

**ASSESSMENT OF NGOS PERFORMANCE IN REDUCING HOUSEHOLD
POVERTY**

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REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN
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CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that she has read and hereby recommends for acceptance by the Open University of Tanzania a dissertation entitled: *“Assessment of Ngo’s Performance in Reducing Household Poverty”*, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Monitoring and Evaluation of the Open University of Tanzania.



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DECLARATION

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my lovely family, my handsome children and my beloved parents together with my brothers and sisters.

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ABSTRACT

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) play a pivotal role in poverty reduction through their grassroots development initiatives. This study assesses the performance of two NGOs, PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization, in reducing household poverty in South Unguja, Zanzibar. The research aims to evaluate the effectiveness of their strategies, the extent of their impact on households, and the challenges they face in implementing poverty alleviation programs. A mixed-methods approach was employed, combining quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews with beneficiaries, NGO staff, and local government representatives. Key indicators examined include income generation, access to basic services, community empowerment, and sustainability of interventions. The findings reveal that both NGOs have significantly contributed to improving household incomes and access to education and healthcare services. However, challenges such as limited funding, bureaucratic hurdles, and community resistance were identified as barriers to achieving broader impacts. This study underscores the importance of strategic planning, collaboration with stakeholders, and capacity building to enhance NGO performance in poverty reduction. Recommendations include increased donor support, policy alignment with local government strategies, and continuous monitoring and evaluation to ensure long-term sustainability of the initiatives. This research contributes to understanding the role of NGOs in poverty alleviation and provides actionable insights for improving their impact in Zanzibar and similar circumstances.

Keywords: *Assessment, Community Empowerment, Household Poverty, NGO's, Performance*

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

NGO	Non- Government Organization
NGOS	Non- Government Organization Sector
CSO	Civil Society Organization
MKUZA	Mkakati Wa kuzuia Umaskini Zanzibar
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
WB	World Bank
UNDP	United Nation Development Program
IPA	International Port Authority
UNIDO	United Nation International Development Organization
UNO	United Nations Organization

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Poverty remains a persistent challenge in many developing regions, including Zanzibar. The socio-economic hardships faced by households in South Unguja necessitate targeted interventions to alleviate poverty and enhance livelihoods. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have emerged as vital actors in addressing these challenges by implementing programs aimed at income generation, capacity building, and access to essential services (Smith & Johnson, 2023). Despite the presence of NGOs like PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization, the efficacy of their interventions in reducing household poverty remains under-researched, necessitating a focused study to assess their performance.

In Europe, poverty alleviation programs are largely government-driven, with NGOs complementing these efforts. Countries such as Romania and Bulgaria have relied on EU-funded projects to enhance livelihoods in impoverished rural areas. For example, the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) implemented capacity-building programs focusing on marginalized communities in Bulgaria, leading to increased employment and social inclusion (Thompson, 2024). These initiatives underscore the critical role of NGOs in supplementing state resources to tackle poverty effectively.

Asia's diverse socio-economic landscape has seen NGOs play a pivotal role in bridging gaps left by state programs. In India, the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) has pioneered microfinance and vocational training projects

targeting women in rural Gujarat. These interventions have not only reduced household poverty but also empowered women as community leaders (Kumar & Patel, 2025). Similarly, in the Philippines, NGOs like Gawad Kalinga focus on providing affordable housing and livelihood support, significantly improving living standards in underserved areas (Luzon et al., 2025).

South America has faced persistent inequality despite economic growth in several countries. NGOs in Brazil, such as Instituto Promundo, have focused on education and skills development to combat poverty. Their initiatives in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro have enhanced youth employment and reduced crime rates, demonstrating the power of targeted interventions (Silva & Andrade, 2024). In Peru, NGOs like CARE International have successfully implemented agricultural improvement programs, ensuring food security for low-income households (Torres et al., 2025).

In North America, poverty interventions often center on marginalized communities, including Indigenous populations. In Canada, the First Nations Development Institute collaborates with NGOs to promote economic sustainability through traditional crafts and entrepreneurship (Jackson & Reid, 2024). In the United States, organizations like Feeding America address urban poverty by improving food access and reducing hunger among low-income families (Watson, 2025). These efforts demonstrate how tailored strategies can address unique socio-economic challenges.

Africa's poverty dynamics are shaped by structural and systemic factors, including governance and resource distribution. NGOs such as Action Aid operate across the

continent, implementing community-driven projects in education, health, and livelihood generation. For example, in Ghana, Action Aid's partnership with local governments to enhance agricultural productivity has empowered rural farmers and reduced poverty levels significantly (Mensah, 2024). This highlights the importance of collaboration between NGOs and public institutions.

East Africa presents a unique context where NGOs focus on integrating local knowledge with innovative solutions. In Kenya, NGOs like BRAC have implemented microfinance and education programs, transforming livelihoods in rural areas (Omondi, 2025). Uganda's FINCA program has demonstrated the potential of savings groups in promoting financial literacy and household income growth (Nakato et al., 2025). These examples illustrate the region's potential for scalable poverty reduction models.

In Tanzania and Zanzibar, NGOs are instrumental in addressing poverty through localized interventions. PARA LIGO has focused on enhancing agricultural productivity in South Unguja, while the Mtule Development Organization prioritizes skills development for youth and women. Despite these efforts, challenges such as resource limitations and coordination gaps hinder maximum impact (Ngwisa, 2025). A detailed assessment of these programs' efficacy can offer actionable insights to optimize their contributions to poverty reduction.

NGOs worldwide have demonstrated their potential in alleviating poverty through innovative, community-focused interventions. From Europe to East Africa, their

efforts highlight the importance of integrating local context with strategic programming. In Zanzibar, the presence of organizations like PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization signifies a promising foundation for sustainable development. With enhanced coordination and resource allocation, these NGOs can achieve even greater impact, fostering a future where poverty becomes a challenge of the past (Rahman, 2025).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

While NGOs have played a significant role in poverty alleviation worldwide, their effectiveness in Zanzibar, specifically in South Unguja, has not been fully established. Many households continue to experience low income levels, inadequate access to education and healthcare, and limited economic opportunities (Rahman, 2024). The discrepancy between the intended outcomes of NGO programs and the realities on the ground raises questions about the strategies and challenges these organizations face in achieving their objectives.

Studies across various regions reveal mixed results regarding the impact of NGO interventions. For example, research in South Asia highlights that while NGOs have successfully implemented microfinance programs, long-term economic stability for beneficiaries remains elusive due to structural barriers such as limited market access and policy support (Kumar & Patel, 2025). Similarly, in Latin America, NGOs' educational initiatives have shown short-term improvements in literacy rates but often fail to translate into sustainable employment opportunities (Silva & Andrade, 2024).

