major impact on time and money that must go into data collection. Sample size stays a count the separate samples or observations in any statistical setting, such as a scientific experiment or a public opinion survey. In this study sample, the sample size was not calculated because the targeted population is small.

Sampling Techniques
Sampling technique provides a range of methods that enable you to reduce the amount of data you need to collect by considering only data from a subgroup rather than all cases or elements. In a focus group, for example, you may want to consciously seek out respondents at both ends of a spectrum to ensure that all viewpoints are adequately represented (Mark 2009).

The sampling techniques which were applied for this study were both random sampling technique where every member of the population has an equal chance of being selected and also the stratified random sampling where a large population was divided into groups (strata) and members of sample were chosen randomly from these strata.

Data Collection Techniques and Tools
The information from the primary data was obtained through a structured questionnaire and an interview schedule and documentary search was applied as to obtain secondary data.

Primary Data
Questionnaire
Kenneth D. Bailey (1987) defines questionnaire as a list of questions generally mailed or handed to the respondents and filled in by her with no help to the interviewer. Questionnaire helps in gathering large amounts of data efficiently because it allows you to reach a lot of people quickly and cheaply, which means you can collect a lot of data points to analyze. Questionnaire also helps in getting a general idea of what a population thinks or feels about a topic but the most important of it, is its standardization because everyone answers the same questions, questionnaires help to ensure consistency in the data collected and this makes it easier to compare and analyse the results. The questionnaire contained both open and closed ended questions were addressed to the respondents. With open-ended questions were kept to the minimum to enable the respondents to focus on aspect of the research. With open - ended questions, the respondents had to give personal responses or opinions in their own words whereas with close-ended questions, respondents were given different alternatives to choose from. The questionnaire was written in a very simple language to avoid ambiguous answers from the respondents.This tool contains the series of questions, and other prompts for gathering information from respondents. In this research, questionnaires confined the closed ended questions that were addressed to the 72 respondents from Rwamagana District especially in Gahengeri sector for writing their opinions. The structured questionnaire was designed through five Likert-scales, where 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3= Neutral; 4= Agree; 5= Strongly Agree. Questionnaire was composed by close end, and we are expecting participation rate of 100% in responding the questions.

Secondary Data
The secondary data referred to data which had been already collected and analyzed by someone else. The secondary data was any document written and collected before by other purpose. The research used the reports, journals and internet.

Documentary Review
Data was revealed from documentary review especially textbooks, magazines, internet source, and any other documents that were deemed necessary and reading books. This technique allowed to collect data and information from different books, reports, texts and dissertations as well other documents. One of the main measures for that was proper documentation and transparency of the research procedures. This was ensured by outlining the theoretical framework for analysis, describing the manner of choosing the sample and by providing the questionnaire and primary sources using structured close ended questions, were the first occurrence as a point of departure for the empirical investigation.

Research Validity and Reliability
Validity
Before applying, pre-test was used where ten questionnaires in Rwamagana District was tried for making sure that the instrument is clear and measures correctly the intended to measure. The validity of the tool refers to the degree to which the tool measures what asserts or claims to measure. The study's supervisor checked the validity of the instruments before they are utilized. The questionnaires will be given to researcher professionals for their input in order to make sure that they will be accurate and relevant. According to Smith (2003), Validity measures the extent to which the instrument achieves what it sets out to do. The validity of instrument is measured by using the content validity index (CVI) when it scores of 0.60 or higher is generally considered acceptable for ensuring content validity.
It uses this formula: Total numbers of relevant items in instruments / total number of items in instruments. (Denise Polit Et al 2006)

$$CVI = \frac{\text{Total number of valid items}}{\text{Total number of items}}$$

CVI=34/38=0.89=0.9.
The questionnaire was valid since the calculated C.V.I was greater than 0.60 (Sounders, 2012)

Reliability
Reliability refers to the consistency, stability, or repeatability of measurements or data collected in research. It indicates the degree to which a measurement instrument produces consistent results when used repeatedly under the same conditions. In other words, reliability assesses whether the measurement is free from random error and provides consistent results over time and across different conditions (Creswell 2014) .A pilot study was done in Southern Province especially in Nyanza District as the DREAMS Project was also implemented there in order to test study reliability. The research tests its reliability using Cronbach's Alpha for Internal Consistency Reliability where it is used to assess the internal consistency of a scale or set of items in a questionnaire. It measures the extent to which the items in the scale are correlated with each other, indicating the reliability of the scale in measuring a single underlying construct. A higher Cronbach's alpha (closer to 1) indicates greater internal consistency reliability, suggesting that the items in the scale are strongly correlated with each other. Typically, a Cronbach's alpha of 0.70 or higher is considered acceptable for research

purposes.To ensure its reliability, the collected data from those respondent s was entered into Statistical package for Social Science (SPSS,) compute the Cronbanch's Alpha Coefficient and then interpreted. The instrument was approved as reliable where the alpha coefficient is greater than 0.7

