WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

A STUDY OF MAMBUKA RURAL COMMUNITY

By

MIRRIAM SINDISIWE LINDA

DISSERTATION

Submitted in fulfilment of the
requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF ARTS

in the Department of Social Work
at the University of Zululand

SUPERVISOR   :   PROF P M DLAMINI

1998

DECLARATION

I declare that this is my original work both in conception and execution, and that it has never been published before.

_____

M.S. LINDA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my indebtedness to the people who gave me their assistance in the course of this study. My special gratitude goes to Professor P M Dlamini, my thesis supervisor, for her unfailing support and guidance throughout, up to the final production of the study.

I also gratefully appreciate the support and encouragement the Department of Social Work at the University of Zululand gave me. I am particularly indebted to my colleague, the late Buyisiwe Dubazane for her encouragement during the early stages of the study.

My sincere gratitude also goes to agency colleagues for the support they gave me during the course of the study. This study would also not have been possible without the co-operation of the people of Mambuka where the research was conducted. I am grateful and thankful to them, for without their permission, this study would not have been taken off the ground.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to my family, for the love and support they gave me until the study was finally accomplished.

DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my children Nozipho, Nokubonga, Nokwanda, Nomalungelo and Lunga.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to investigate the involvement of women in community development with special reference to rural women in Mambuka area. The study focused on the reasons influencing women to participate in community development projects. The investigation looked at various aspects involved in the process of community development.

The motivation for this study came from, among other reasons, the author's experience in working with rural people. From a historical perspective, women have experienced and survived many difficult situations. These have included marginalisation, poverty and subjudication, all of which have led to their poor socio-economic status.

-

The design of this study included both qualitative and quantitative methods. The sampling strategy used was the non probability sampling and a purposive sampling method. Data were collected using the interview schedule for quantitative data and the focus group for qualitative data. The sample was drawn from a total of eight (8) projects. Each project consists of about fifteen (15) members. One member was drawn from each of eight (8) projects totalling to eight (8) women and two (2) men. Two (2) other people who were not involved in the projects were interviewed. The focus group was convened to elicit more exhaustive and also grounded data.

The study found that the involvement of women in community development had a positive impact because of the following:

(i)   Income from women ensured food security for their families.

(ii)   There was acknowledged recognition of what women did in the community.

(iii) The infrastructure or community resources were slowly being developed.

The study further found that the women face constraints in their development attempts. These include:

(i)   Lack of a repertoire of skills.

(ii)   Lack of capital infusion.

Consequently, women's development efforts remain at subsistence level. They have not fully liberated women from poverty.

It also came to light that there was a need for many external development agents in the area, to enable community women share resources to avoid duplication of services which have resulted in the retardation of progress towards their development and their upliftment in general.

The following recommendations were made:

(i)   **Future research**

This study conducted was only limited to the factors influencing women to participate in community development. The study focused on the reasons for women to act as the main role players in development activities. Future studies could focus on the success or impact of rural development intervention strategies.

(ii)   **Future social work practice**

The future social work practice indicates that there is a need for social workers to place their emphasis on the approach of community development if they are to empower communities to be able to address their unmet needs. As observed in this study, rural communities are in dire need of skills to develop themselves and improve their lives. The shortage of resources in rural areas is also one of the major problems facing people. It is timeous for social workers to become part of the communities they serve and co-ordinate all efforts that the people attempt to put together and help them to tap these resources.

This calls for the re-orientation of social workers with a view to enabling them to render effective services to communities.

(iii)   **Future social work education**

The training institutions face a challenge of relevance. They need to change and focus their training more towards a developmental approach, that the White Paper calls for. The curriculum will have to be shaped in such a way that it stresses more on issues that will lead to effective social development.

(iv)   **Future policy**

Policies set to eliminate poverty and others to address women's issues have been put into place. Women of the World (Beijing Conference), came together to put their concerns in order to speak with one voice. As a result many countries have now realised the importance of recognising the contribution made by women to their economy and other sectors. In spite of all these, the future lies in the hands of the people themselves with the assistance of development agents. These have to oversee the implementation of policies which have not yet filtered into the communities. Without this joint effort, people will never feel that they are part of the policies that have been formulated.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER FOUR

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

CHAPTER FIVE

DATA ANALYSIS

LIST OF TABLES

-

CHAPTER ONE

1.1   PROBLEM STATEMENT

The socio-economic problems in developing countries have encouraged different communities to engage in strategies which enable them to uplift their standards of living and promote their social functioning. In an attempt to address their community problems, women, in particular, engage in activities that lead to the process of community development.

South Africa is presently undergoing a period of transition from the apartheid era to a democratic one. Women have been affected to a large extent by those laws of the past which discriminated against them in a number of ways. Rural women suffered most as they were affected by national laws; those imposed by homelands as well as those imposed by their local leaderships. An example of this is laws such as land ownership, migratory labour and others. In emphasizing the impact of apartheid laws against women, one draws from Dlamini and Juliá (1993:341) that marginalisation and dislocation not only threatened women's position in society but the social fabric and ultimately the equilibrium of the South African society.

In rural areas particularly, women's status is traditionally low. Most women were deprived of education by their own parents, just because they were females. Now some find themselves being refused participation in remunerative employment. In most rural communities, there are few women who have attained any form of

education. Some dropped out of school before acquiring adequate education which could let them enter into skilled labour, and consequently improve their socio-economic status.

According to the 1985 United Nations report (1989:58), seventy-five percent of the world's population lives in the Third World, and seventy-five percent of the Third World population is in rural areas. The Population Development Programme Report (1991:14) estimates that sixty percent of the South African population lives in rural areas, with more than half of this population being women. Very few of the women have been to school or remained in school long enough to obtain an educational background to enable them play a meaningful role in the development of their own families.

Kgarimetsa in the Development Bank of South Africa report (1992:10) points out that rural areas are populated by a great number of the unemployed and the unemployable. This suggests that there has to be ways through which rural people can sustain the stability of their lives in terms of resources. The unemployable are those who are without any form of skill that can be utilised by the market forces.

As an attempt to survive in rural areas, women have engaged in community development projects. Development activities have always existed in most countries with women leading the way. However, since women were never given any recognition for their contribution, it thus appeared as if men were the only ones influential to the process of development.

2

Traditionally, there has been a perception that community development was a male activity. However, there has been a preponderance of women in development in rural areas. The rural community of Mambuka which is the research area, has a population composed mostly of women, who due to circumstances alluded to above, engage themselves in development activities. Men have not been a force in development issues. The purpose of this study is to understand the motivating factors for women's involvement in development despite perceptions of male dominance in the development field. Furthermore, it is to ascertain whether it is these circumstances that women find themselves in that have led them to engage in community development. In the entire community of Mambuka, more women are engaged in community development projects compared to men.

As mentioned earlier, the developing communities have their own styles of handling problems which come through their lives. It is clear that the people in the study area are also doing what they believe is beneficial or relevant towards the resolution of their concerns. The researcher, as a development agent, is looking at this process of women's involvement in community development as a way of strengthening their potential in the quest for the development of resources within their communities and thus improving their status for more recognition by the leadership structures. In case of the possibility of change and equality in terms of resources in South Africa, Dlamini and Juliá (1993:342) maintain that as women have historically been a major force in the social and economic development of the country, they deserve recognition and participation as a significant element in such development.

Traditionally, women were expected to be involved in household duties like child care and smaller economic roles. Nkopane (1976:18) argues that, 'women, particularly those in Africa, do more than two-thirds of all work, yet they earn only a fraction of the income generated. In most cases, their work is not recognised as a formal contribution to the economy.'

