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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to examine the contribution of non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to socio-economic development of rural areas in Uganda, a cases study of world vision Uganda in Rukiga County and more specifically in Kamwezi and Bukinda Sub-Counties in Kabale District. The study was guided by the three objectives; to find out the contribution of NGOs to socio-economic development of rural areas, to investigate the hindrances to effective contribution of NGOs to socio-economic development of rural areas and to explore the way forward to increase contribution of NGOs to socio-economic development of rural areas. The respondents were selected from Rukiga, local leaders, heads of schools, In charges of health centers, district representatives(Councilors and community Based Services) and the composition of world vision staff members exemplified organization control in the study. The study particularly sought to examine and recommend the kind of contributions world vision has made to Socio-economic development of Rukiga in Kamwezi and Bukinda. The study was conducted using a cases study and employed both qualitative and quantitative techniques. Data was collected during the months of August 2012, using document review, questionnaires and focus group discussions from 85 respondents who were selected using simple random sampling, systematic random sampling and purposive sampling from accessible population of 365 people in the study area. Data was analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative techniques. The study established that world vision interventions have contributed to the development of Rukiga via education, health, community mobilization, livelihood improvement, community development and advocacy. Hindrances to effective contribution of world vision to socio-economic development was due to lack of community participation and involvement since in many occasions world vision employed top to bottom planning design in response to high pressure from their supervisors, lack of ownership and sustainability of interventions and this was partly because they were not involved in planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation. In response to what should be done to increase NGO contribution to socio-economic development, the results indicated that there is need for community empowerment through advocacy interventions and approaches like vulnerable children advocacy and citizen voice and action so that the community members may demand for accountability and delivery of quality services by service providers. It was conclude that top bottom approach that NGO employ in management of programmes and reporting systems including decision making approach being applied were hindrances of NGOs in increasing its contributions towards socio-economic Development. it was recommended that world vision would work better after having close and strong partnerships with the ownership and sustainability.