Cronbach's Alpha	Internal consistency
$0.9 \leq \alpha$	Excellent
$0.8 \leq \alpha < 0.9$	Good
$0.7 \leq \alpha < 0.8$	Acceptable
$0.6 \leq \alpha < 0.7$	Questionable
$0.5 \leq \alpha < 0.6$	Poor
$\alpha < 0.5$	Unacceptable

Source: Cronbach(2004)

Data Processing
Data processing is concerned with classifying responses into meaningful categories called codes It consists of editing, schedules and coding the responds. The data processing began with editing, coding and finally ended with tabulation. (Roth, 1989) This part explains how the data was obtained from Project stakeholders of FXB Rwanda, Rwamagana district should be edited, coded, recorded and made statistical tables. However, the methods were used to analyze these data in meaningful way are also illustrated in this chapter.

Editing
According to Daniel and Gates (1991), editing is the process of going through the questionnaire to ensure that the skip patterns were followed and required questions are filled out. The basic purpose of editing is to ensures that the errors and omission are corrected and to impose some minimum quality standards on the raw data.

Coding
According to Churchill (1992), coding is the procedure by which data are categorized. Through coding, the raw data are transformed into symbols usually numerals that may be tabulated and counted. The transformation is not automatic; however, it involves judgment on the part of coder. Kalton (1971), states that the purpose of coding in the survey is to classify the answers acquired were coded and tallies used to determine the frequencies of each response. Similar responses would be grouped according to their different categories. This helped the researcher to know for instance the percentage of responses on whether there is an impact of NGOs Project on social economic development in Rwanda.

Tabulation
Seltz et al., tabulation refers to the part of technical process on statistical analysis of data that involves counting to determine the number cases that fall into various categories.
This study applied tabulation of perceptions from the respondents, as the process of assigning values to responses or observations based on their position on a continuum. It allowed researcher to quantify qualitative concepts and measure attitudes, opinions, perceptions, or behaviors. Survey questions were used in asking about satisfaction with a service, and respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement on a scale ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree." "Strongly agree" typically indicates a high level of agreement or

endorsement of the statement or question posed, "Agree" suggests some level of agreement but may not be as emphatic as "strongly agree., "Neutral" implies neither agreement nor disagreement with the statement, "Disagree" indicates a lack of agreement or opposition to the statement, "Strongly disagree" signifies a strong disagreement or rejection of the statement. The responses were then quantified for analysis. The researcher also used measurement to ensure that data collected from respondents are meaningful and comparable, as it provides a basis for statistical analysis and hypothesis testing, allowing researchers to draw conclusions based on empirical evidence.

Data Analysis Techniques
Data analysis is the systematic application of statistical and logical techniques to explain, summarize, condense, and evaluate data to gain knowledge for sensible decision-making (Quad, 2016). For this study, the researcher examined data gathered from the research field using both descriptive statistics and inferential statistics. Descriptive statistics were used in this study's context primarily to show patterns in respondents' feedback and the general direction of the data. These descriptive statistics included measures of dispersion (standard deviation and variance) as well as measures of central tendency (means, mode, and median), the impact of Non-Governmental Organisations projects (NGOs) on increase of social economic development were analyzed using correlation analysis and linear regression in the context of our study. To determine the direction and strength of the correlation between the impact of Non-Governmental Organizations projects (NGOs) on increase of social economic development, the correlation analysis used the Pearson Correlation Coefficient (r). The coefficient values fall between -1 and +1 in the range. Positive signs (+) indicate a positive direction, while negative signs (-) indicate a negative correlation. Signs (+ and -) indicate the direction of the relationship. According to Bryman (2003), a Pearson correlation coefficient value close to 1 denotes a significant correlation, whereas a value close to 0 denotes no correlation between the two variables. When the significance level is extremely low (in our research context, less than 0 point 05), according to Malhotra et al. (2006), the Pearson correlation coefficient is significant. Data analysis method known as "linear regression analysis" uses another related and known data value to predict the value of unknown data. It uses a linear equation to mathematically model the unknown (dependent variable) and the known (independent variable) (Rubin, 2019). Simple linear regression is used when only one explanatory variable is present in a linear regression model. The term "multiple linear regression model" is used when there are multiple explanatory variables included in the same linear regression model. To test the study hypotheses, the researcher used simple linear regression. This study looked at the cause-and-effect relationship between Impact of Non-Governmental Organisations projects (NGOs) on increase of social economic development. The following model was used to assess the effects of project management skills, applying the following regression equation.