In most African countries like Ghana and South Africa, women are now being recognised for their contributions towards economy and development especially in rural communities. The Third World countries are now in line with worldwide trends as it has been established that there will not be any progress in community development unless the women are included in the work process. El Ghonemy (1991:30) highlights that 'the improvement of rural women's status is no longer seen primarily as a social welfare issue. On the contrary, governments increasingly see it as an integral part of the solution of larger problems: e.g. solving the food crisis in Africa, slowing rural exodus and alleviating poverty among destitute households. A deeper understanding of these problems has led to ongoing changes in policies and strategies regarding women's access to land, participation in rural organisations, access to credit, inputs and supporting services, diversification of employment opportunities through non-farm activities and access to training and extension.' The contributions women make have to be taken into consideration because history shows that families have survived because women were always there and the duties they perform indicate that they are indispensable to their communities. Dlamini and Juliá (1993:346) explain that prior to colonization (up to the nineteenth century) women were once a dynamic force of economically independent people who assumed

4

responsibility for food production for the family.

Although other South African State Departments such as the Department of Social Welfare and Population Development have already developed programmes like the Flagship and others to address women's issues, these cannot succeed unless there is as much consultation at the grassroots level as possible. This study is thus another way of finding out what women need and how they can effect those changes that have to take place for positive results in developing their communities.

In spite of these constraints, rural African women have gone a long way in community development. Through such organisations like Zenzele, women have begun to contribute to the improvement of their lives and the enhancement of their participation in community development.

1.2   MOTIVATION FOR THE STUDY

The study was conducted at Mambuka Reserve which is a rural area comprising the Mthiyane clan. The area is situated about forty five (45) km away from Empangeni town and sixty three (63) km from Richards Bay in the KwaZulu-Natal province.

The researcher found it necessary to conduct this study in this particular area (Mambuka) due to the researcher's extensive experience as a social worker working with rural people. Women have survived and continue to face difficult conditions in their daily lives. In the host community, for instance, women have experienced

terrible situations during forced removals in the 1970's when they were moved from the area now called Richards Bay to Ntambanana or Mandlazini. During that time they had to rebuild their lives and develop new resources in a new area which was barren and not endowed with natural resources like water. As time progressed, women became involved in community projects to solve their problems. Like most rural areas, the host community is faced with numerous social problems, like poverty, unemployment and others. The Population Development Programme (1991:4) referring to Africa, states that, 'entire populations are already exposed daily to unemployment, poverty, malnutrition, morbidity, famine and total social decay. It is estimated that one third of the population on this continent or more than 150 million people suffer from famine.' The writer thus became interested in investigating the impact of women's participation in community activities so as to establish how their potential can be improved for the improvement of their quality of life. As there were projects in which women are involved, there was enough scope for the researcher to obtain the information needed for the study.

1.3   OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This study seeks to explore the motivating reasons for women's involvement in community projects. It will also look at the negative and positive factors which impact on their involvement in these projects.

Secondly, the study seeks to explore women's perceptions of their changing roles within the family structure. Women are now regarded to be able to take part in

activities outside the family situation which indicates a shift from the old way of life.

The third objective is to explore what role rural women have in their rural community. Most rural women are remarkably perceived to have the potential which needs to be developed for success in the development sphere.

Another important objective will be to find out why some women are not involved in community development projects. Whether there are no pressing circumstances for them to be involved or may be they lack motivation, the researcher feels that it is imperative to explore this notion.

The final objective will be to discuss the relationship between gender and development. Due to marginalisation. women in some instances find themselves being discriminated against just because they are of different sex or they are not males. This needs to be investigated so that one can evaluate and find out if the Mambuka community does not fall in that trend.

1.4   IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

This study is important for knowledge building in the development and reconstruction of rural areas where so many changes have been caused by political violence and other economic factors. The migration of people from rural areas to informal settlements nearer to towns is another problem facing South Africa at present. The unavailability of facilities to meet the human needs in rural areas is perceived to be

one of the major causes for this situation. This study is therefore important for this province of KwaZulu-Natal which is mostly affected by these problems.

1.5   STRUCTURE OF THE STUDY

Chapter 1   -   Introduction to the study.

Chapter 2   -   Literature review.

Chapter 3   -   Context of research.

Chapter 4   -   Research methodology.

Chapter 5   -   Data analysis.

Chapter 6   -   Summary of findings; conclusions and recommendations.

1.6   CONCLUSION

This chapter focused on the problem statement. motivation for the study. objectives of the study. importance of the study and the structure of the study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with a theoretical framework that focuses on three major areas, namely, the conceptualisation of community development; women and community development and lastly, policy issues and rural development. The other issue receiving focus is that of women in development.

2.2 CONCEPTUALISATION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

It is necessary that community development, as the main concept in this study, be explained so that one gets a clear understanding of the whole subject. There are other important concepts which are of value in this study and they are: community, development; self-help and rural community. These will be defined and lastly, the principles of community work will be briefly discussed.

2.2.1 Community

The term community is one of the important concepts which will be extensively used in this study.

A community, according to Giggey (1988:11) is 'a group of people who have something in common. This can be a place where they live, their age, their education, their religion, their interests, their political affiliations, their activities, their work, their problems or a combination of two or more of them'.

The terminology Committee for Social Work, in a working document by a Subcommittee Welfare Advisory Council for Black Communities (1993:4), defined community as a 'composition of people who live within a geographical bounded area, who are involved in social interaction and who have psychological ties with each other and with the place where they live'.

The common factor all different authors or organisations have emphasised is the interaction of the group of people in a geographic area. In his definition Ross (1955:40) considers community as a group of people who share some common interests or function, such as welfare, agriculture, education and religion. These interests do not include everyone in the geographic community but only those individuals and groups who have a particular interest or function in common.

Another informative definition is the one by Ferrinho (1980:1-20) who defines the term community by focusing on the following characteristics:

-     a way of life, defined by a set of common values and interests around which institutions are developed and with which residents identify themselves (cultural approach);

-       a network of social interaction within which people relate to one another (sociological approach);

-       a system of reference for a set of common individual identifications (psychological approach), and

-       a place from which human population receives the energy it needs to live and survive (ecological approach).

For the purpose of this study the definition by Ferrinho seems to be the most appropriate. The concept community is regarded as a collective number of people who live in the same environment where they share cultural values, human needs and social interests. The researcher maintains that Mambuka is a 'community' as it fits all the characteristics mentioned in the definition given above.

2.2.2 Development

The concept 'development' is a very broad term and a difficult one to define. Various types of development have been proposed by different authors. Some view development from the physical, social, moral, clinical, economic, physical and social perspectives. Hugo (1984:207) for example, regards development as a human activity considered from a variety of perspectives and can be linked with three concepts.

-   Firstly, development is as old as mankind and there is proof that successful development projects were undertaken in places like Ghana, long before there was any question of community development as taught in theory at present.

-   Secondly, arguments in favour of development argue that man must be able to develop and maintain himself in order to survive in a world that is becoming ever complex.

-   Thirdly, physical result is not proof of development, but rather the ability to be capable of creation of physical results, and, together with that, the will to proceed towards the process of creation.

The definition by Hugo is the one acceptable in this study. Development is a very broad and difficult concept to define. Various definitions mention a process of a shift from an acceptable situation to a better environment. It is this process where changes occur resulting in what is called development.

The Mambuka community is undergoing this process through the involvement of women in community projects that bring about changes in the social life of the community. Instead of being housebound, women move out of their homes to meet others and engage themselves in community activities. The economic perspective fits because having different social problems associated with poverty, women try to improve their economic status as they get an income while on the other hand they contribute in improving economy. It is therefore with all these changes noted in the

12

host community that the researcher became convinced that 'development' is actually taking place at Mambuka.

2.2.3 Community development

Community development is a method widely used in developing countries where it is believed that there can never be change in people's lives unless they (people) embark on sound community development.

According to UNO definition as cited by Hugo (1984:210) community development is the process wherein joint effort is taken by the community itself with the help from government and the private sector to improve social, economic, cultural and physical conditions in the community in order to improve their quality of life.