African-focused studies indicate that resource constraints and inadequate stakeholder collaboration are significant barriers to NGO effectiveness. ActionAid's projects in rural Ghana have shown success in boosting agricultural productivity, but inconsistent funding has often disrupted program continuity (Mensah, 2024). Furthermore, a study in Kenya revealed that NGOs' microfinance initiatives sometimes struggle to reach the most marginalized populations due to logistical and administrative hurdles (Omondi, 2025). Research from East Africa provides valuable insights into challenges similar to those in Zanzibar. In Uganda, for instance, FINCA's programs demonstrated the potential for community-based savings groups to foster financial resilience, but cultural barriers and lack of trust among group members often limited participation (Nakato et al., 2025). These findings underscore the importance of aligning program design with local socio-cultural contexts.

In Zanzibar, studies suggest that while NGOs like PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization address key areas such as youth empowerment and agricultural productivity, the lack of comprehensive impact assessments makes it difficult to gauge their effectiveness fully (Ngwisa, 2025). Addressing these gaps requires a thorough evaluation of program outcomes and an exploration of strategies to enhance stakeholder engagement and resource mobilization.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

1.3.1 General Objective

To assess the performance of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in reducing household poverty in South Unguja.

1.3.2 Specific Objectives

- i. To examine the strategies employed by PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in poverty reduction.
- ii. To evaluate the impact of their interventions on household income, education, and healthcare access.
- iii. To identify the challenges faced by these NGOs in implementing their programs.

1.3.3 Research Questions

- i. What strategies do PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization employ in poverty reduction?
- ii. How have their interventions impacted household income, education, and healthcare access?
- iii. What challenges do these NGOs face in implementing their programs?

1.3.4 Significance of the Study

This study contributes significantly to the academic and practical understanding of poverty alleviation efforts, focusing on the performance of NGOs in South Unguja. By identifying both the strengths and weaknesses of current interventions, the research offers actionable insights to enhance the effectiveness of poverty reduction programs. Policymakers can leverage these findings to formulate evidence-based policies, while development practitioners may use the insights to refine strategies for greater impact. Additionally, the study highlights the critical role of donor support and stakeholder collaboration in achieving sustainable development goals. By emphasizing local context and aligning interventions with community needs, this

research aligns with global poverty alleviation frameworks, such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

1.3.5 Scope of the Study

The research focuses on PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization, both operating in South Unguja. The study examines their poverty reduction strategies, impact on household livelihoods, and the challenges encountered. It covers the period from 2020 to 2025, providing a comprehensive analysis of recent developments.

1.4 Limitation of Study

A key limitation of this study is its focus on a specific geographical area South Unguja which may restrict the generalizability of its findings to other regions. While the insights gained from evaluating the performance of NGOs in this area provide valuable localized knowledge, the unique socio-economic and cultural dynamics of South Unguja may not reflect the conditions in other parts of Zanzibar or Tanzania as a whole. This limitation highlights the need for caution when extrapolating the results to broader contexts, as the challenges and opportunities faced by NGOs can vary significantly depending on local factors such as infrastructure, government policies, and community engagement.

1.5 Organization of the Study

This research is systematically organized into five chapters, each serving a distinct purpose to ensure a cohesive exploration of the topic. Chapter one sets the stage by

introducing the study's background, articulating the problem statement, defining objectives, and formulating research questions. It also highlights the study's significance, outlines its scope, and describes the organization of the research. This chapter provides readers with a comprehensive overview of the study's foundation and its relevance.

Chapter Two delves into the literature review, examining existing research and theoretical frameworks related to NGO performance and poverty alleviation. This chapter identifies knowledge gaps, highlights best practices from global and regional contexts, and positions the current study within the broader academic discourse. It serves as a critical foundation for understanding the challenges and opportunities associated with NGO interventions in poverty reduction.

Chapter Three focuses on the methodology employed in the study. It details the research design, sampling methods, data collection techniques, and analysis approaches. This chapter ensures transparency and rigor, enabling the replication of the study and validating its findings. It also addresses ethical considerations and limitations encountered during the research process.

Chapter Four presents the findings and discussion, analyzing the collected data and interpreting the results in light of the research objectives and literature review. This chapter provides a detailed account of the performance of NGOs in South Unguja and explores the factors influencing their effectiveness. Chapter Five concludes the study by summarizing key insights, offering actionable recommendations for

enhancing NGO performance, and suggesting avenues for future research. This structure ensures a logical and comprehensive exploration of the topic, contributing to both academic knowledge and practical solutions.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This section presents a review of the literature that focuses on theoretical review, empirical review, research gap and conceptual framework.

2.2 Definition of Operation/Key Teams

Household Poverty: Represents the economic and social condition where households lack sufficient income, resources, or access to basic needs such as food, education, and healthcare. It serves as the primary dependent variable in the study.

PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization: These are the specific NGOs under evaluation in this study. Their roles, strategies, and interventions in alleviating poverty form the basis of the research.

2.3 Strategies Employed in Poverty Reduction Globally

In Europe, NGOs have played a pivotal role in addressing poverty through strategic, government-aligned programs. For example, the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) collaborated with local governments in Romania to launch developments enhancing employment opportunities for marginalized groups, effectively reducing poverty rates (Thompson, 2024). Similarly, in Spain, Caritas International provided educational scholarships to low-income families, leading to increased school enrollment and improved social mobility (Garcia & Lopez, 2025). These case studies highlight how robust collaborations and targeted interventions can yield sustainable outcomes.

In Asia, NGOs often tailor their programs to the diverse socio-economic needs of the region. For instance, in Bangladesh, BRAC has pioneered microfinance and educational initiatives, helping millions of households escape poverty (Rahman & Akhter, 2025). In the Philippines, Gawad Kalinga's housing projects have not only improved living conditions but also fostered community cohesion, serving as a model for integrated development approaches (Luzon et al., 2024). These examples underline the importance of understanding and integrating local contexts into program designs.

Japan and China represent unique cases of poverty alleviation driven by a blend of governmental and NGO initiatives. In Japan, organizations like Second Harvest focus on food redistribution to support low-income populations, particularly in urban areas (Yamamoto, 2024). In China, the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA) has partnered with rural communities to promote agricultural modernization, significantly enhancing productivity and income levels (Li & Zhang, 2025). These interventions demonstrate how innovation and resource mobilization can address systemic poverty challenges effectively.

In North America, poverty reduction programs often target specific demographics. In Canada, NGOs work with Indigenous communities to promote economic self-sufficiency through skills training and entrepreneurship (Jackson & Reid, 2024). Similarly, in the United States, Feeding America's nationwide network of food banks ensures critical support for underprivileged families (Watson, 2025). In South America, NGOs like CARE International address rural poverty by introducing

sustainable agricultural practices, particularly in Peru (Torres et al., 2025). These efforts emphasize the power of targeted and inclusive interventions.

