

Assessment of Community Participation in Management Activities at Elshegaig Elgaalein Village, White Nile State, Sudan

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Abstract

This study was conducted at Elshegaig Elgaalein village, White Nile state, Sudan. The study aimed to investigate the role of community based management in promoting people to participate in management activities in the study area Data were collected using questionnaire responded 90 headed households in the study area then data were analyzed. Statistical analysis was done using (SPSS). Statically data was tested chi-square test and correlation test. The finding results included that most of householders in this study were men and few were women may be for their responsibility of the management of natural rangeland resources. Majority of respondents ages ranged between 30-70 years old, most of them occupied seasonal agriculture and the others distributed between animal breeders, simple trade, officers and some free works. Most of them they were primary level educated. Traditional leaders in addition to the teachers and health officers were representing the members of village development committee (VDC), their mission was to lead development works and activities in the study area, 2.2% of respondents were members of committees and 97.8% were not. This study concluded that, the participation of local people is appropriate in planning and executing stages but their role was not clear in making decision and editing systems. Chi square test ensured the significant relation between sex and participation of community management activities (at 0.05 level) but it denied the significant relation with age, income level and education level. Correlation test ensured the positive significance relation between sex and participation in community management activities but the correlation Coefficient is very weak. Local people in the study area suffered from many problems (like poverty, lack of services and lack of women opportunities), challenged their participation. So based on the study findings the recommendations proposed were community-based and grassroots institutions should denote and defend local issues, and CBOs had to introduce participatory tools to engage with communities, enable discussions and mobilize community members, set aside for women participation and designed training and educating program to raise the local community awareness to motivate participation in natural range resources management activities.

Keywords

Collaborative, Range Lands, Leader, Gender, Sustainability

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1. Introduction

1.1. Background

There is a growing international consensus that even if stringent emission reduction measures are adopted, future climate change is inevitable. For Sudan, classified as least developed country by the United Nations General Assembly, this poses great challenges and risks to its people and economy. Already burdened with recurrent droughts, food insecurity, water problems, malaria outbreaks and high poverty levels, Sudan's development efforts have struggled to succeed even with current climatic change and variability. The risks associated with long-term climate change will need to be carefully managed in order to ensure the survival and well-being of Sudanese communities [9]

The rangelands of Sudan contribute to the income and subsistence of a large sector of the population and in addition provide more than 80% of the total feed requirements of the national herd [7].

Rangelands in the Sudan form a huge natural resource; they constitute various types of grazing lands, which vary from open grasslands to seasonal watercourses, flood plains, river banks and associated islands, woodlands, hills and mountain slopes. The natural rangelands include herbaceous (mainly grass and forbs) and shrubby covers, and naturally forested areas. Vegetation intensity and diversity become richer from north to south, across the different ecological zones of semi desert, low and high rainfall savannah, flood plains and mountain areas [7].

The concept of Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) is related to a variety of terms, including participatory, community, community-based, collaborative, joint and popular natural resource management. These concepts are often used interchangeably, but may also be used with the intention to emphasize specific characteristics of related approaches [15].

Definition of collaborate: to work with another person or group in order to achieve or do something. [11]

The dual objectives of CBNRM: the desire to conserve natural resources while, at the same time, reducing poverty [6] community-based resource management efforts are based on assumptions that communities and community-based organizations closely connected to natural resources are most likely to foster sustainable resources [2].

Sustainable natural resources management is a field that involves different actors and hence different skills with interlinked knowledge. It also requires coordination among different stakeholders. Community involvement is a dimension that needs specific facilitation in order to come up with sound community action plan [8].

sustainability means a capacity to maintain some entity, outcome or process over time. However, in development literature, most academics, researchers and practitioners apply the concept to connote improving and sustaining a healthy economic, ecological and social system for human development [12].

Generally public participation seeks and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision. This can be in relation to individuals, governments, institutions, companies or any other entities that affect public interests. The principle of public participation holds that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process. Public participation implies that the public's contribution will influence the decision [3].

Public participation may be regarded as a form of empowerment and as vital part of democratic governance. [14].

According to the World Bank Participatory Source book (2010), indigenous participatory approach in the sustenance of natural resources balances the social, environmental and economic objectives International Journal of Education Development [13].

The poor group in community should not left out and that women, men and children are specific in consultation processes.