Dunham (1970:140) describes community development as a method, a process, a programme and a movement. These are explained as follows:

1. A method of community development is regarded as a means to an end and not as an object in itself.

2. Community development has a place as a programme with focus on social, economic and political development.

3. Community development is also described as a movement for participation by dedicated members who intend addressing their needs.

4. Community development is a process for changing communities towards desired goals. This includes study, education, training, planning, organising and action that brings about cognitive purposeful change towards community goals.

Community development is, on the other hand, seen to be not having an explicit meaning because of the following factors:

- Community development is concerned with both task goals and process goals. The former means achieving concrete objectives and the latter helps people grow or strengthen the qualities of participation, self-direction and co-operation.

- Community development and community organisation overlap due to the increasing relation between them.

- The application of the approach both to rural and urban communities differs because of the difference in these communities.

A number of definitions have been given by different authors perceived from different angles and perspectives. The most acceptable definition pertaining to this study is the

14

one by Dunham. This definition is perceived to be all inclusive as it describes all the entities of the community like, the process of change, the commitment on the side of the community itself by participating in programmes to address their common concerns. The writer views community development as a process whereby a community gets involved in progressive community actions, such as the identification of needs, addressing them together and working towards success.

2.2.4 Principles of community work

Rothmund and Botha (1991:2) state that community work principles form a basic frame of reference for a worker's professional relationship with a given community, based on his belief in man's potential to grow and to develop. They have also stipulated the following eight principles which they drew from different existing literature and writers:

- Respect and consideration: This principle emphasizes that every person as an individual has intrinsic work and dignity and the basic right to develop his potential.

- Acceptance: Acceptance is viewed as a basis for discovering a community's potential and for motivating its members into independent social functioning.

- Receiving recognition is a human need: A community must be given recognition for achievements and co-operation.

15

- Individualisation: Each community experiences its own particular social needs and problems, and has the responsibility to respond to these constructively, to overcome given limitations and to ensure the necessary security and stability for its members.

- The right to self-determination: This principle emphasizes the importance of each community to be given the right of making its decisions or choices.

- Help to self-help: The core of this principle is directed towards assisting community to realise its strengths and be able to accept its own responsibility for growth, progress and destiny.

- Meeting the community at its own level: This one implies the understanding of the community's needs and problems in order to start where they are.

- Partnership and co-operation: This principle emphasizes the importance of sharing responsibilities between the worker and the community in order to obtain best results in the process. Role differentiation and allocation of specific duties come in this principle.

In summary, all these principles are more relevant as they are the guidelines or procedures for a worker practising community work and they are also more similar to the basic principles of social work.

2.2.5 Rural community

Considering that the study was conducted in a rural community, it is imperative that the term 'rural' be included in the list of all other concepts which have been discussed.

In explaining the concept 'rural' Bealer et al (Hoggart & Buller, 1987:9) stipulates that three substantive but interrelated meanings exist for this concept. The socio-cultural definition of rural rest on the assumption that behavioural and attitudinal differences exist between inhabitants of areas with low population densities (that is, rural areas) and zones of high population density (that is, urban areas). The occupational definition rests on the dominance of primary industries and particularly agriculture and forestry, in rural scales. The ecological definition of rural refers to areas in which settlements are small, with substantial zones of open countryside between them.

Rankin (1992 : 36) stipulates that most rural areas, regardless of the country, experience similar social; and other problems of which South Africa is no exception. One of the problems is that there is a lack of essential services like the following: lack of quality education, inadequate health care services, inadequate water, unemployment and underemployment.

Another problem stated is that rural areas in South Africa are being depopulated rapidly. Migration and political changes are the major factors which have accelerated

the demographic changes which have left rural communities with fewer people.

In conclusion, the definitions and characteristics given above are explicit and they provide an indication of all components of a rural area. One can summarise this concept to be referring to an area which is traditionally free from all modern trends. However, it cannot be disputed that rural areas are affected by the societal changes caused by socio-economic factors.

2.2.6 Social development

In defining this concept Midgely (1995:25) says:

> Social development refers to a process of planned social change designed to promote the well-being of the population as a whole in conjunction with a dynamic process of economic development.

2.2.7 Self-help

The concept of self-help is also important in this study as it is regarded as a voluntary initiative by members of a particular group to improve their lives without any assistance from outsiders.

In explaining this concept Lieberman and Borman (1979:14-15) tabulate the following characteristics:

-   Membership consists of those who share a common condition, situation, heritage symptom or experience.

-   They are largely self-governing and self-regulating, emphasising peer solidarity rather than hierarchial governance.

-   They advocate self-reliance and require equally intense commitment and responsibility to other members, actual or potential.

-   They provide an identifiable code of precepts, beliefs and practises that includes rules for conducting group meetings and entrance requirements for new members.

-   They need to be self-supporting, as they are mostly outside institutions or agencies. They thrive largely on donations rather than on government.

-

In their studies Liberman and Borman (1979:117) examined help-seeking and self-help groups and came out with the following general hypothesis about why people seek self-help groups:

a.   The motivation rests upon the notion that self-help groups arise to fulfil services not being currently met in society by other systems.

b.   Another hypothesis is about the pathways through which individuals reach particular helping resources in society which involves a chain of attempts by individuals to find suitable service.

c.   Another perspective on help-seeking is embedded in exchange theory. For those seeking help as well as those offering help, the exchange of tangible and intangible resources provides a framework as the pathways through which individuals locate necessary resources.

d.   Another alternative will be directed towards those in need of help who may perceive a self-help group as being the best fit between their needs and its particular characteristics of service delivery.

In summary, the definition by Lieberman and Borman is well accepted in this study as it explains well the objectives which motivate people affected by the same problems to come together and venture on solutions to address them.

2.3   WOMEN IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

While the involvement of women in community development is commended, however, in rural and underdeveloped communities it can be mainly attributed to socio-economic conditions. Although there is a need for women to participate in community development, there is no reason why they should remain under conditions of underdevelopment is spite of the energy and time expended. In this section, the

focus is on these aspects believed to be some of the contributing factors to women's involvement in community development: the status of women; migration and poverty.

2.3.1 Status of women

It is our understanding that women live in communities where there are norms, values and customs. They are socialised in the manner their respective societies prescribe. In most cases women spend all of their time in domestic work. The responsibilities increase due to social development where women find themselves as breadwinners who also have to look after children and, in some instances, play the role of being wives. However, social change demands that all people be involved in community development in one way or another for the fulfilment of their roles within given statuses.

El Ghonemy (1991:ix) contends that most countries have now established women's units within the governmental machinery and in some countries women co-operatives have been formed. With regard to activities like crop production, it has been realised that there is a negative impact of excluding rural women from the benefits of technological advances, credit and marketing services. This has therefore led to actions for improving the status and productivity of rural women.

In the past, the household especially in rural areas was regarded as a base for social and economic activities but due to industrialisation, there was a decrease as most

activities had to be performed in outside institutions. However, there are still those men who would not allow females to leave the household whether for economic reasons or otherwise. This becomes a deterrent to economic growth as women are mostly regarded to be the main providers to their families.

In endorsing this statement Mcnicol and Cain (1990:47) stipulate that in many rural communities men exercise control over women to such an extent that they prevent them from working outside the home. Economic development among rural women tends to be growing at a larger scale as rural women have realised that, while they have a potential to develop their communities, they also have an obligation to improve the status of women and of their households.

In addressing women's role in economic development Brydon and Chant (1989:8) argue that the root of women's oppression must be sought not only within the sphere of production, reproduction, and in economic structure, but also in social and cultural structures, and that women's frequent loss of status in the course of economic development must be conceived in the context of an interweaving class of relations and gender relations.

2.3.2 Migration

Social evolution resulted in communities undergoing changes due to industrialization and other external forces. Rural communities are also affected by this phenomena. Moore: Levy as cited by Horton and Hunt (1976:74) argue that as developing

countries become industrialised, they not only establish technological and economic structures similar to those of western countries but undergo related changes in religion, government and the family as part of this modernisation. The researcher believes that this obviously affects the lives of people who are faced with a host of new developments which contribute in changing their lifestyles.