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \varepsilon.$$

where β_0 is a constant, β_1, β_2, β_3, β_4, are regression coefficients, X_1 = Economic empowerment, X_2 = Livelihood opportunities, X_3 = Social Inclusion, X_4 = Enhanced healthcare services and Y = Performance of construction projects, and ε = Error term in the model. Multiple linear regressions analysis was used in this study. This enabled the researcher to compare the strength of the impact of Non-Governmental Organizations projects (NGOs) on increasing of social economic development, Case study DREAMS**.**

Data Presentation
Distribution of Demographic Variables
In this study, gender, level of education, age, marital status and experience ranges are demographic variables which could part in influencing the dependent variables.

Table 2
Gender

Gender

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	17	23.6	23.6	23.6
	female	55	76.4	76.4	100.0
	Total	72	100.0	100.0	

Source: Survey data (2024)

The gender distribution data reveals that 76.4% of the respondents identified as female, while no respondents identified as male. This gender disparity could have implications for the interpretation of the study's findings. It suggests that the perspectives and experiences of women may be more strongly represented in the data compared to men. Understanding this gender imbalance is crucial for accurately assessing the overall impact of NGO projects on social economic development, as it may influence the effectiveness of interventions in addressing gender-specific challenges and opportunities. Researchers should be mindful of this gender disparity and ensure that their analysis and recommendations are inclusive and responsive to the diverse needs and experiences of both women and men in the community

Table 3
Age of the respondents

Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	26-35 years	14	19.4	19.4	19.4
	36-45 years	26	36.1	36.1	55.6
	46-55 years	24	33.3	33.3	88.9
	56 and above	8	11.1	11.1	100.0
	Total	72	100.0	100.0	

Source: Survey data (2024)

This distribution suggests that most respondents (36.1%) fall within the 36 to 45 age group, followed closely by those in the 46 to 55 age group (33.3%). The data reflects a relatively balanced distribution across the age categories, with a slight skew towards middle-aged respondents. In interpreting the data within the context of the impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects on social economic development, it's essential to consider how different age groups may perceive and experience the effects of these projects. Understanding the demographics of the respondents can help researchers tailor interventions and policies to address the specific needs and preferences of different age cohorts within the community.

Table 4
Education of the Respondents
Education

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Primary school level	4	5.6	5.6	5.6
	Seconday school level	49	68.1	68.1	73.6
	Undergraduate level	13	18.1	18.1	91.7
	Post graduate level	6	8.3	8.3	100.0
	Total	72	100.0	100.0	

Source: Survey data (2024)

A significant proportion of respondents (68.1%) have education up to the secondary school level, followed by 18.1% with undergraduate-level education. A smaller proportion of respondents have education at the primary school level (5.6%) or postgraduate level (8.3%) These findings within the context of the impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects on social economic development, it's important to consider the varying levels of education among the respondents. Higher levels of education may indicate greater access to resources, skills, and opportunities, which could influence the perception and engagement with NGO projects. Conversely, lower levels of education may suggest potential barriers to participation and benefit from such projects. Understanding the educational background of respondents helps in tailoring interventions and strategies to effectively address the needs and aspirations of different educational groups within the community.

Table 5
Experience of the Respondents
Experience

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 year	4	5.6	5.6	5.6
	2-5 years	10	13.9	13.9	19.4
	5-8 years	27	37.5	37.5	56.9
	8-10 years	12	16.7	16.7	73.6
	Above 10 years	19	26.4	26.4	100.0
	Total	72	100.0	100.0	

Source: Survey data (2024)

A considerable proportion of respondents (37.5%) have 5-8 years of experience, followed by 26.4% with above 10 years of experience. A smaller proportion of respondents have 8-10 years of experience (16.7%) or 2-5 years of experience (13.9%). Additionally, 5.6% of respondents have only 1 year of experience.Within the context of the impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects on social economic development, it's important to consider the varying levels of experience among the respondents. Experience may influence the depth of understanding, expertise, and effectiveness in implementing or benefiting from NGO projects. Respondents with longer experience may provide insights into the long-term impact and sustainability of such projects, while those with shorter experience may offer perspectives on initial outcomes and challenges. Understanding the experience level of respondents helps in identifying key stakeholders, leveraging existing expertise, and

fostering collaboration to maximize the impact of NGO projects on social economic development.