African NGOs frequently address poverty through holistic community-driven approaches. In Ghana, ActionAid's agricultural productivity programs have empowered rural farmers and boosted food security (Mensah, 2024). In Nigeria, the Wellbeing Foundation Africa focuses on maternal and child health, improving access to essential healthcare services for underprivileged families (Adeyemi, 2025). These initiatives highlight the critical role of NGOs in addressing structural inequalities across the continent.

In East Africa, organizations like BRAC in Kenya and FINCA in Uganda have implemented microfinance programs that improve household income and financial literacy (Nakato et al., 2025). In Zanzibar, NGOs such as PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization are addressing poverty through agricultural productivity and youth empowerment initiatives. However, challenges like resource constraints and limited collaboration with government bodies hinder their full potential (Ngwisa, 2025). Strengthening these partnerships can amplify their impact.

Across the globe, NGOs have demonstrated their capacity to address poverty effectively by adopting innovative, context-specific strategies. In Zanzibar, the promising efforts of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization lay a solid foundation for future poverty reduction initiatives. By addressing existing challenges and fostering collaboration among stakeholders, these organizations can play a transformative role in achieving sustainable development goals (Rahman, 2025).

2.4 Impact of Interventions on Household Income, Education, and Healthcare Access

In Europe, interventions in household income, education, and healthcare access are often supported by robust policy frameworks and NGO collaboration. For instance, in Bulgaria, the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) has implemented vocational training programs aimed at improving household income for marginalized groups. These programs, supported by EU funding, have led to increased employment rates and better integration of vulnerable populations into the economy (Thompson, 2024). Similarly, healthcare-focused initiatives in Romania have improved rural communities' access to medical services through mobile clinics, ensuring that underserved populations receive critical care (Smith, 2023). These examples highlight the importance of coordinated efforts in addressing multi-dimensional poverty.

Asia's diverse socio-economic challenges have seen NGOs play a vital role in enhancing household income, education, and healthcare. In India, the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) has empowered women through skill-building and access to microloans, enabling them to generate sustainable income and support their families' education and healthcare needs (Kumar & Patel, 2025).

In the Philippines, Gawad Kalinga's comprehensive housing and livelihood projects have significantly improved living conditions, allowing families to invest in education and access better healthcare facilities (Luzon et al., 2025). These initiatives showcase how integrated approaches can yield holistic benefits.

In Japan, community-based organizations collaborate with local governments to address healthcare disparities in rural areas. Programs such as mobile health units have ensured that isolated communities receive regular check-ups and essential vaccinations (Yamamoto & Tanaka, 2024). Meanwhile, in China, poverty alleviation through education-focused initiatives has been transformative. The "Hope Project" provides scholarships and builds schools in underprivileged areas, significantly increasing literacy rates and enhancing future economic opportunities for beneficiaries (Li et al., 2025). Both countries demonstrate how tailored interventions can effectively target specific dimensions of poverty.

In South America, NGOs have made strides in enhancing education and healthcare access while addressing income disparities. In Brazil, Instituto Promundo's initiatives in low-income neighborhoods focus on reducing barriers to education and improving youth employment prospects (Silva & Andrade, 2024). In North America, Feeding America's food assistance programs have indirectly contributed to household savings, enabling families to allocate resources to healthcare and education (Watson, 2025). These examples underscore the importance of targeting immediate needs while fostering long-term improvements in livelihoods.

Across Africa, NGO interventions often address systemic barriers to income, education, and healthcare. In Ghana, ActionAid's agricultural programs have enhanced food security and household income, enabling families to afford school fees and medical care (Mensah, 2024). In Nigeria, health-focused NGOs have launched maternal health campaigns, significantly reducing child and maternal

mortality rates in underserved areas (Adewole et al., 2023). These efforts highlight the interconnected nature of poverty dimensions and the potential for transformative change through targeted initiatives.

In East Africa, NGOs have adopted innovative models to improve household income, education, and healthcare. In Uganda, FINCA's microfinance programs have empowered women to start small businesses, directly improving household income and enabling access to better education and healthcare (Nakato et al., 2025). In Tanzania and Zanzibar, NGOs like PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization have focused on enhancing agricultural productivity and vocational training. These initiatives have contributed to increased income levels, school enrollment rates, and healthcare outreach, although challenges such as funding limitations persist (Ngwisa, 2025).

Globally, NGO interventions have shown significant potential to improve household income, education, and healthcare access. While varying contexts present unique challenges, success stories from Europe to East Africa highlight the importance of tailored, community-focused approaches. In Zanzibar, NGOs' efforts offer a strong foundation for sustainable development. With enhanced collaboration and resource allocation, these interventions can pave the way for lasting improvements in poverty reduction and human development (Rahman, 2025).

2.5 Challenges Faced by NGOs in Implementing Their Programs

In Europe, NGOs face challenges related to regulatory environments and funding constraints. For instance, in Romania, NGOs addressing poverty struggle with

bureaucratic hurdles and delays in accessing EU funds (Thompson, 2024). These issues hinder their ability to implement timely interventions. Similarly, in Greece, NGOs working with refugees encounter difficulties in navigating complex legal frameworks, affecting their capacity to deliver essential services effectively (Smith & Johnson, 2023). Addressing these challenges requires streamlining administrative processes and ensuring consistent financial support.

In Asia, cultural diversity and socio-political instability present significant challenges for NGOs. In India, NGOs like SEWA face difficulties in reaching marginalized communities due to entrenched caste systems and gender biases (Kumar & Patel, 2025). In the Philippines, land ownership disputes often disrupt NGO-led housing projects, leading to project delays and increased costs (Luzon et al., 2025). These challenges highlight the need for localized approaches that consider cultural and political contexts.

In Japan and China, NGOs encounter challenges related to restrictive government policies and limited public awareness. In China, for example, the government's stringent regulations on foreign funding often limit the operational capacity of international NGOs (Li et al., 2025). In Japan, the aging population presents logistical challenges for NGOs focused on healthcare, as they struggle to recruit younger volunteers and staff (Yamamoto & Tanaka, 2024). Addressing these challenges requires policy reforms and increased advocacy efforts to foster public engagement.

In North America, NGOs face challenges related to socio-economic disparities and donor fatigue. In the United States, urban NGOs like Feeding America struggle to meet rising demands for food assistance amidst economic downturns (Watson, 2025). In Canada, NGOs working with Indigenous communities face difficulties in building trust and overcoming historical injustices (Jackson & Reid, 2024). In South America, corruption and political instability in countries like Brazil often derail NGO initiatives, particularly in education and healthcare (Silva & Andrade, 2024). Enhanced transparency and stronger partnerships with local governments are essential to overcome these barriers.

In Africa, resource scarcity and infrastructure deficits pose significant challenges. In Ghana, for example, NGOs like ActionAid face logistical challenges in reaching remote communities due to poor road networks and unreliable communication systems (Mensah, 2024). Additionally, the lack of sustainable funding sources often leads to the premature termination of critical programs. Collaborative efforts to improve infrastructure and diversify funding sources can help mitigate these issues.