Industrialisation came not only with the improvement of people's lives in big cities but it also destroyed some other people's lives. This has been evident in rural areas where many women are left with children and the responsibility of keeping the livelihood of their households as some men never look back once they have joined labour contracts especially in mining industries. Migration has therefore contributed to a great extent to the disruption of certain family structures.

Carr as quoted by Ahmed (1985:118) points out that in regions where there is a high rate of migration to cities, mines or plantations, women are often faced with the added burden of managing and operating the entire household and of taking on tasks commonly performed by men. There is also the view by Cowan in the article cited by Ironmonger and Sonius (1989:19) who states that: 'Prior to industrialisation the 'family' was seen as the basic social and economic unit. Most families were large, self-sustaining and rural. They produced and processed the necessary items for consumption, and for trading in the market place.' This phenomenon of migration has hit rural areas most because of the situation that there are no employment opportunities and the land space for production in certain rural areas has suddenly shrinked due to many reasons including the forced removals of people from their

indigenous areas during the apartheid era.

Joakes (1987:67) argues that the effects of sexual division of labour on the household have confirmed women's responsibility for the care and provision of food for members of their household and this effectively removes men from liability in these matters, should they so wish. *Migration of male labour to mines and plantations* becomes possible on a permanent and semi-permanent basis because women can, by only slight extension of their traditional role, take over the task of family support in its entirety.

Nowadays there are problems because of the vast rate of unemployment where people migrate to cities but only find that they cannot get any work and that means they will not be able to send money home for family needs. There are consequently so many families which are headed by women due to migrant labour. Joakes (1987:67) says, "regardless of the employment success of male migrants to the towns in Africa, the consequence is a high proportion of de facto female-headed households in the countryside. It has been estimated that in Kenya, forty percent of rural households are female headed, in Ghana almost one half, and in parts of Zambia one third (Lele, 1986, Pala Okeyo, 1985). In Southern African countries drained of rural male labour by the movement of male workers to mines in South Africa, the proportion is probably even higher. This is three or four times the incidence of female-headed households in South and East Asia". South Africa witnessed a trend where men had to leave their families due to migrant labour. There was law forbidding women from staying or visiting their husbands who lived in hostels in big cities. Due to many

24

reasons, men developed a peculiar culture where they would literally forget about their families and live on their own or start a new family thus forgetting about their families in rural areas. It would therefore become the responsibility of the unemployed, illiterate and poor woman to support the children and meet the rest of the family needs.

These aspects call for more research in order to address the problems caused by these new trends, where families as support networks, fail to fulfil their obligations of securing the lives of their members due to discrepancies caused by the circumstances people face in an attempt to improve the quality of life.

2.3.3 Poverty

It is a fact that most rural communities are affected by the problems which are politically related. Oppression has for decades caused great damage to many people of developing countries. Women have suffered due to marginalisation and exclusion in all levels of decision-making. As the effects of the past unequal distribution of resources is still with Africans, it adds to the plight of women, who in most instances, are the ones who have to fend for their families. If there are no means to do that, they become trapped in poverty and this phenomena is generally associated with women.

The Population Development Programme (1990:3) stipulates that the role women play and their standard of living is so low that they form part of the syndrome which has

25

internationally been labelled "the feminisation of poverty".

The crucial issue faced by most developing countries is that of high population rate which has become so difficult to be addressed. It is envisaged that it can be tackled if the status of women is improved and their right to be involved in decision making is honoured by the leaders of the countries concerned. The Population and Development Programme (1991:6) gives statistics that South Africa's population is growing at 2 percent per annum and if this growth rate continues it will grow to 47 million by the year 2000. The United Nations publication: World Population Prospect 1988 predicts that South Africa could be one of the 23 most-densely populated areas in the world by the year 2025 if the present population growth rate continues.

All these are issues which left women powerless. South Africa being so highly populated, like many African countries which are also in the process of developing, faces this great problem because the population contained does not correlate with the resources the country has. This results in problems like diseases, malnutrition, unemployment and many others. Although there are programmes being implemented to address these problems, the process will be hindered by the imbalances which previously existed amongst different racial groups, vast differences between urban and rural life and the fast growing trend of squatting.

2.4 POLICY ISSUES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

2.4.1 Women and policy

It cannot be disputed that women have all along been affected by some development policies which do not recognise their work or status within their communities. Carr as quoted by Ahmed (1985:115) states that:

> "the plight of women in the rural areas of Africa has only recently received the amount of attention it deserves. It is now recognised that women are responsible for a large and increasing proportion of the work and that they have usually been denied access to improved equipment and the facilities necessary to enable them to do this work efficiently. Attempts are now being made in many countries to collect statistics in order to record accurately the contribution of women to the economy."

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1993 (Act 200 of 1993) as quoted in the Government Gazette of Social Welfare and Population Development (1996:122) states that women are faced with difficulties in accessing resources and mechanisms designed to improve their status and address their needs. It is clear that South Africa is no exception to this trend as women are still marginalised and this definitely affects growth of the economy. In the discussion document produced by the South African National Ministry of Social Welfare and Population Development, (05 June 1995), the statement released was that South Africa has embarked on the arduous task of socio-political and economic reform. It expressed that though sound economic policies and well-functioning labour market are essential for growth and employment

27

generation, there is still a need for South Africa to invest in people by developing the human capital which is essential for increasing productivity and moving people out of poverty.

There have been so many publications focusing on how policies are formulated in different countries. For instance. Finch as quoted by Pascall (1986:112) says, "feminists have been responsible for demonstrating that the education systems also reproduce the sexual division of labour in the family, whereby men are in paid employment and women do unpaid work in the home, and it reproduces sexual divisions within the labour market itself, so that when women do take paid work, they tend to be concentrated in particular types of jobs and at the lower level of organisational hierarchies".

It is thus important that when policies are made regarding development, all different categories of the population be considered to avoid other groups being left out.

Cochrane as quoted by Clarke et al (1994:154) points out that there is an increasing powerful argument towards the need for effective leadership within local government, and is often expressed in calls for the development of convincing organisational visions and the identification of achievable missions. It is also argued that "management is not just an executive process separate from policy-making, effective public management requires strong links between policy-making and implementation."

The draft white paper for Social Welfare and Population Development. Government Gazette (1996:120) argues strongly that though black women have been severely disadvantaged by the policies of the past, women in rural areas have been especially disadvantaged as they are isolated and do not have access to social and economic opportunities which could improve their lives.

Jansson (1994:177) suggests that the vast literature that has recently evolved on "culturally sensitive practices" and on "multidiversity" stresses the need to adopt programs to specific populations. This sensitivity has to occur on two related levels:

1.   To examine how specific social problems occur differently in certain populations.

2.   To ask how services could be adopted to the culture and norms of specific ethnic and racial groups.

In principle. these guidelines might help to develop relevant programmes that will be meaningful to the communities they are designed for.

Amongst problems identified as affecting women. are poverty and the current status of being women. Literacy has also been identified as one of the major obstacles to women's advancement and female unemployment is higher than male unemployment. women accounting for only 45% of those employed in the formal sector. It is that research which indicates that households headed by women are significantly poorer

with women also facing increasing pressures in reconciling parenthood with work responsibilities. The question of status of women goes beyond the fact that the principle of shared responsibility and partnership between men and women is still not accepted in society as the basis of achieving equity and equality.

2.4.2 South African policies of various departments involved in community development

In this section, the focus is on policies of the Department of Social Welfare and Population Development and the Department of Agriculture, as both are more at operational level and complement each other in terms of working closely with rural people, specifically in underdeveloped communities.

Afshar (1991:2) says that in order to succeed in this struggle women will have to be able to demystify some of the historical perceptions that have defined them as dependants and confined them to the unpaid domestic sectors of the economy and society.