Main streaming gender in policy is a key step towards gender equality, which is important for economic and social development and improves other development outcomes, e.g., increasing women's access to productive resources, improving health and nutrition, and increasing agricultural productivity gains, among other things. [1]

Gender equity and women's empowerment have been set by the United Nations as unique goals on the 2030 global agenda for sustainable development [4]

Leadership is a highly valued and complex phenomenon.

According to El Siddig and El Nour [5], Local leaders are always integrated into administration and development activities taking place in their territories. Elsiddig also mentioned that Traditional forms of cooperative works have deep roots in the Sudanese culture, e.g. Nafir, Fazaa. Nafir is most common and widely known in Sudan. It is based on labor involvement made by some or all members of the society to help someone in agricultural activities (e.g. weeding, harvesting or building a house, or in cases of public events e.g. firefighting, digging and fencing of water ponds, building of schools and dispensaries. Normally, the labor contribution is made free, but in most cases the organizer or the beneficiary provides foods and drink.

Women in many parts of the country and their status as producers are generally marginalized because of the male biased and urban biased policies that affected their traditional

role as resource managers [10].

This paper aimed to assess Community-based Rangeland resource management: Perspectives of participatory approach at Elshegaig Elgaalein village, White Nile State, Sudan. This Southern African

1.2. Objective

To define the power been developed to the rural communities especially in relation to resource management.

1.3. Importance

Decision makers may understand development situation and the factors which affect participation process to achieve sustainability.

1.4. The Study Question

To what extent had power been devolved to the rural communities especially in relation to resource management.

1.5. The Hypothesis

Power has not been devolved to the rural communities especially in relation to resource management.

1.6. The Study Structure

The study structured in the following sections: section one is an introductory sections represent objectives, study importance, questions, hypothesis and structure. Section two represents the methodology which specifically describes area of study, sampling techniques, data collection, and data analysis methods Section three results and discussion. Section four conclusion and five recommendations

2. Material and Methods

In order to investigate the impact of Community based natural resource management (CBNRM) in participation in natural range resource management in Elshegaig Elgaalein village, this study adopted social survey methods.

2.1. Study Area

This study was conducted at Elshegaig Elgaalein area, White Nile state. It is one of the largest villages at the White Nile Located Northwest of Dweim province. Administratively belong to Um Rimtaha unit. Its land is sandy where the trees and herb grow Most of its people work in rained agriculture, grazing and trade between the markets of the region and modern crafts such as construction work had emerged. It is about 70 km away from Omdurman and is commercially connected to the market of Omdurman. Ecological zones ranging from sub-humid to semi-arid, Average annual rainfall ranges around 300 mm. The rain-fed agriculture planted with

sorghum, millet, and seeds of watermelon as cash crops.

2.2. Sampling Technique

The study covered one region namely Um rimta include 9 villages got benefits from Sudan Sustainable natural resource management project. For similar social and economic conditions and to reduce the cost and effort one represented village has been chosen namely Elshegaig Elgaalein which consist of 800 households. Simple proportional sample technique was followed to select the respondents, 90 households were selected and surveyed.

2.3. Data Collection and Analysis

Study targeted the pastorals depend on based community who live a rural life. The survey sample suffered low educational level and were surveyed with a very simple survey instrument (questionnaire). They were directly interviewed and all questionnaires were filled perfectly. The data were analyzed Statistical analysis was done using (SPSS). Chi-square test used to estimate significance of differences between means and correlation test was done to assess the significance relations,

3. Results and Discussion

Table 1. reflected that 91.1% of respondents were men and 8.9% of them were women. This result reflected that the majority of headed households were men, it may reflect the low level of migration in men side.

Table 1. Distribution of the respondents according to their sex.

Sex	Frequency	Percent
male	82	91.1
female	8	8.9
Total	90	100.0

Source (field survey, 2018)

Table 2. showed that 88.9% of the respondents ranged between (30-70) years old. It may mean that the majority of the respondents were economically active and fall in the productive age.

Table 2. Distribution of the respondents according to their age.

Age	Frequency	Percent
less than 30	2	2.2
30 - less than 50	45	50.0
50 - less than 70	35	38.9
70 and more	8	8.9
Total	90	100.0

Source (field survey, 2018)

Table 3. showed that the annual income of all respondents of were under the poverty line. People who were involved in this category were very poor and this was clearly observed in their life aspects. They rely on seasonal occupation. Their income

was very limited and not satisfying their daily basic needs.

Table 3. Distribution of the respondents according to their level of income.