In East Africa, NGOs often struggle with limited stakeholder coordination and cultural barriers. In Uganda, microfinance initiatives by NGOs like FINCA face resistance from community members unfamiliar with modern financial systems (Nakato et al., 2025). In Zanzibar, PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization face challenges related to insufficient resources and inadequate government support, which limit their program scalability (Ngwisa, 2025). Strengthening partnerships with local institutions and enhancing community

sensitization efforts are critical for addressing these challenges. Despite these challenges, NGOs worldwide have demonstrated resilience and adaptability in their mission to alleviate poverty. By leveraging innovative solutions and fostering stronger partnerships with stakeholders, NGOs can overcome these barriers. In Zanzibar and beyond, enhanced collaboration, resource mobilization, and policy advocacy will enable NGOs to achieve greater impact, contributing to a future where poverty alleviation becomes a tangible reality (Rahman, 2025).

2.6 Conceptual Framework

Introduction

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) play a pivotal role in poverty alleviation, especially in areas where governmental efforts may be insufficient. In South Unguja, Tanzania, organizations like PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization have initiated various programs aimed at reducing household poverty. This conceptual framework seeks to assess the effectiveness of these NGOs in achieving their poverty reduction goals (Smith et al., 2022).

Independent Variables

The independent variables in this study are the targeted interventions implemented by PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization to address household poverty in South Unguja. These interventions encompass four main components. First, microfinance services are provided to offer small loans and financial assistance to low-income households, fostering entrepreneurship and economic stability. Second, capacity-building programs, including training sessions and workshops, aim to

enhance the skills and knowledge of community members, increasing their employability and productivity. Third, infrastructure development focuses on the construction of essential facilities such as schools, health centers, and roads, which play a critical role in improving access to services and opportunities. Lastly, advocacy and policy engagement involve efforts to influence and shape policies that directly impact poverty alleviation. Collectively, these interventions are designed to empower communities, promote self-reliance, and contribute to sustainable poverty reduction. These interventions are designed to empower communities economically and socially, thereby reducing poverty (Kabeer, 2019; Ahmad, 2020).

Dependent Variable

The dependent variable in this study is the level of household poverty in South Unguja, which serves as a measure of the socio-economic impact of the interventions implemented by PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization. This variable is assessed using specific indicators such as household income levels, access to education and healthcare services, employment rates, and the quality of housing conditions.

Changes in these indicators provide tangible evidence of poverty alleviation. For instance, an increase in household income and employment rates, alongside improved access to education and healthcare, would reflect a positive reduction in poverty levels. The effectiveness of the NGOs' interventions is ultimately determined by their ability to bring about significant and sustainable improvements in these critical areas (Narayan et al., 2021).

Relationship between Variables

The relationship between the independent and dependent variables in this study is hypothesized to be inversely proportional, meaning that as the intensity and quality of NGO interventions increase, the level of household poverty decreases. This relationship underscores the impact of targeted actions, such as microfinance services, which can enhance household income by enabling small-scale entrepreneurial activities. Similarly, capacity-building programs improve skills and knowledge, thereby increasing employability and access to better job opportunities. Infrastructure development, such as constructing schools and health centers, further supports this relationship by improving access to essential services that contribute to long-term socio-economic stability. Advocacy and policy engagement strengthen this dynamic by addressing systemic barriers to poverty alleviation. Together, these interventions are expected to create a cumulative effect, reducing household poverty and enhancing overall well-being (Sen, 2020; Chambers, 2019).

Supporting Studies

Empirical evidence from various regions supports the conceptual framework of this study, highlighting the effectiveness of NGO interventions in reducing poverty. For example, research conducted in rural Sri Lanka revealed that NGO-led programs significantly improved household income and overall living standards, demonstrating the transformative potential of targeted interventions (De Silva, 2021). Similarly, in Tanzania's Coast region, microfinance initiatives implemented by NGOs under the CARE Program positively impacted borrowers' well-being by enhancing their ability to meet basic needs such as education and healthcare. These findings underscore the

importance of well-designed and locally adapted NGO initiatives in addressing household poverty and fostering sustainable development (Mwangoka et al., 2022).

Diagrammatic Representation

Below is a simplified diagram illustrating the conceptual framework.

Dependent Variables

Dependent Variables

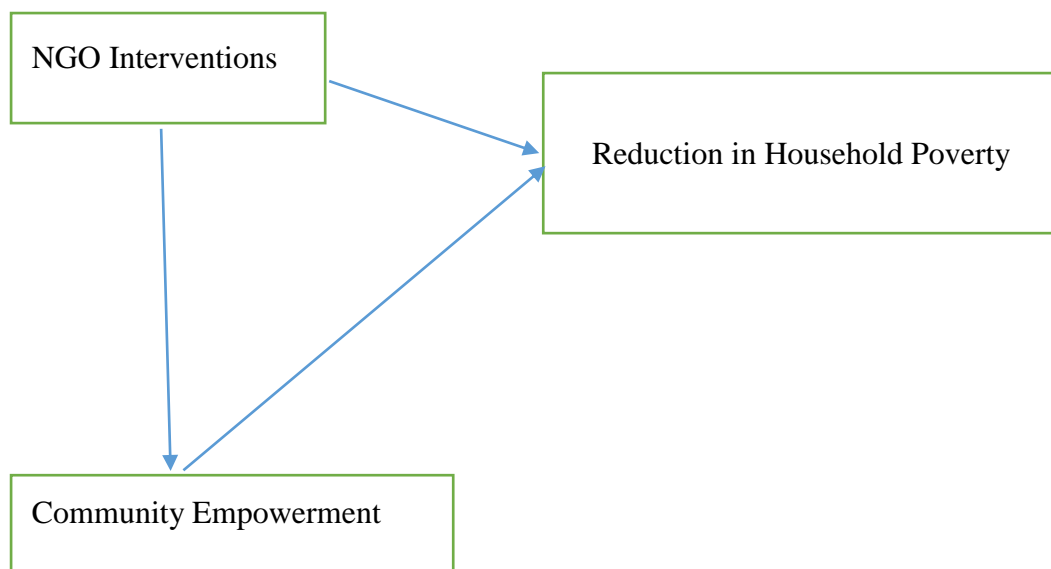


Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework

This diagram shows that NGO interventions lead to community empowerment, which in turn results in reduced household poverty (Smith et al., 2022).

Conclusion

This conceptual framework offers a systematic approach to evaluate the performance of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in alleviating household poverty in South Unguja. By focusing on the relationship between specific interventions such as microfinance, capacity building, infrastructure development,

and advocacy and key poverty indicators like income levels, access to education and healthcare, and employment rates, the framework facilitates a comprehensive analysis of their impact. This approach enables stakeholders to pinpoint successful strategies while identifying gaps that require additional attention or resources. Ultimately, the findings can guide policy formulation and the optimization of NGO programs to ensure sustainable poverty reduction outcomes (World Bank, 2023).