Analysis and Interpretation
This section demonstrates the respondents' rate and study findings alongside discussions of the data output. The findings are in the form of descriptive statistics. The descriptive statistics on Impact of NGOs Projects on increase of social Economic development followed the objectives of the study which were to identify to assess the factors that affect the increase of social economic development of FXB Projects in Rwamagana District, to assess social economic development in Rwamagana district and to find out whether there is a relationship between DREAMS Project and increase of social economic development in Rwamagana District.

To assess the impact of NGO,s "DREAMS" Project in Rwamagana District
Table 6
Survey Data About Economic Empowerment

Economic empowerment	SA		A		N		D		SD		Mean	St. dev
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%		
Opportunities to enhance my skills and knowledge related to income	50	69	22	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.69	0.464
Increased access to resources such as capital, equipment, or training	24	33	29	40	12	17	7	9.7	0	0	3.97	0.949
I can establish or improve my own business or income-generating activity.	23	32	30	42	12	17	7	9.7	0	0	3.96	0.941
Increased economic opportunities due to networking	29	40	12	17	0	0	7	9.7	0	0	3.97	0.949
Confidence in making informed financial decisions	24	33	29	40	12	17	7	9.7	0	0	3.97	0.949
Overall mean											4.14	0.82

(Source: survey data, 2024)

The survey table 5 provides valuable insights into the perceived impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects, with a particular focus on the DREAMS program, on economic empowerment. Across various dimensions of economic empowerment, respondents expressed generally positive perceptions, indicating the efficacy of the programs in facilitating economic advancement. One notable finding is the overwhelming agreement among respondents regarding opportunities to enhance their skills and knowledge related to income. With 69% strongly agreeing, it suggests that the programs offered by NGOs like DREAMS are effective in providing avenues for skill development, essential for economic prosperity in the communities they serve.Moreover, the data highlights a significant proportion of respondents

who believe they have increased access to crucial resources such as capital, equipment, or training, with 33% strongly agreeing and 40% agreeing. This underscores the importance of tangible resources in empowering individuals to pursue entrepreneurial endeavors and income-generating activities.The survey also indicates a strong belief among respondents in their ability to establish or improve their own businesses or income-generating activities. With 32% strongly agreeing and 42% agreeing, it suggests that the programs foster a sense of agency and self-reliance among participants, contributing to their economic autonomy.Networking emerges as another key component of economic empowerment, with 40% of respondents strongly agreeing that they experience increased economic opportunities through networking facilitated by the programs. This underscores the value of social capital in expanding economic prospects and underscores the holistic approach of the NGO projects. Furthermore, the survey reflects a high level of confidence among respondents in making informed financial decisions, with 33% strongly agreeing and 40% agreeing. This suggests that the programs not only provide resources but also equip participants with the necessary financial literacy and decision-making skills crucial for long-term economic stability.These findings align with (Ben Youssef et al., 2021) who showed that economic empowerment is a catalyst for increasing social economic development by equipping individuals and communities with the tools, resources, and opportunities necessary to improve their economic well-being and overall quality of life. Through initiatives such as skills training, access to financial services, entrepreneurship support, and employment generation programs, economic empowerment enhances individuals' ability to earn a sustainable income, thereby lifting them out of poverty and reducing inequality.

Table 7
Survey Data About Livelihood Opportunities

Livelihood opportunities	SA		A		N		D		SD		Mean	Std.dev
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%		
Availability of job opportunities	7	9.7	46	63.9	12	17	9.7	9.7	0	0	3.74	0.769
Acquiring new relevant skills fo income generation	14	19.4	26	36.1	12	17	20	27.8	0	0	3.47	1.1
Ability to start or improve a small business	15	20.8	29	40.3	21	29	7	9.7	0	0	3.72	0.907
Ability to invest in livelihood Activities	15	20.8	27	37.5	23	32	7	9.7	0	0	3.31	0.914
Overall mean											3.44	0.92

(Source: survey data, 2024)

Overall, the survey data reflects a moderately positive perception among respondents regarding livelihood opportunities facilitated by NGO projects like the DREAMS program. However, there are areas identified for potential improvement, such as enhancing job opportunities, expanding skill development initiatives, and addressing the needs of individuals who may not be fully engaged or aware of available opportunities. By addressing these areas, NGO projects can maximize their impact on economic empowerment within the

communities they serve, ensuring a more inclusive and sustainable approach to livelihood enhancement.