In South Africa, it would appear that attempts are afoot to include women as much as possible in the process of development. The discussion below focuses on development as well as those aspects which specify programmes directed towards women.

2.4.2.1 Department of Social Welfare and Population Development

The draft Act No.57 (1996:14) stipulates that: "The vision of this Department is to facilitate the development of human capacity and self-reliance within a caring and enabling socio-economic environment". The following aspects contained in this Act are believed to be relevant to this study:

2.4.2.1.1 Social Welfare and Social Development

The broad focus of Social Welfare is to have comprehensive programmes that will promote social development. Section 85 states that the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) calls for the means to meet the developmental needs of women and particularly women in rural areas. The constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1993 (Act 200 of 1993), also provides for a variety of formal channels to assist women to access the resources of society and to promote their active participation.

This Department acknowledges the link between itself and other social service systems through which people's needs are met. The programmes proposed by this Department are part of a range of mechanisms to achieve social development, such as health, nutrition, education, housing, employment, recreation, rural and urban development and land reform.

Midgely (1995:114) maintains that 'people and communities have an inherent capacity to organise themselves to ensure that their basic needs are met, their problems are solved and opportunities for advancement are created. In order to achieve these goals, they need to co-operate with each other and share a common purpose.'

In the Mambuka community this is put into practice as women and some men as members of the community, work together in their attempt to solve these problems affecting their lives.

Social development and economic development are seen to be interdependent and mutually reinforcing, because in order to reach effective social development, certain steps will have to be achieved by having an equitable allocation and distribution of resources.

2.4.2.1.2 National goals

The national goals of this Department include amongst others the following:

- To promote and strengthen the partnership between government, the community and organisations in civil society and in the private sector who are involved in the delivery of social services.

- To promote social development intrasectorally both within the welfare departments and in collaboration with other government departments and non-

governmental stakeholders.

- To give effect to those international conventions of the United Nations systems which have been ratified by the Government of National Unity, and which are pertinent to developmental Social Welfare.

- To realise the relevant objectives of the constitution and the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP).

There are principles outlined on which developmental Social Welfare policies and programmes will be based:

- Security basic welfare rights

- Equity

- Non-discrimination

- Democracy

- Human rights

- Sustainability

- Quality services

- Transparency and accountability

- Accessibility

- Ubuntu

2.4.2.1.3 National plan of action

In achieving the abovementioned goals the national and provincial departments of welfare developed a National Plan of Action (commonly known as the NPA) to be implemented within the period of five years, with the purpose of facilitating the shift towards a comprehensive, integrated, equitable, multidisciplinary and developmental approach in the welfare field.

2.4.2.1.4 Community development

The draft policy of Social Welfare and Population Development Act. No. 57 (1996:24) outlines the proposals of community development as follows:

Community development strategies will address basic material, physical and psycho-social needs. The community development approach, philosophy, process, methods and skills will be used in strategies at local level to meet needs. The community development approach will also inform the re-orientation of social welfare programmes towards comprehensive, integrated and developmental strategies. Community development is regarded as an integral part of developmental social welfare which has been described earlier in this chapter. The focus of community development programmes in the welfare field will be on the following:

- The facilitation of the community development process.

- The development of family-centred and community-based programmes.

- The facilitation of capacity-building and economic empowerment programmes.

- The promotion of developmental social relief and disaster relief programmes.

- The facilitation of food aid programmes in emergency situations owing to disaster such as floods, fire, civil unrest or drought or to alleviate acute hunger. Food aid of this nature will be a temporary measure until individuals and households can be incorporated into other social development programmes.

- Voluntary participation in social and community programmes has to be actively encouraged and facilitated.

- Self-help groups and mutual aid support programmes.

- Promotion of advocacy programmes.

- The government will facilitate institutional development with the focus on creating and/or strengthening existing Government institutions and organisations of civil society.

- Facilitation of appropriate public education and non-formal education programmes.

- Promotion of community dispute resolution and mediation programmes. This includes provision of training.

- Facilitation of the access of local communities to governmental and non-governmental resources to address the needs.

- Intersectoral collaboration will be promoted, while the separate functions of different sectors and Government departments will be acknowledged.

2.4.2.1.5   Beijing Conference

Section 89 states: A global platform of action for the future was accepted at the Fourth World Conference on women which was held in Beijing on 4 to 5 September, 1995. The commitment made by governments of the world on this occasion to address the needs of women will serve as a guideline to be followed by all countries. These commitments and guidelines will form the basis on future action on the part of the various departments especially the Department of Welfare.

In addressing problems like poverty, the strategy will be amongst others, to encourage women to be involved in community development programmes that will promote and strengthen capacity-building programmes, micro-enterprises, small business

development and co-operative enterprises and also accessing credit and skills training for them.

2.4.2.1.6   Flagship programme

In South Africa, a Flagship programme has been initiated by the National government. It is directed towards the unemployed single mothers with a major job-creation or empowerment and independence factors. Although there is not much taking place so far, there is however, a directive that all provinces had to get an allocation of funding. It is envisaged that more funding will have to be sought in order to make the implementation of this programme possible. The private sector is targeted to be drawn in so that they get involved and assist in funding to avoid the programme cost becoming an extra burden to the state. This information is derived from the Policy Speech (1997: 24-25) made by the Minister of Social Welfare and Population Development in KwaZulu-Natal.

In advancing women's participation in rural activities, some African countries have made programmes designed specifically for women to be more acceptable in their communities. For instance El Ghonemy (1991:31) says that in 1981 a new umbrella programme "Community Action for Disadvantaged Women" was launched in four regions following the strategies of the WCCARD Programme of Action. This programme aimed at promoting participatory self-help activities designed to increase food and/or income production by rural women in ways they choose themselves and taking into account their multiple roles. Through the introduction of appropriate

technology and collective services, the time spent on domestic tasks is reduced so that food production and income-earning activities may be pursued. It is clear that no programme can be of relevance if the people for whom it is designed are not consulted before coming up with a policy.

2.4.2.2 The Department of Agriculture

2.4.2.2.1 Policy

The policy of this department is to promote the development of a progressive agricultural community by implementing appropriate economic policies leading to viable production systems thereby improving the quality of life.

In KwaZulu-Natal, the white paper on Agriculture (1996:8) emphasizes the principle of Food Security which refers to the availability of sufficient, safe, nutritious food for the population at the right time and place, and at an affordable price. This can be achieved provincially by promoting both small-scale and large-scale production.

Another important aspect of this Department's policy (1996:14) is that it aims at encouraging integrated land use, planning and community participation to promote optimum management and utilisation of the natural resources.

2.4.2.2.2   **Implementation of policy and present situation**

- In practice this department is involved in the promotion of resource conservation and sustainable utilisation of agricultural resources.

- It also provides support for home economics and training.

In both Departments discussed above, there are common problems which are seen to be drawbacks in the implementation of policies. Among others, the following have been highlighted:

- Absence of monitoring or evaluation mechanisms to ascertain effectiveness and productivity.

- Level of interest within rural communities with respect to careers in agriculture and other income generating strategies.

2.4.3 **Policy and partnership**

In addressing the imbalances of the past, the South african government has, amongst its strategies, engaged itself in promoting the participation of the non-governmental and community-based organisations in development programmes. The organisations have their own social responsibility sections especially big firms which work directly with communities. Community-based organisations also have their own approaches.

39

In other foreign countries the trend is the same as Deakin (1994:219) observes that the formal voluntary organisations have a more substantial role to play in community development and in this process certain gaps are filled in to make sure that all communities receive a share in services. This is achieved through the process they refer to as the Statutory-Voluntary Collaboration.

It is also important that certain professions concerned with community development especially in rural areas, have to be open-minded in order to deal with situations that inhibit development in underdeveloped countries like those in the African continent.