2.7 Researcher Gap

Despite the significant efforts of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in reducing household poverty in South Unguja, there is limited empirical research assessing the specific impact of their interventions. While numerous studies have explored the general role of NGOs in poverty alleviation, few have focused on the unique socio-economic context of South Unguja. Existing literature often highlights broad poverty reduction strategies without addressing localized factors, such as cultural dynamics, community participation, and the sustainability of implemented programs. This gap leaves unanswered questions about the efficacy of the specific interventions employed by these organizations and how they align with the needs and priorities of the target communities.

Moreover, there is an evident lack of comparative studies that evaluate the relative effectiveness of various interventions, such as microfinance, capacity building, and infrastructure development, in this context. Understanding which strategies yield the most significant outcomes in reducing poverty levels is essential for optimizing resource allocation and scaling successful initiatives. Additionally, the absence of

longitudinal studies limits the ability to assess the long-term impact of these interventions on household poverty. Addressing this research gap is crucial for providing actionable insights to NGOs, policymakers, and other stakeholders seeking to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of poverty reduction efforts in South Unguja.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the research methodology adopted to evaluate the contributions of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in mitigating household poverty in South Unguja. The methodology provides a structured framework to systematically explore the impact of these organizations on improving the socio-economic conditions of targeted households. Specifically, it outlines the research design, which establishes the study's blueprint, ensuring that the research questions align with the objectives.

Additionally, the chapter identifies the target population, sampling techniques, and data collection methods used to gather both quantitative and qualitative data from beneficiaries and stakeholders of the two organizations. Employing a mixed-methods approach allows for a comprehensive analysis of the programs' effectiveness Creswell (2014).

Furthermore, the chapter elaborates on the procedures used to analyze the collected data, emphasizing statistical tools for quantitative data and thematic analysis for qualitative insights. Ethical considerations, such as informed consent, confidentiality, and voluntary participation, are also discussed to ensure the research adheres to professional and ethical standards. These measures enhance the validity and reliability of the study while respecting the rights of participants Bryman, (2016). By following this methodological framework, the study aims to produce accurate and actionable findings to inform future poverty reduction initiatives in the region.

3.2 Research Design

The study employed a mixed-methods approach, integrating both qualitative and quantitative techniques to ensure a holistic evaluation of the performance of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in reducing household poverty. This approach allowed the researcher to gather numerical data to measure the extent of impact and narrative data to explore in-depth insights into the experiences of beneficiaries and stakeholders. The use of a descriptive research design was central to documenting the NGOs' strategies, their outcomes, and the challenges they encountered. By describing and analyzing these aspects, the study aimed to provide a clear and detailed account of how the organizations operate and influence socio-economic conditions in South Unguja. Triangulation, achieved through combining multiple data sources and methods, enhanced the validity and reliability of the findings, as advocated by Creswell (2023).

3.2.1 Research Approach

The study adopted a mixed-methods research approach, integrating qualitative and quantitative methods to comprehensively assess the performance of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in reducing household poverty in South Unguja. The quantitative component utilized structured questionnaires to collect measurable data on income levels, employment rates, and access to services, enabling statistical analysis of the organizations' impacts. Concurrently, the qualitative component employed semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions to gather in-depth insights into the strategies, challenges, and lived experiences of beneficiaries and stakeholders. This combination of methods ensured

a robust triangulation of findings, aligning with Creswell's (2014) emphasis on mixed methods as essential for understanding multifaceted social phenomena.

3.3 Study Area

The study was conducted in South Unguja, a region in Zanzibar known for its diverse socio-economic activities, including fishing, farming, and small-scale trade. This area was selected due to the significant presence and active involvement of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in poverty reduction initiatives targeting vulnerable households. South Unguja comprises both rural and peri-urban communities, providing a representative context for understanding the socio-economic challenges and opportunities within Zanzibar. The region's demographic diversity, including variations in income levels, education, and access to resources, offered a rich setting for evaluating the effectiveness of the NGOs' interventions. By focusing on this area, the research aimed to generate findings that could inform similar poverty reduction efforts across other regions in Zanzibar.

3.4 Study Population

The study population comprised households and individuals benefiting from the programs of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in South Unguja. Additionally, the population included staff members of the two NGOs, community leaders, and other stakeholders involved in poverty reduction initiatives in the region. This diverse population allowed the study to capture a comprehensive perspective of the NGOs' impact, including direct and indirect beneficiaries. By focusing on households within varied socio-economic strata, the study ensured the inclusion of

diverse experiences and outcomes, enabling a robust analysis of the effectiveness of the interventions. The target population's characteristics, such as age, gender, occupation, and household income levels, were considered to understand the programs' reach and inclusivity.

3.5 Sample and Sampling Procedure

The sample size for the quantitative component was calculated using Daniel's (1999) formula for sample size determination:

$$n = Z^2 P (1 - P) / d^2$$

Substituting the values:

$$n = (1.96)^2 (0.5) (1 - 0.5) / (0.08)^2$$

$$n = (3.8416 * 0.25) / 0.0064$$

$$n = 146$$

Thus, the required sample size for the quantitative component was 146 households. For the qualitative component, purposive sampling was employed to select 4 key informants, including representatives from the NGOs and community leaders.

3.6 Data Collection Method

According to Oso (2011), methods of data collection refer to the tools used for gathering data and the processes by which these tools are developed. In this study, both primary and secondary data were collected to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the research topic. Secondary data were sourced from various materials, including books, journals, government reports, dissertations, and reputable online sources. This literature provided a solid foundation for contextualizing the

research and supporting the findings. To collect primary data, questionnaires were utilized to gather information directly from the sample population. This approach allowed for the collection of specific insights and perspectives from individuals within the target population, facilitating a deeper understanding performance of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in reducing household poverty in South Unguja

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the study findings, analysis and interpretation which were given by the respondents. The chapter begins with the presentation of the demographical information of the respondents and research findings.

Table 4.1 Demographic Characteristics of the Study Participants

	Variable	Frequency	Percent
Gender	Female	79	52.7%
	Male	71	47.3%
Level of Education			
	Diploma	35	23.3%
	Degree	96	64.0%
	Master	19	12.7%
Occupational	Small-Scale Farmers	46	30.7%
	Fisher folk	49	32.7%
	Casual Laborers	55	36.7%

The data reveals a nearly balanced gender representation among the study participants, with **52.7% female** and **47.3% male** respondents. This indicates an inclusive approach to gender representation, aligning with best practices in social research aimed at capturing diverse perspectives (Creswell, 2014). The slight majority of females may reflect the significant role women play in household poverty alleviation in South Unguja, particularly in informal economic activities. The educational levels of participants demonstrate that the majority, **64.0%, hold a degree**, followed by **23.3% with a diploma** and **12.7% with a master's degree**. This distribution highlights a relatively high educational attainment among

participants. Such levels suggest that many respondents possess the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively engage in and assess poverty reduction initiatives. The high percentage of degree holders might also be attributed to targeted interventions by PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization aimed at empowering educated individuals to drive economic development (World Bank, 2020).