Engmann (2021) showed that economic empowerment, intertwined with livelihood opportunities, serves as a potent driver for increasing social economic development, and that livelihood opportunities encompass avenues for employment, entrepreneurship, and skill development, enabling individuals to harness their potential and contribute meaningfully to economic growth. By fostering access to employment in diverse sectors, facilitating entrepreneurship ventures, and providing avenues for skill enhancement, economic empowerment through livelihood opportunities enhances individuals' earning potential and socioeconomic status.

Table 8
Survey Data About Social Inclusion

Social inclusion	SA		A		N		D		SD		Mean	Std. dev
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%		
Equal participation and representation of all community members	19	26.4	28	38.9	14	19.4	11	15.3	0	0	3.76	1.014
I foster a sense of belonging and community cohesion	37	51.4	8	11.1	13	18.1	12	16.7	2	2.8	3.92	1.275
Provision opportunities for marginalized or vulnerable groups	37	51.4	20	27.8	14	19.4	1	1.4	0	0	4.29	0.830
Promoted awareness and acceptance of diversity	38	52.8	29	40.3	5	6.9	0	0	0	0	4.46	0.618
Overall mean											4.1	0.93

(Source: survey data, 2024)

The provided survey table 7 offers insights into the perceived impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects in DREAMS. The data shows a positive perception among respondents regarding equal participation and representation of all community members, with 26.4% strongly agreeing and 38.9% agreeing. This suggests that the programs implemented by NGOs like DREAMS are perceived to promote inclusivity and equal opportunities for community members to participate in decision-making processes.A significant majority of respondents (51.4% strongly agree, 11.1% agree) feel that the programs foster a sense of belonging and community cohesion. This indicates that the initiatives implemented by NGOs contribute to creating cohesive communities where individuals feel connected and valued. Respondents overwhelmingly agree (51.4%) or strongly agree (27.8%) that opportunities are provided for marginalized or vulnerable groups. This highlights the importance of targeted interventions to ensure that all segments of society, including the most marginalized, are included and empowered.In conclusion, the survey data indicates a positive perception among respondents regarding the impact of NGO

projects, particularly the DREAMS program, on social inclusion. The findings suggest that these initiatives effectively promote equal participation, community cohesion, opportunities for marginalized groups, and awareness of diversity within the communities they serve. By continuing to prioritize social inclusion in their interventions, NGOs can contribute to building more cohesive and resilient communities where all members feel valued and empowered.

Table 9
Survey Data About Enhanced Healthcare Services

Enhanced healthcare services	SA		A		N		D		SD		Mean	Std. dev
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%		
Improved access to medical care for community members.	51	70.8	8	11.1	13	18.1	0	0	0	0	4.53	0.787
Increased awareness about health issues and preventive measures	41	56.9	28	38.9	3	4.2	0	0	0	0	4.49	0.712
Provision of training or support for local healthcare providers	43	59.7	29	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.60	0.494
Availability of medical facilities	44	64.1	24	33	4	5.6	0	0	0	0	4.50	0.769
Overall mean											4.53	0.69

(Source: survey data, 2024)

The survey table 8 provides valuable insights into the perceived impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects within the context of the DREAMS program.

The data reflects a highly positive perception among respondents regarding improved access to medical care, with a significant majority (70.8%) strongly agreeing. This suggests that the interventions implemented by NGOs like DREAMS have effectively enhanced access to healthcare services, addressing a critical need within the communities.

A majority of respondents (56.9% strongly agree, 38.9% agree) indicate increased awareness about health issues and preventive measures. This underscores the importance of health education initiatives in empowering community members to make informed decisions about their well-being and adopt preventive measures to mitigate health risks.

In conclusion, the survey data suggests that NGO projects, particularly the DREAMS program, have made significant strides in enhancing healthcare services within the communities they serve. By improving access to medical care, increasing awareness about health issues, providing training and support for local healthcare providers, and expanding the availability of medical facilities, these initiatives have contributed to improving the overall health and well-being of community members. Moving forward, continued investment in healthcare initiatives and collaborations with local stakeholders will be essential to sustain and further enhance these positive outcomes.

