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THE EFFECT OF GOAL PROJECTS ON RURAL WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN NABUKALU SUB COUNTY-BUGIRI DISTRICT

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Abstract

The study was about the effect of Goal projects on rural women economic empowerment in Nabukalu sub county-Bugiri district, aimed at establishing the effect of: (1) sustainable livelihoods (2) home based care and support, and (3) orphans and vulnerable children support on rural women economic empowerment. The study was premised on a sample of 190 respondents purposively drawn from Goal project beneficiaries, volunteers, and local leaders. Out of the 190 respondents sampled, 152 were beneficiaries, 28 volunteers and 10 local leaders and out of the 152 beneficiaries, 140 completed the questionnaires. In order to examine the effect of Goal projects on rural women economic empowerment, simple and multiple regressions among the study variables were carried out for the research hypotheses. The simple regression for sustainable livelihoods revealed a 24.6% contribution towards rural women economic empowerment with $R^2 = .246$ in table 4.12; while for the home based care intervention it was revealed in table 4.14 showing the simple regressions that it had an insignificant effect of 20.8% where the R^2 was .208 and for the orphans and vulnerable children support it was revealed that it had a 49.8% contribution on rural women with R^2 of .498 as shown in table 4.30 showing its simple regressions analysis. It was also revealed in table 4.31 (multiple regression results) that; (1) there is a positive significant effect of Goal projects on rural women economic empowerment with R^2 of .530 and a P value of .003 which was below the threshold of .05 implying a 53% contribution of Goal projects on rural women economic empowerment in the study area (2) orphans and vulnerable children support was a more significant predictor of rural women economic empowerment with $R^2 = .498$ and P value of .000 ($P < .0001$) hence a 49.8% contribution when it comes to enhancing the rural women's economic empowerment; (3) home based care and support activities do not have a significant effect on rural women economic empowerment since it was automatically discarded by the system and confirmed by the table (table 4.32) showing excluded variables with P value of .126 which is above the threshold of .05, and lastly, (4) from the findings, conclusion was drawn that, orphans and vulnerable children support and sustainable livelihood activities have yielded a 53% contribution, home based care and support activities were insignificant. Therefore economic empowerment enhancement strategies for the were strongly recommended through strengthening and increasing uptake of orphans and vulnerable children support and sustainable livelihood activities for Goal as well as coming up with a model of enhancing economic status and thus empowerment for the women in rural areas of the country (Uganda) for the government of Uganda; this will also act as a booster in the fight against poverty at household levels thus improve livelihood status.

Key words: Sustainable livelihood, Home based care, orphans and vulnerable children, & Women Economic empowerment