In supporting the above statement, Lambert (1991:79) stated that in a country like Namibia, community development practice was by then not contributing to putting forward viable and constructive alternatives to address the structural problems and economic underdevelopment that existed in the community. There was no blue print for either approach, method or model for reconceptualising or redesigning social work services in order to integrate service and need, practice and theory.

It is therefore felt that there should be practical methods which will make it more practical for development agents to link theory into practice thus helping the developing communities.

In South Africa, the exercise of developing policies with regard to development should be a partnership between the planners and people because, after all, it is the consumers who must maintain and sustain the process of policy implementation.

Planners should therefore adopt this approach in so far as this area is concerned and help to develop self reliance among the people.

A 'cohesive' community spirit and understanding between the planners and people is a pre-requisite to development work in the establishment of specific programmes or projects. This promotes communication and makes it feasible to identify issues which need attention.

The country is faced with a host of problems which include rapid growth of informal settlements and resettlement areas (land claims). There is therefore a need for more consultation and surveys to be advocated for in order to address these problems.

The inter-sectoral collaboration approach would definitely work in development as role differentiation among various departments involved would be discussed to avoid overlapping and duplication of services.

2.4.4 Women in development

It is important that the issue of women in development be accommodated in this study because it gives a clear indication of how the state of being female has contributed towards the marginalisation of women within their family structures as well as in their communities. The focus will be on population of women in the Third World: some assumptions about women's duties: women and work: women in agriculture and women and the right to self-determination.

2.4.4.1 The population of women in the Third World

According to the United Nations Report 1985 as pointed out by Brydon and Chant (1989:58) seventy five percent of the world's population lives in the Third World, and 75 percent of the Third World population is in rural areas. In this case 'rural women' form the major category in the world.

In the White Paper of the Department of Agriculture in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa (1996:8) it is stipulated that the population of this province is currently estimated to be 8,5 million of whom 5,3 million are estimated to live in rural areas. It is women again who are in the majority.

2.4.4.2 Assumptions about women's duties

It is true that women have always been in a working class even though the majority operate within their households. A large proportion of women especially in rural areas are involved in work performed in their households and in the neighbourhood within their communities. Fransella and Frost (1977:19) are of the view that 'an assumption that a woman's primary identity is that of 'homemaker' or 'housewife' assigns to her not one, but many roles: not the least that of wife, houseworker and childrearer'. It has been mentioned right through the previous sections of this study that women have always been looked down upon in their household work where they do not receive the best recognition and support from their families and the community.

A rural woman is usually the one who takes care of all the household duties including those that are supposed to be performed by men. Joakes (1987:68) found out that there is a similarity between Asian and African communities where rural women are, for an example, expected to be involved in a range of quasi-agricultural tasks to do with food crop storage and preparation for consumption, care of small livestock (chickens, goats, pigs) as well as the often very time-consuming tasks of fuel and water collection. In some communities these duties are performed by both women and men whereas in others women are responsible and they know that society expects them to fulfil those unpaid duties. On the other hand, men would be exempted from these duties as they are expected to be involved in paid work outside the household.

The other assumption is that the work done by women because of their gender, is not seen for what it is because in the absence of a woman, that kind of work can be performed by a hired domestic worker who in return needs to be remunerated. There is thus a need to reconsider women equally as potential paid workers regardless of their gender.   -

The third viewpoint is that housework is not given the status of being 'real' work because there is no end product in terms of payment to the woman involved in those roles. There are women who go out to work in order to meet family needs. In these instances a woman may experience pressure because she will have a new role as a worker and at the same time she is expected to fully perform her house duties. Good as quoted by Fransella and Frost (1977:123) defines this as 'the felt difficulty in fulfilling role obligations'. It is said that sociologists describe this as the 'role strain'.

When a woman gets married, particularly according to Zulu custom, she knows that she will have the responsibility of making sure that she takes care of each and every member of her new family in the homestead. Dlamini (1994:1) points out that a customary marriage in its traditional form, involves the family groups of the two parties who acquire rights and obligations from the marriage and hold themselves implicitly responsible for the fulfilment of those rights and obligations. Customary marriage is thus regarded as belonging to the joint family of agrarian communities.

2.4.4.3 Women and work

Harley (1990:340) mentions that in America, studies conducted amongst black men and women indicated that a number of gender related-factors explain differences in the proportion of black women and black men represented in the labour force. This participation gap in the part reflects the fact that employers (both White and Black) often preferred male wage-earners even though it meant paying slightly higher wages.

This reason can, of course, prevent women from seeking employment in the labour market because of poor wages. The discrimination also applies to higher-paying positions which are reserved for men who will be highly paid.

According to Harley (1990:342) other studies revealed that most black husbands found it impossible to oppose their wives' employment (although some did) when they knew just as well as everyone else in the black community that their family's very survival depended upon the wages, however minimal, that their wives contributed.

44

It is clear that family pressures sometimes force women to move out of their families. In that case the housework comes second as it does not pay. On the other hand the wife's wages are also needed to increase the family income if the husband is not there to fulfil the family needs if a woman is the sole breadwinner. In some instances, black men could be proud that their black spouses did not work for wages outside the home.

Bernstein, Crow and Johnson (1992:97) have come up with a view saying that 'the degree of monetization of different activities is important because it affects the basis on which goods and services (including labour) are exchanged, and the extent to which individuals and households require cash incomes to carry out productive and reproductive work.' As women cannot be paid for the domestic work they do for their households, the duties performed for production outside the parameters of domestic work have to be as remunerative as possible. This will ensure income for women as well as recognition for the work done. In order to obtain this women need good coaching to produce the marketable goods.

Boserup in the article edited by McNicoll and Cain (1990:47) conclude that in many rural communities, men exercise control over women to such an extent that they prevent them from working outside the home. It is presumed that women who do not work outside home can devote all their time to household activities that can be performed in or close by the home.

2.4.4.4 Women in agriculture

In most rural parts of South Africa, men and some women work in farms for wages but in their households women are the ones who make sure that fields are cultivated for the production of food for immediate consumption by the family. Joakes (1987:65) discusses some trends in the involvement of women in the agricultural sector which is the main source of food production. He says in Sub-Saharan Africa, there is a pattern of separation of male and female spheres of activity, whereas in Asian men and women tend rather to take different parts in a single cultivation process. In African households, food production is done by women alone, with the exception of male participation at the stage of clearing the land from bush.

Ironmonger as quoted by Ironmonger and Sonius (1989:21) mentions that many researchers have either ignored or discounted the possibility that productive activity takes place within the household. Consequently, the contribution of household productive activity to the economy at large is assigned a nil value and rarely included in calculations of national income, certainly not in the official statistics. This has important implications, especially for women. whose contribution to society is valued in terms of hours spent in the market economy while the many more hours they spend in household activity is neglected.

Pigou as quoted by Ironmonger and Sonius (1989:21) states that 'the services rendered by women enter into the dividend when they are rendered in exchange for wages, whether in factory or in the home, but do not enter into it when they are

46

rendered by mothers and wives gratuitously to their families. Thus, if a man worries his housekeeper or his cook, the national dividend is diminished.'

Joakes (1987:6) discusses the value of agriculture in the various regional economies and also where agriculture is more important to women as a source of employment than to men. He continues to give an indication that in 1980, eighty-seven percent of all members of the female labour force in low-income African countries were in this sector compared by seventy percent in China, sixty percent in other low-income Asian countries and fifty-five percent in middle-income Asian countries.

The above indicates that there is still a gap between the work performed by women on one hand and men on the other hand because inequality in wages still exists and there is still a question of women not receiving genuine recognition.

2.4.4.5 Women's right to self-determination

Women should be optimistic that as time passes, there will be changes in terms of the inclusion of women in decisions taken by the governments about their (women's) issues. Fowkes as quoted by Goudie and Kilian (1996:44) gives a clear statement that while women are actively involved in project work, networking and support, final responsibility and decision-making powers remain largely outside their domain.