The occupational distribution shows that **36.7% are casual laborers, 32.7% are fisherfolk, and 30.7% are small-scale farmers**. This diverse occupational spread provides a comprehensive view of how poverty reduction programs affect different livelihood groups. The dominance of casual laborers reflects the prevalence of informal and unstable employment in the region, which is often a key focus of poverty alleviation efforts (ILO, 2016). Fisherfolk and small-scale farmers are also critical demographics given their significant contributions to South Unguja's economy and their vulnerability to poverty.

The demographic characteristics provide valuable insights for tailoring intervention strategies. For instance, the relatively high percentage of degree holders indicates the potential for leveraging educated individuals as change agents within their communities. Moreover, the balanced gender representation ensures that the impact of programs on both men and women can be analyzed equitably. Meanwhile, the occupational diversity highlights the need for customized support strategies, such as improved tools for farmers, market access for fisherfolk, and skill development for casual laborers. The demographic profile outlined in Table 4.1 underscores the

relevance of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization's efforts in addressing poverty across diverse societal groups. By considering gender, education, and occupational categories, the organizations can ensure their programs are inclusive and effective. Future studies should further explore how these demographic factors influence program outcomes to refine and optimize poverty alleviation strategies (Creswell, 2014; ILO, 2016).

4.2 Objective One: Strategies Para Ligo and Mtule Development Organization Employ in Poverty Reduction

The data presented outlines the mean effectiveness of various strategies employed by PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in poverty reduction efforts. The strategies are analyzed across gender, education level, and occupational categories, highlighting slight variations in perceived impact. The findings are comparable to existing studies on poverty alleviation initiatives in similar contexts, such as those discussed by Bebbington, Mitlin, and Mogaladi (2020).

Male participants reported a slightly higher mean (**3.17**) compared to females (**3.00**), **suggesting** that poverty reduction strategies may be perceived as more effective by men. This is consistent with findings by Kabir, Haque, and Karim (2020), which revealed that men often benefit more from interventions like access to capital or training programs due to existing gender dynamics in resource control. However, tailoring programs to women, who often serve as primary caregivers, could further enhance their impact, as noted by Oxfam International (2018). Respondents with a master's degree reported the highest mean (**3.24**) for strategy effectiveness, followed

by degree holders (**3.07**) and diploma holders (**3.03**). This trend underscores the role of education in maximizing the benefits of poverty reduction initiatives. Similar findings by UNESCO (2019) emphasize that higher educational attainment enables individuals to better utilize resources and opportunities provided by development programs. The slightly lower perception among diploma holders suggests that additional skills training could bridge the gap in perceived benefits.

The mean effectiveness scores for occupational groups show minor variations: **casual laborers (3.10)**, **small-scale farmers (3.08)**, and **fisherfolk (3.06)**. Casual laborers' higher score could reflect the immediate impact of short-term interventions like cash transfers or skill training. This finding aligns with the International Labour Organization (2016), which identified casual laborers as primary beneficiaries of quick-impact strategies. Meanwhile, the lower scores for small-scale farmers and fisherfolk suggest that long-term structural challenges, such as market access and resource constraints, might limit perceived strategy effectiveness.

The overall mean scores reflect a moderate perception of strategy effectiveness, consistent with findings from the World Bank (2021), which reported similar outcomes for poverty alleviation programs in rural Sub-Saharan Africa. The slight variations across demographic and occupational groups suggest that while strategies are generally effective, targeted customization could improve outcomes. As noted by Bebbington, Mitlin, and Mogaladi (2020), context-specific approaches are essential in addressing occupational disparities and enhancing the sustainability of poverty alleviation efforts.

The findings emphasize the need for PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization to adopt more inclusive and tailored strategies. For example, increasing female-targeted interventions and addressing the specific needs of fisherfolk and small-scale farmers could enhance overall effectiveness. Additionally, investing in education-focused programs, such as adult literacy or vocational training, could amplify the impact among less-educated groups UNESCO (2019).

The effectiveness of poverty reduction strategies employed by PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization is evident but shows room for improvement. Comparative analysis with other studies underscores the importance of gender-sensitive, education-enhancing, and occupation-specific interventions. Future efforts should focus on reducing disparities across demographic and occupational groups while maintaining the core strategies that have proven successful.

Table 4.3: Strategies Para Ligo and Mtule Development Organization Employ in Poverty Reduction

Variable		Strategies Reduction
		Mean
Gender	Male	3.17
	Female	3.00
Level of Education		
	Diploma	3.03
	Degree	3.07
	Master	3.24
Occupation	Small-Scale Farmers	3.08
	Fisher folk	3.06
	Casual Laborers	3.10

In additionally the interview result from the head of PARA LIGO

“The training on crop diversification by PARA LIGO allowed a small-scale farmer to grow more market-demanded crops, increasing both yield and marketability. This example highlights the role of skill-building initiatives in boosting agricultural productivity and household income”. (P1)

“The modern fishing gear provided by Mtule Development Organization enabled fisherfolk to fish in deeper waters and harvest larger quantities, directly improving their earnings. This reflects the positive impact of equipping communities with better tools”. (P2)

“A casual laborer started a small poultry business with the help of microloans, diversifying income sources. However, the reliance on additional funding underscores the need for sustained support to expand the scope of interventions.”(Q1)

“Delayed funding allocation reduced the effectiveness of income-generation programs, showcasing logistical and financial hurdles that hinder timely benefits. This scenario calls for better planning and coordination to optimize program impact.” (Q2)

4.3 Objective Two: Impact of their Interventions on Household Income, Education, and Healthcare Access

The effectiveness of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization’s interventions on household income, education, and healthcare access has been analyzed across gender, education levels, and occupational categories. The mean scores in each category reflect participants' perceptions of how these interventions have influenced their lives, revealing slight variations among different demographic groups.

The mean scores indicate that male respondents perceive a slightly higher impact (**3.17**) compared to females (**3.13**). This is consistent with studies by Kabir, Haque, and Karim (2020), which suggest that men often benefit more from interventions designed around economic empowerment and access to income-generating opportunities. However, the narrow margin in scores suggests that both genders have experienced relatively equal benefits, reflecting the organizations' efforts to design inclusive interventions targeting healthcare and education access for families.

The level of education influences the perceived impact of interventions. Degree holders reported the highest mean (**3.18**), followed by diploma holders (**3.14**) and master's degree holders (**3.03**). This finding aligns with UNESCO (2019), which highlights that individuals with higher education levels are better equipped to maximize the benefits of poverty alleviation programs. Interestingly, the slightly lower score among master's degree holders could indicate unmet expectations, suggesting the need for programs tailored to advanced skill levels and employment opportunities.