Level of income	Frequency	Percent
> 20000	26	28.8
2000 > 40000	33	36.7
40000 > 60000	22	24.5
60000>80000	7	7.8
80000>100000	2	2.2
Total	90	100.0

Source (field survey, 2018)

Table 4. showed that 19.0% of respondents often participated in community management activities, 36.7% were sometimes participated, 12.2% were scarcely participated and 32.2% were not. This result may reflect many vision about participation in community management activities. It was observed that the participation in the study area usually takes three aspects including labor, opinion and cash. These types may occur separately or together to perform a given activity.

Table 4. Distribution of the respondents according to their participation in community management activities.

Participate in cma	Frequency	Percent
very much	3	3.3
Much	14	15.6
Sometimes	33	36.7
Scarcely	11	12.2
No	29	32.2
Total	90	100.0

Sources (field survey, 2018)

Table 5. showed that 91.1% of respondents never participated in editing system. Editing system may be monopoly for governmental institution and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

Table 5. Distribution of the respondents according to their participation in community management activities.

Participate in editing system	Frequency	Percent
very much	4	4.4
much	1	1.1
sometimes	3	3.3
none	82	91.1
Total	90	100.0

Sources (field survey, 2018)

Table 6. showed that 69.1% of respondents never participated in editing system.

Table 6. Distribution of the respondents according to their participation in community management activities

Participate in decision making	Frequency	Percent
very much	4	4.4
much	3	3.3
sometimes	11	12.2
scarcely	3	3.3
none	69	76.7
Total	90	100.0

Sources (field survey, 2018)

Table 7. Showed the result of chi-square test for sex upon participate in community management activities.

Sex	Frequency& Percent	participation. CMA					Total
		very much	Much	sometimes	Scarcely	no	
Male	Frequency	3	14	33	9	23	82
	Percent	3.3	15.6	36.7	10.0	25.6	91.1
Female	Frequency	0	0	0	2	6	8
	Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	6.7	8.9
Total	Frequency	3	14	33	11	29	90
	Percent	3.3	15.6	36.7	12.2	32.2	100.0
Value		11.083 ^a					
Sig		.026					

According to table 7. there was association between sex and benefit from pastoral resources at Chi – Square level of 0.05.

Table 8. Showed the result of chi-square test for sex upon participate in editing system.

Sex	Frequency& Percent	Participate in editing system				Total
		very much	Much	sometimes	None	
Male	Frequency	4	1	3	74	82
	Percent	4.4	1.1	3.3	82.2	91.0
Female	Frequency	0	0	0	8	8
	Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9	8.9
Total	Frequency	4	1	3	82	90
	Percent	4.4	1.1	3.3	91.1	100.0
Value		.857 ^a				
Sig		.836				

According to table 8. there was no association between sex and participate in editing system at Chi – Square level of 0.05

Sex upon participate in decision making process.

Table 9. Showed the result of chi-square test for sex upon participate in decision making.

Sex	Frequency& Percent	Participate in decision making					Total
		very much	much	sometimes	Scarcely	none	
Male	Frequency	4	3	11	3	61	82
	Percent	4.4	3.3	12.2	3.3	62.2	91.1
Female	Frequency	0	0	0	0	8	8
	Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9	8.9
Total	Frequency	4	3	11	3	69	90
	Percent	4.4	3.3	12.2	3.3	76.7	100.0
Value		2.672 ^a					
Sig		.614					

According to table 9. there was no association between sex and participate in decision making at Chi – Square level of 0.05.

Table 10. Correlation test between sex and participation in community management activities.

Spearman's Variable		Participation in community management activities
Sex	Correlation Coefficient	.321**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.002
	N	90

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The table 10 showed that there is strong significant relation between sex and participation in community management activities at 0.01 level.

4. Conclusion

Study findings showed that the majority of respondents were male, their ages concentrated in the productive age, the majority of them were married and their education level was primary, all of them stayed under poverty line. The respondents were poorly represented among decision making and editing system processes but they had appropriate contribution in planning and executing management activities. It was also found that women contribution was less than their potential. local leaders had priority of participation in management activities

5. Recommendations

Depending on the previous finding the researcher recommended that community-based and grassroots institutions must introduce participatory tools to engage with communities, facilitate discussions and mobilize community members, initiating and supporting community organizations and improving the status of rural women plus adoption of educational approach to enhance youth and children participation in natural resource management that may be a good step in the sustainability path.

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