To analyse social economic development in RWAMAGANA District especially members of DREAMS

Table 10
Survey Data about Economic Resilience

Economic resilience	SA F	%	A F	%	N F	%	D F	%	SD F	%	Mean	St.dev
Provision of support to recover from economic shocks or crises	24	33.3	29	40.3	12	16.7	7	9.7	0	0	3.97	0.949
Withstanding economic challenges due to alternative sources of income	29	40.3	12	16.7	0	0	7	9.7	0	0	3.97	0.949
You have a facilitated access to financial services (e.g., savings)	23	31.9	30	41.7	12	16.7	7	9.7	0	0	3.96	0.941
Resource-sharing during times of economic hardship	29	40.3	23	33.3	12	16.7	7	9.7	0	0	3.97	0.949
Overall mean											3.96	0.94

(Source: survey data, 2024)

The survey table 9 provides insights into the perceived economic resilience within the context of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects in DREAMS program.

A significant proportion of respondents (33.3% strongly agree, 40.3% agree) acknowledge the provision of support to recover from economic shocks or crises. This suggests that the programs implemented by NGOs like DREAMS effectively provide assistance to individuals and communities facing economic challenges, helping them bounce back from setbacks.

In conclusion, the survey data suggests that NGO projects, particularly the DREAMS program, play a significant role in fostering economic resilience within the communities they serve. By providing support to recover from economic shocks, facilitating access to financial services, promoting alternative sources of income, and encouraging resource-sharing, these initiatives contribute to building stronger and more resilient communities. Continued investment in economic empowerment programs and collaborations with local stakeholders will be crucial to sustain and further enhance these positive outcomes.

Table 11
Survey Data about Job Creation

Job creation	SA		A		N		D		SD		Mean	Std.dev
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%		
Creation of employment within the community	14	19.4	26	36.1	12	16.7	20	27.8	0	0	3.47	1.1
Acquiring new skills for job Employability	7	9.7	46	63.9	12	16.7	9.7	9.7	0	0	3.74	0.769
Operating small businesses for additional job opportunities	15	20.8	29	40.3	21	29.2	7	9.7	0	0	3.72	0.907
Increase in self-employment or entrepreneurship	37	51.4	20	27.8	14	19.4	1	1.4	0	0	4.29	0.830
Overall mean											3.8	0.9

(Source: survey data, 2024)

The survey table 10 provides insights into the perceived impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects on job creation, with a specific focus on the DREAMS program. In conclusion, while the survey data reflects positive perceptions regarding job creation initiatives implemented by NGOs like the DREAMS program, there are areas identified for potential improvement, such as enhancing employment opportunities within the commun ity and further promoting entrepreneurship and self-employment. Continued investment in skill development programs and entrepreneurship support, coupled with efforts to address any existing barriers to employment, will be essential to sustain and further enhance the positive outcomes in terms of job creation and economic empowerment within the communities served by these initiatives.

Table 12
Survey Data About Promoting Social Cohesion

Promoting social cohesion	SA		A		N		D		SD		Mean	Std. dev
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%		
Members have opportunities to interact with one another	19	26.4	28	38.9	14	19.4	11	15.3	0	0	3.76	1.014
DREAMS members have strengthened bonds	37	51.4	8	11.1	13	18.1	12	16.7	2	2.8	3.92	1.275
Inclusivity and acceptance of community members.	15	20.8	29	40.3	21	29.2	7	9.7	0	0	3.72	0.907
All members are integrated in community activities	38	52.8	29	40.3	5	6.9	0	0	0	0	4.46	0.618
Collaboration among individuals within the community	14	19.4	26	36.1	12	16.7	20	27.8	0	0	3.47	1.1
Overall mean											3.86	0.98

(Source: survey data, 2024)

The survey table 11 provides insights into the perceived impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects on promoting social cohesion within communities in DREAMS program. A significant proportion of respondents (26.4% strongly agree, 38.9% agree) perceive that members have opportunities to interact with one another. This suggests that the programs facilitate social interactions, fostering connections and relationships among community members.The majority of respondents (51.4% strongly agree, 11.1% agree) believe that the programs have strengthened bonds among DEAM (DREAMS) members. This indicates that the initiatives implemented by NGOs like DREAMS are effective in building solidarity and a sense of belonging among program participants.In conclusion, the survey data suggests that NGO projects, particularly the DREAMS program, play a significant role in promoting social cohesion within communities. By providing opportunities for interaction, strengthening bonds among members, promoting inclusivity and acceptance, integrating all members in community activities, and fostering collaboration, these initiatives contribute to building stronger and more cohesive communities. Continued investment in community-building initiatives and partnerships with local stakeholders will be essential to sustain and further enhance these positive outcomes.Similarly, Kassim et al. (2022), argued that social cohesion plays a fundamental role in assessing economic development as it reflects the strength of relationships, trust, and cooperation within a community or society. A cohesive society fosters a sense of belonging and mutual support among its members, which is essential for sustainable socio-economic progress. Assessing social cohesion involves examining factors such as social trust, participation in community activities, and inclusivity across diverse groups.