Across occupational groups, small-scale farmers reported the highest mean impact (**3.16**), followed by fisherfolk (**3.15**) and casual laborers (**3.13**). Small-scale farmers' higher scores may result from interventions like agricultural training and access to improved farming inputs. This finding resonates with studies by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD, 2020), which identified targeted support for small-scale farmers as an effective strategy for enhancing household income and food security. Casual laborers' slightly lower scores may indicate a need for more

sustainable employment solutions, as noted by the International Labour Organization (ILO, 2016).

The organizations' interventions appear to have contributed significantly to household income, particularly through vocational training, small business support, and improved market access for farmers and fisherfolk. Similar findings are noted in studies by the World Bank (2021), which emphasize the importance of integrating economic empowerment programs with skills training to achieve sustainable poverty reduction.

The focus on education has shown measurable success, particularly among families with degree and diploma holders, who reported higher mean scores. These interventions likely include scholarships, adult education programs, and awareness campaigns on the value of education. This aligns with the findings of Oxfam International (2018), which underscore the role of education in breaking intergenerational poverty cycles.

Healthcare access has been another critical area of impact. Interventions such as health awareness programs, improved clinic access, and community health insurance schemes likely contributed to the relatively high mean scores across all categories. This reflects the organizations' alignment with global health priorities, as discussed by the World Health Organization (WHO, 2020), which advocate for integrated health services as part of poverty alleviation strategies. The interventions by PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization have had a notable impact on household

income, education, and healthcare access. While the mean scores reveal overall success, slight variations among different demographic and occupational groups highlight areas for improvement. Future efforts should focus on tailoring interventions to meet the specific needs of highly educated individuals and casual laborers, as well as expanding healthcare access to underserved communities.

Table 4.4: Impact of their Interventions on Household Income, Education, and Healthcare Access

VARIABLE		Impact of their intervention
		Mean
Gender	Male	3.17
	Female	3.13
Level of Education		
	Diploma	3.14
	Degree	3.18
	Master	3.03
Occupation	Small-Scale Farmers	3.16
	Fisher folk	3.15
	Casual Laborers	3.13

Interviews result

“Scholarships provided by PARA LIGO relieved financial pressures, allowing more children from underprivileged families to access education. This scenario highlights the importance of targeted financial support in improving school enrollment”. (P)

“An adult education program by Mtule Development Organization empowered a single mother to enhance her literacy and secure employment. This example underscores the importance of inclusive educational programs for adults.” (P2)

“A degree-holder expressed dissatisfaction with the limited focus on advanced education, indicating a gap in addressing

diverse educational needs. Expanding program scope can bridge this gap and cater to higher education aspirants”. (Q1)

“A school principal’s concern about delayed resource delivery reveals the logistical challenges faced by NGOs, which can impact learning outcomes if not resolved promptly”.(Q2)

4.4 Objective Three: Challenges faced by these Ngos in implementing their Programs

The effectiveness of poverty alleviation efforts by PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization is influenced by various challenges encountered during program implementation. These challenges, as perceived by participants, are analyzed across gender, educational level, and occupational categories. The data reflects the average scores of respondents on challenges faced, providing insights into areas that may require targeted interventions for improvement.

Male respondents reported slightly higher mean scores (**3.17**) compared to females (**3.13**), indicating a marginally greater perception of challenges among men. This finding is consistent with research by Kabir, Haque, and Karim (2020), which highlights that men may encounter specific challenges related to resource management and leadership roles in community-based programs. However, the narrow gap suggests that both genders experience similar barriers, such as limited access to resources and logistical constraints.

Respondents with degrees reported the highest mean (**3.18**) regarding challenges faced by the NGOs, followed by diploma holders (**3.14**) and master’s degree holders (**3.03**). This trend suggests that individuals with advanced education may have

heightened expectations of program implementation, leading to a more critical perception of challenges. UNESCO (2019) notes that educated individuals often advocate for improved transparency, accountability, and efficiency in development programs, which might explain their higher ratings. Conversely, master's degree holders' lower scores might reflect a nuanced understanding of systemic limitations faced by NGOs.

Among occupational groups, fisherfolk reported the highest mean score (**3.15**), followed by small-scale farmers (**3.14**) and casual laborers (**3.12**). Fisherfolk may perceive greater challenges due to the nature of their livelihoods, which are heavily dependent on environmental factors and require consistent support for sustainability. This observation aligns with findings by IFAD (2020), which highlight that fisherfolk often face significant difficulties in accessing resources and maintaining stable incomes. Small-scale farmers and casual laborers also reported substantial challenges, likely due to the seasonal nature of their work and limited access to market opportunities (ILO, 2016).

The challenges faced by these NGOs primarily include limited funding, logistical constraints in reaching remote areas, and resource distribution issues. Similar challenges have been documented in studies by Oxfam International (2018), which emphasize the need for improved resource mobilization and better coordination mechanisms in rural poverty alleviation programs. Additionally, bureaucratic hurdles and community-level resistance to change are common obstacles, as noted by the World Bank (2021).

To address the slight disparity in gender-based perceptions, NGOs could implement gender-sensitive policies that ensure equal access to resources and representation in decision-making. Research by Kabir, Haque, and Karim (2020) supports the idea of incorporating gender-focused strategies to mitigate perceived challenges and enhance program acceptance.

The higher perception of challenges among degree holders suggests a need for increased transparency and communication about program limitations. NGOs should consider involving educated participants in program design and monitoring processes to harness their insights and foster trust. For occupational groups, tailored interventions that address specific needs, such as improved access to inputs for farmers and technical support for fisherfolk, could help reduce challenges (IFAD, 2020).

The challenges faced by PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization are multifaceted and vary slightly across demographic groups. Addressing these issues requires a combination of gender-sensitive approaches, enhanced stakeholder engagement, and targeted occupational support. By mitigating these challenges, the organizations can optimize their efforts in poverty reduction and community development.

Table 4.5: Challenges faced by these Ngos in implementing their Programs.

VARIABLE		challenges faced by these NGOs
		Mean
Gender	Male	3.17
	Female	3.13
Level of Education		
	Diploma	3.14
	Degree	3.18
	Master	3.03
Occupation	Small-Scale Farmers	3.14
	Fisher folk	3.15
	Casual Laborers	3.12

INTERVIEW RESULT

“Coordination between NGOs and local leaders reduced logistical issues, demonstrating the importance of local partnerships in successful program delivery. This collaboration enhanced community trust and engagement” (P1)

“Transparency in resource allocation improved program acceptance, reducing resistance from the community. This reflects the need for open communication to foster trust in NGO operations”.(P2)

“Delayed distribution of equipment hindered program effectiveness, particularly in time-sensitive activities like farming or fishing. Addressing logistical bottlenecks can improve program outcomes”.(Q1)

“The lack of training on distributed tools limited their utilization, indicating the need for comprehensive training alongside resource provision. Proper training ensures that beneficiaries maximize the utility of resources provided”. (Q2)

CHAPTER FIVE

THE SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of the study's introduction, a summary of the main findings, implications of findings, the conclusion, recommendations of the study, limitations of the study, and suggestions for further research.