There is a version by authors like Carr as cited by Ahmed (1985:115) who maintain that there is an outcry of African rural women who have all along been excluded in

most important issues, where decisions about their lives with regard to their participation in income generating projects would be taken without their involvement.

Brydon and Chant (1989:108) give their viewpoint that although many development projects for women are designed by planners in co-operation with local women, there are instances where rural women themselves have taken the initiative.

Brydon and Chant (1989:8) again stipulate four major themes which are viewed to be relevant for gender questions in less developed countries. They are: the household, reproduction, production and policy. These are discussed below as follows:

a.   Household

Harris as cited by Brydon and Chant (1989:8-9) defines the household as a fairly common form of social organisation in most regions of the developing world, and often represents the primary site for the structuring of gender relations and women's specific experience. It is further argued that although membership of a household implies at least a minimal degree of interaction with others in the unit, it cannot be assumed that such interaction entails equality or even co-operation among individuals.

b.   Reproduction

This theme is regarded as having a wide variety of connotations, ranging from the process of 'biological' reproduction at one end of the spectrum, to the process of

'social' reproduction at the other. 'Biological' reproduction comprises child birth and so forth while 'social' reproduction refers to the maintenance of ideological conditions which reproduce class relations and uphold the social and economic status.

c.   **Production**

There are problems of defining the boundaries between production and reproduction in rural environments. Production is seen to be displaying similarities to income-generating activities.

d.   **Policy and planning**

This refers to the formulation of guidelines and in rural areas the focus is the evaluation of women and women's work by governments and development agencies.

In addressing women's issues Brydon & Chant (1989:108) regard the Integrated Rural Development as the alternative to the total approach on rural development. Integrated Rural Development considers the interrelationships between all the factors that contribute to the well-being of rural people. Charlton as quoted by Brydon and Chant (1989:111) says the Integrated Rural Development in theory should take into account both what people want (a bottom-up orientation) and cultural constraints, including religious problems, the sexual division of labour and an evaluation of what women already do.

The plight of women will be addressed if their total way of living is well researched before the procedures intended to influence change are put into practice so as to avoid clashes with the manner in which they (women) are socialised. This approach of Integrated Rural Development can be of relevance if the development agents irrespective of their various organisations or state departments could come together and fill up the gaps in order to render effective services to communities instead of duplicating services unnecessarily.

In summary, the discrimination of women because of their gender tends to be the global issue as most countries are faced with the very same problem where women are discriminated against. This is generally felt by women in both rural and urban areas. In urban areas this is evident in work places as male and female employees are usually not the same in the eyes of the employer. There has to be a means of putting women's concerns in the limelight so that their hard earned activities can have recognition. Carr as cited by Ahmed (1985:117) articulates that women in Africa, especially in rural areas, are fully involved in all aspects of social and economic life. This statement is fully supported as women are so dynamic that they are found in almost all spheres of life and they make tremendous contributions towards the economy.

The national policies of governments will be relevant if the necessary measures are taken to involve women starting from where they are and expand to the broader community.

2.5 CONCLUSION

This chapter drew from three sources of knowledge focusing on these aspects: conceptualisation of community development: women and community development; policy issues and rural development and lastly, women in development.

-

CONTEXT OF RESEARCH

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the area of study by giving its background history. This will assist in giving a clear understanding of those who have in one way or another been affected by the changes in their lives. The aspects to be covered include the geographical description of the area, the socio-cultural conditions, authority structures and the general economic position of the people and facilities or resources available in the area.

The activities in which the people of Mambuka are involved are briefly highlighted in this section. The chapter also covers briefly the involvement of various non-governmental organisations and state departments in the area.

3.2 GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

3.2.1 Location

Mambuka is situated approximately. forty five (45) kilometres from Empangeni town and about sixty three (63) kilometres from Richards Bay. In this area there are groups of people who were moved from land known as Richards Bay in July 1976 as

well as those who came from other areas to settle in this area which is commonly known as Ntambanana or Mandlazini. This area had previously white-owned farm lands and it consisted of eight farms.

The population increased drastically as during the movement in 1976, the population was estimated at 10,000 but it went to ± 20,000.

The geographical boundary on the North is Makhwezini Reserve, on the south is Ndondwane Reserve, on the east Sangoyana Reserve. There are farms to the west which are still in operation as well as around Ntambanana which is commonly known as Buchanan. Ndondwane, Makhwezini and Sangoyane Reserves previously fell under the ex-KwaZulu government and Ntambanana is another resettlement area of Mbuyazi tribe who were also moved from another part of land in what is now Richards Bay.

3.3 SOCIO-CULTURAL CONDITIONS

The Mambukas were an existing community elsewhere, then they were moved into a new area. This usually involves the disruption of people's lives, their organisational structures, their socio-economic life and their community relationships. Also some of the more enterprising people did not go into this area but managed to establish themselves elsewhere.

It is imperative that we know the social and cultural conditions of these people as it has a great impact on their lives as well as their interaction with one another especially as we are specifically concerned with the involvement of a certain portion of their population (women) in community development activities.

The community or area of study consists of rural people with the majority belonging to the lower social class. Those who are employed commute to and from Empangeni and Richards Bay.

In view of the fact that people had settled in a new area, they had to re-organise themselves and find ways of coping with the new conditions of the environment. Although the people of this area originated from different areas, they have now become one and there are no specific visible sub-cultural groups. They have found one common ground as the existing community projects consist of all people from all angles.

It is important that one builds on local people's knowledge and respect their right to free expression when one has to write about people's lives. Chambers (1983:92-94) expresses that "in most countries of the Third World, rural people's knowledge is an enormous and under utilised national resource. Much of the relative strength of rural people's knowledge lies in what can be observed locally and over a sustained period and in what directly affects their lives and livelihoods. Most obviously, this applies to their knowledge of customs and practices. Descriptive and conceptual terms also provide points of departure for scientific investigation which may be more practiced

and useful than the externally determined categories of outsiders' knowledge."
Although the majority of the population in this area of study is illiterate, it is
imperative that a lot of people be afforded an opportunity of expressing their views
about themselves, thus giving the information and having their knowledge recorded.

3.4 AUTHORITY STRUCTURES

The local leadership consists of traditional leaders; an Inkosi (commonly known as
Chief) and 'indunas' or headmen. With the new Regional Authority structure there
are councillors. The Inkosi has the overall power over his subjects. The hierarchy
then goes down to indunas, councillors and ends with the common people. The
important factor is that there should be a good relationship between the leadership and
people to avoid any sources of conflict within the structures.

It is significant that all these structures be fully responsible for activities taking place
in their area so that they can be successful. The question lies where the development
projects are initiated by outsiders as this will mean that the local people will have to
be motivated to adopt such activities and identify themselves with them.

In the area of study, community development projects are scattered in the entire area
to such an extent that each Induna's locality has most types of development projects
available in other localities.

3.5 GENERAL ECONOMIC POSITION OF THE PEOPLE

Most people of this community are unemployed. A small population is employed in industries while others are in average and low income type of employment in Empangeni and Richards Bay. Those employed locally comprise few trained nurses and teachers. There is also a considerable population of migrant labourers in far towns like Durban, Johannesburg and others.

This kind of economic status indicates a higher level of people who have no skills or who have not undergone any training. This of course has an adverse effect of reducing the economic power within the community as the environment there has no trade facilities.

3.6 RESOURCES OR FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN THE AREA

Although during resettlement, there were fewer basic facilities, considerable change came about as time went on as some facilities were provided by the state. For instance, in 1975, just a year before settlement, the area where the people had to be resettled had about twelve small dams with a further one on the Enseleni river being planned by then and a temporary school. A clinic and a shop were to be built.