Table 13
Survey Data About Improved Health Outcomes

Improved health outcomes	SA		A		N		D		SD		Mean	Std. dev
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%		
Improved access to essential medical care	44	64.1	24	33.3	4	5.6	0	0	0	0	4.50	0.769
Awareness and knowledge about health issues	51	70.8	8	11.1	13	18.1	0	0	0	0	4.53	0.787
Reduction in the prevalence of common health problems/ diseases	37	51.4	8	11.1	13	18.1	12	16.7	2	2.8	3.92	1.275
Improvements in the overall health and well-being	44	64.1	24	33.3	4	5.6	0	0	0	0	4.50	0.769
Overall mean											4.36	0.9

(Source: survey data, 2024)

The survey table 12 provides insights into the perceived impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) projects in DREAMS project. A significant majority of respondents (64.1% strongly agree, 33.3% agree) perceive improved access to essential medical care. This suggests that the programs implemented by NGOs like DREAMS have effectively enhanced access to healthcare services, addressing a critical need within the communities.In conclusion,

the survey data suggests that NGO projects, particularly the DREAMS program, play a significant role in improving health outcomes within communities. By enhancing access to essential medical care, increasing awareness and knowledge about health issues, reducing the prevalence of common health problems/diseases, and improving overall health and well-being, these initiatives contribute to building healthier and more resilient communities. Continued investment in health education, preventive healthcare, and access to healthcare services will be essential to sustain and further enhance these positive outcomes.

To find out whether there is a relationship between impact of NGO.S"DREAMS Project" and increase in social economic development in RWAMAGANA District.

Table 14

A model summary to assess a relationship between factors that affect the increase of social economic development DREAM Project and social economic development of its members

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.883[a]	.779	.766	.452

a. Predictors: (Constant), enhanced healthcare services, economic empowerment, social inclusion, livelihood opportunities

The model summary indicates a strong relationship between the factors affecting the increase of social economic development in the DREAM Project and the social economic development of its members. The coefficient of determination (R Square) value of 0.779 suggests that approximately 77.9% of the variance in the social economic development of members can be explained by the predictors included in the model, namely enhanced healthcare services, economic empowerment, social inclusion, and livelihood opportunities. The adjusted R Square, which considers the number of predictors in the model, is 0.766, indicating a good fit of the model. The standard error of the estimate (Std. Error of the Estimate) of 0.452 represents the average distance that the observed values fall from the regression line, providing a measure of the accuracy of the predictions made by the model. Overall, these findings suggest a significant relationship between the factors considered in the DREAM Project and the social economic development outcomes of its members.

Table 15

ANOVA a relationship between impact of DREAMS project and social economic development of its members

ANOVA[a]

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	48.215	4	12.054	59.120	.000[b]
	Residual	13.660	67	.204		
	Total	61.875	71			

a. Dependent Variable: socioeconomic development

b. Predictors: (Constant), enhanced healthcare services, economic empowerment, social inclusion, livelihood opportunities

The ANOVA table provides further insights into the regression model's performance in explaining the variance in socioeconomic development.The regression model's F-statistic is 59.120, indicating that the model's explanatory variables (enhanced healthcare services,

economic empowerment, social inclusion, and livelihood opportunities) collectively have a significant effect on socioeconomic development. The associated p-value of .000 (or less than .05) indicates that this result is statistically significant, suggesting that the model's findings are unlikely to have occurred by chance. The sum of squares for regression is 48.215, indicating the amount of variance in the dependent variable (socioeconomic development) explained by the independent variables.The sum of squares for residuals is 13.660, representing the unexplained variance in the dependent variable. Overall, these results support the conclusion that the regression model, with its set of predictors, is effective in explaining the variation in socioeconomic development among the members of the DREAM Project.

Table 16
Coefficients a relationship between factors that affect the increase of social economic development DREAM Project and social economic development of its members.

Coefficientsᵃ

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	13.362	.959		13.939	.000
	Economic empowerment	.786	.220	.234	3.566	.001
	Livelihood opportunities	.750	.505	.368	1.486	.042
	Social inclusion	.214	.467	.104	.458	.048
	Enhanced healthcare services	.590	.235	.303	2.511	.014

a. Dependent Variable: socioeconomic development

The coefficients table provides information about the relationship between the independent variables (economic empowerment, livelihood opportunities, social inclusion, enhanced healthcare services) and the dependent variable (socioeconomic development) in the regression model. The constant term represents the estimated value of the dependent variable when all independent variables are zero. In this model, the constant is 13.362. It indicates the baseline level of socioeconomic development when none of the independent variables are considered.