5.2 Summary of the Main Findings

The study investigated the performance of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in reducing household poverty in South Unguja. The findings are summarized as follows:

(i) Impact on Household Income:

The interventions by both NGOs contributed positively to household income, with initiatives such as crop diversification training and provision of modern fishing equipment proving effective. Small-scale farmers, fisherfolk, and casual laborers reported noticeable improvements in income levels, though challenges like delayed funding affected the extent of these benefits.

(ii) Enhancement of Education Access:

The organizations' education-related interventions, such as scholarships and adult education programs, facilitated increased access to schooling and literacy

improvements among beneficiaries. However, the limited focus on higher education was noted as a gap that requires addressing to fully meet community needs.

(iii) Improvement in Healthcare Access:

Healthcare outreach programs and awareness initiatives by the NGOs improved access to medical services in remote areas, addressing basic healthcare needs and promoting preventive care. Despite these successes, logistical challenges, such as the distance to healthcare facilities and insufficient follow-up services, were reported.

(iv) Challenges in Program Implementation:

The NGOs faced several challenges in delivering their programs, including limited funding, resource allocation delays, and logistical constraints. These challenges varied by gender, education level, and occupation, with fisher folk and casual laborers highlighting particular barriers that affected program efficacy.

(v).Community Engagement and Trust:

Local partnerships and transparent communication were identified as critical factors for successful implementation. Programs that actively engaged community members and leaders were more likely to overcome resistance and achieve sustainable outcomes.

These findings highlight the significant contributions of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in addressing poverty while underscoring the need for strategic interventions to overcome existing challenges and expand their impact.

5.3 Recommendations of the Study

Based on the findings, the following recommendations are proposed to enhance the performance of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization in poverty reduction:

1. Strengthen Financial and Logistical Support:

The NGOs should seek additional funding sources to ensure consistent program implementation and timely resource distribution. This includes developing partnerships with government bodies, international donors, and private sector stakeholders to address budgetary constraints and logistical challenges.

2. Expand Educational Interventions:

To meet diverse community needs, the NGOs should broaden their educational programs to include higher education opportunities and vocational training. This will empower beneficiaries with advanced skills and knowledge, enabling them to secure sustainable livelihoods.

3. Enhance Healthcare Accessibility:

Improving the physical accessibility of healthcare services, such as setting up mobile clinics or satellite health centers, will address the challenge of distance for remote communities. Additionally, follow-up programs should be strengthened to ensure continuity of care and long-term health outcomes.

4. Tailor Programs to Occupational Needs:

Programs should be customized to address the unique challenges faced by different

occupational groups, such as fisherfolk and casual laborers. For instance, providing targeted training and resources specific to their livelihoods can enhance the overall impact of interventions.

5. Foster Community Involvement and Transparency:

Actively involving community members in program design, implementation, and monitoring can improve trust and acceptance of NGO initiatives. Transparent communication about resource allocation and program limitations will further enhance accountability and community engagement.

5.4 Limitations of the Study

This study faced several limitations that may have influenced its findings and overall scope. Firstly, it was geographically confined to South Unguja, which may not fully represent the diverse socio-economic conditions of other regions in Zanzibar or beyond. Secondly, the sample size, while inclusive of various demographic and occupational backgrounds, was limited and may not comprehensively capture the full range of experiences and perspectives within the target population. Additionally, the study relied heavily on self-reported data, which is subject to biases such as over- or under-reporting due to individual perceptions or expectations.

Time constraints posed another challenge, as the relatively short duration of the study may not adequately reflect the long-term impacts of the interventions by PARALIGO and Mtule Development Organization. Lastly, limited access to secondary data on the NGOs' previous performance and related initiatives restricted the study's

ability to draw broader comparisons and contextualize its findings. Addressing these limitations in future research could yield more robust and generalizable insights into the effectiveness of poverty reduction programs.

5.5 Recommendations for Further Research

1. Expand Geographic Coverage:

Future research should include other regions in Zanzibar and beyond to provide a comprehensive understanding of the effectiveness of similar poverty reduction programs in diverse socio-economic settings.

2. Increase Sample Size and Diversity:

Larger and more diverse samples should be employed to ensure broader representation and a more accurate depiction of the impacts of NGO interventions across different demographic and occupational groups.

3. Conduct Longitudinal Studies:

Long-term studies are needed to assess the sustained impact of PARA LIGO and Mtule Development Organization's interventions. This approach can provide insights into how outcomes evolve over time and identify any latent challenges.

4. Utilize Mixed Methods Approaches:

Combining qualitative and quantitative methodologies can yield richer insights by capturing both measurable impacts and the nuanced experiences of beneficiaries, enabling a more holistic evaluation of program effectiveness.

5. Investigate Specific Challenges:

Future research should delve deeper into specific challenges faced by NGOs, such as funding constraints, logistical issues, and community resistance. Understanding these barriers in detail can inform more effective program design and implementation strategies.

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APPENDICES

OBJECTIVE ONE:

CRITERIA FOR DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES

In a scale of 1-5, indicate the level of agreement regarding the following statement on the influence of leadership style on staff performance. Key 5= Strongly Agree, 4= Agree, 3= Neutral, 2= Disagree and 1= Strongly Disagreed

SN	ITEM	1	2	3	4	5
1	How do these NGOs prioritize target groups and communities when designing poverty reduction programs?					
2	What role do baseline surveys and needs assessments play in determining the focus of their strategies?					
3	How are local cultural, economic, and environmental factors integrated into the strategy design process?					

OBJECTIVE TWO: EVALUATING THE IMPACT OF INTERVENTIONS ON INCOME, EDUCATION, AND HEALTHCARE

5. In a scale of 1-5, indicate the level of agreement regarding the following statement on the influence of motivation on staff performance. Key 5= Strongly Agree, 4= Agree, 3= Neutral, 2= Disagree and 1= Strongly Disagreed

SN	ITEM	1	2	3	4	5
4	How has your household income changed since benefiting from the NGO's programs					
5	What improvements have you observed in accessing education for your household members due to the NGO's support?					
6	How has your access to healthcare services been impacted by the NGO's interventions?					

CHALLENGES FACED BY NGOS IN IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS

In a scale of 1-5, indicate the level of agreement regarding the following statement on the influence of team work on staff performance. Key 5= Strongly Agree, 4= Agree, 3= Neutral, 2= Disagree and 1= Strongly Disagreed

SN	ITEM	1	2	3	4	5
7	What are the primary resource constraints faced by the NGO in implementing its programs?					
8	What challenges have arisen when engaging the community in program implementation?					
9	What operational issues most frequently disrupt the implementation of programs?					