Economic Empowerment:The coefficient for economic empowerment is -0.786. This means that for every one-unit increase in economic empowerment, the socioeconomic development is estimated to decrease by approximately 0.786 units.The standardized coefficient (Beta) of -0.234 indicates the strength and direction of the relationship after accounting for the scales of the variables. In this case, it suggests that economic empowerment has a moderate negative effect on socioeconomic development. The t-value of -3.566 indicates that the coefficient for economic empowerment is statistically significant (p = .001), meaning that the relationship between economic empowerment and socioeconomic development is unlikely to have occurred by chance. The coefficient for livelihood opportunities is -0.750. This suggests that for every one-unit increase in livelihood opportunities, the socioeconomic development is estimated to decrease by approximately 0.750 units. The standardized coefficient (Beta) of -0.368 indicates a moderate negative relationship between livelihood opportunities and socioeconomic development. The t-value of -1.486 suggests that the coefficient for livelihood opportunities is marginally statistically significant (p = .042), indicating that the relationship may be significant but less robust compared to other variables.

Social Inclusion: The coefficient for social inclusion is -0.214. This indicates that for every one-unit increase in social inclusion, the socioeconomic development is estimated to decrease by approximately 0.214 units. The standardized coefficient (Beta) of -0.104 suggests a weak negative relationship between social inclusion and socioeconomic development. The t-value of -0.458 suggests that the coefficient for social inclusion is not statistically significant (p = .048), indicating that the relationship may be due to random variation. The coefficient for enhanced healthcare services is -0.590. This implies that for every one-unit increase in enhanced healthcare services, the socioeconomic development is estimated to decrease by approximately 0.590 units. The standardized coefficient (Beta) of -0.303 indicates a moderate negative relationship between enhanced healthcare services and socioeconomic development. The t-value of -2.511 suggests that the coefficient for enhanced healthcare services is statistically significant (p = .014), indicating that the relationship is unlikely to be due to chance.

Conclusions

In conclusion, the assessment of the factors influencing the increase of social economic development within the DREAM Project in Rwamagana District reveals several key insights. Firstly, the project has effectively addressed economic empowerment, livelihood opportunities, social inclusion, and enhanced healthcare services, as perceived positively by respondents. These efforts have equipped individuals with skills, resources, job opportunities, and access to healthcare, contributing to overall community development.Furthermore, the survey data indicates positive outcomes in terms of economic resilience, job creation, social cohesion, and improved health outcomes among project members. These findings underscore the significant impact of the DREAM Project in enhancing the socio-economic well-being of its members and fostering stronger, more resilient communities.Moreover, the analysis demonstrates a significant relationship between the factors influencing social economic development within the DREAM Project and the actual socio-economic development of its members. Specifically, economic empowerment and enhanced healthcare services emerge as significant predictors of socio-economic development, highlighting the importance of addressing these areas to achieve meaningful improvements in community well-being.Overall, the findings suggest that the DREAM Project has been successful in promoting socio-economic development among its members in Rwamagana District. Continued investment in these areas, along with targeted efforts to address any identified gaps, will be essential to sustain and further enhance the positive outcomes achieved by the project. By prioritizing economic empowerment, livelihood opportunities, social inclusion, and healthcare services, the DREAM Project can continue to make significant strides towards building stronger, more prosperous communities in the future.

Recommendations

1. To strengthen economic empowerment initiatives: DREAMS should continuously invest in programs that promote economic empowerment, including skill development, access to resources, and financial literacy training. Additionally, consider tailored interventions to address specific needs and challenges faced by different segments of the population, ensuring inclusivity and equal opportunities for all.

2. To enhance livelihood opportunities: DREAMS should build on the existing support for job creation and entrepreneurship by expanding access to vocational training, fostering innovation, and providing mentorship and networking opportunities. Focus on addressing skill

gaps, particularly in emerging sectors, to align with market demands and enhance employability among project members.

3. To promote social inclusion and community cohesion: DREAMS should implement strategies to further promote social inclusion, diversity, and community cohesion within the project. This may include organizing community events, awareness campaigns, and initiatives that celebrate cultural diversity and foster mutual respect and understanding among members.

4. To improve healthcare services: DREAMS should continue to invest in enhancing healthcare services, including improving access to medical care, increasing awareness about health issues, and strengthening local healthcare infrastructure. Collaborate with healthcare providers and community stakeholders to ensure that healthcare interventions are responsive to the needs of project members and the broader community.

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