A year later as was stated in the Daily News (19 July 1976) the then Department of Bantu Affairs built a 56 km road, two temporary schools, a clinic, dams, reservoirs and a weir on the Enseleni river to supply water on taps at different points in the

Reserve. The facilities available in the area at present are as follows:

3.6.1 Health services

There is a new and modernized clinic built by the government. It has the basic facilities expected of a clinic situated in a community. The head of the clinic is a senior professional nurse. A medical doctor from Ngwelezane hospital visits the clinic once a week. If there is a seriously ill patient, an ambulance is called from Ngwelezane hospital to take the patient to this hospital which is situated 48 km away from the area.

3.6.2 Agricultural services

In the area of study, there is presently no officer allocated for services despite other officers servicing other adjacent areas. These officers assist in the meantime while the process of allocation is still in progress. The reason for the gap is that the area was previously serviced by the Department of Development Aid which is no longer in operation. Due to the amalgamation process, this area has to be attended to by the local office of this Department.

According to the local head of this Department, their activities include those which deal with community development projects like sewing, livestock and other forms of farming.

The Agricultural Shows also form part of their activities to promote the market. The new approaches include the creation of markets through tendering as small businesses and individuals need access to the entire community. This can be fully achieved by advertising their products as much as possible.

3.6.3 Postal services

This area has no post office. There are, however, newly erected postal boxes next to shops and other public central outlets. This is a symbol that people now have some semblance of postal services as they are able to receive their post without having to travel to Empangeni where there is a post office. They only go to the main post office for certified items and other major services.

3.6.4 Transport services

The community is served by Ikhwezi transport. A taxi service is available although this needs to be improved because of the poor state of roads.

3.6.5 Shopping facilities

Community members do their main shopping in Empangeni. However, there are shopping facilities in their vicinity though some are not of a high standard or are not able to meet the residents' requirements. Others usually complain that goods sold in local shops are more expensive compared to those sold in town shops.

3.6.6 Educational facilities

The educational facilities in this area are available. Although there will always be gaps in terms of accessibility. the community is, however, able to use existing facilities which are well built and fenced. There are two high schools and four higher primary schools. These schools are under the Department of Education and Culture.

The majority of teachers are not members of the community. They commute from the different townships to Mambuka via Empangeni.

There are also (15) day care centres (creches) registered with the Department of Welfare. These provide services to children attending kindergartens. These public facilities belong to the community, and are run by management committees which are elected by community members themselves.

3.6.7 Welfare services

There is a public agency (Department of Social Welfare and Population Development) which serves this community. The office known as Lower Umfolozi district office is situated at Ngwelezane township. three (3) km away from Empangeni. This office provides social work services as well as social security services (social pensions and allowances).

Although the information on policy will be discussed in the next section, it can be mentioned here that the vision of this department on development includes the facilitation of the development of human capacity and self-discipline amongst community members within their environment.

As the writer has worked in this area for quite some time, the social problems experienced by most families are those which emanate from poverty. There are no registered non-governmental welfare organisations (addressing family problems) operating in this area, therefore some services required by members of the community are offered by the Department.

In view of the fact that families no longer have traditional support systems, one finds that it is common in this area to find that each adult member has to fend for himself/herself. The common problems in the area are those of children who are orphans; those deserted by mothers and whose fathers are untraceable. There are single parents, either due to the death of one parent or where one parent, especially the father, was a migrant labourer who never came back home. The consequences of these problems are that those left with the burden of meeting the needs of these children would therefore seek assistance from the state via the Department of Welfare. The statistics show that maternal grandparents are mostly the ones who become child supporters.

All these problems are an indication of the shift and change from the original ways of living. It is the people themselves who have to find solutions to these problems

in one way or another.

3.6.8 Recreational facilities

In most rural areas recreational facilities are scarce. In this area of study there is a new centre (sports ground) which is well structured and there are some soccer grounds which are not well developed. There is now a community hall built recently through sponsorship from industries. This hall is used for different functions organised by community members and sometimes it is hired for occasions like weddings.

3.6.9 Religious services

There are various churches in this area, namely the Roman Catholic Church, Lutheran, Methodist, Anglican, Seventh Day Adventist, Jehovah's Witnesses, Apostolics to mention a few, as well as Zionists who are in majority. None of the above mentioned denominations has a proper building. Each has either a temporary structure or they use one of a church member's house for their worship.

3.7 ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS IN WHICH PEOPLE OF MAMBUKA ARE INVOLVED

3.7.1 Localities

There are a variety of projects in which the people of Mambuka especially women take part. As mentioned earlier in this study, projects are spread all over the area with nine Indunas. These localities are as follows:

Magwetshana

Maqedipuleti

Mningi

Ntuzuma

Mandlazini

Mvazana

Mathunzini

Mambuka

Makholwase

3.7.2 Projects

The projects include:

Sewing clubs

Cement blocks making

Garden clubs

Grass mats weaving

Wire fence making

Bead work

Poultry farming

Each club has its own schedule of coming together to do the work. Others meet once a week whilst others do their clubwork in their homes and meet weekly, fortnightly or when there is a need. Members of most groups are predominantly women. The groups which have both females and males are those involved in gardening, poultry, wire fence making and block making.

3.7.3 Longevity in groups

The life span of each group depends on the relationship of group members themselves. Others stay in groups as long as their needs are still met. In most groups membership is renewed annually. However, most members have been there since the inception of those clubs. Some have had their membership for a period of 5 years and others even longer. The clubs also continue to attract new members.

3.7.4 Problems experienced by members in groups

There are always constraints in various initiatives especially if it involves people. Amongst others, the following problems were identified by members of the groups.

- Lack of knowledge on development

- Poor attendance of meetings (clubs and public)

- Lack of cohesiveness amongst members

- Lack of funding

- Lack of public facilities for projects

- Lack of management skills

- Lack of leadership and communication skills

- No markets for products

- No profits on products

3.8 SOME ORGANISATIONS AND STATE DEPARTMENTS OPERATING IN THE AREA

3.8.1 The Department of Welfare

The involvement of this structure has been that of assisting certain clubs to maintain their functioning. Some of the clubs emerged with the assistance of a local Social Worker of this Department.

In about 1994 some clubs applied for registration with this Department after which certificates of recognition as clubs were issued. In addition, those registered clubs were funded in the form of subsidies where they were given 75% of the total cost of items purchased. There is presently no active involvement of this department in activities of the clubs and funding is no longer available.

3.8.2 The Department of Local Government and Housing (Community Facilitation)

This state department has just started operating in this area. Their approach is that of training local people to acquire skills in order to improve their lifestyles.

There has been a recent project initiated by this Department where local people were trained on how to make cement building blocks. They acquired certificates and this was very beneficial to the community.

As this Department is now there as well. the community will most likely benefit from the practical implementation of its policies.

3.8.3 The Department of Agriculture

There is no Agricultural officer allocated in this area yet. However, the department makes effort in involving the community in agricultural shows where the rest of other communities participate. If there is a need for advice on agricultural matters, officers allocated in other areas outside Mambuka, do come to their rescue.

3.8.4 The Department of Health (National Nutrition and Social Development Programme)

About two years ago, this Department made funds available for development projects. This included a feeding scheme for underprivileged families assessed as vulnerable to malnutrition. In this funding, equipment was purchased for existing projects and there were new ones which were formed during that time. When the funding stopped, other projects faded. Those projects which were in existence before this funding, continued to survive and they are still in operation.

3.8.5 Helwel

This is a non-governmental organisation which is based at Melmoth (Mthonjaneni district). As a mother body, this organisation has decentralised its services by having centres in different rural communities. Mambuka is one of them.

The focus of this organisation is on the improvement of peoples' quality of life through community development. The activities include offering training in different life skills.

In this area of study, its base is called Ntambanana Centre. In this centre there are various projects like sewing, block making and a creche. In the 1980's this centre was known as Ntambanana Sewing Centre and its main function was to offer training in sewing. The creche was already there by then.

It is through the motivation received from this centre that most of the projects in the area were established by the local people. There are creches in the area which are affiliates of this organisation (Helwel). They receive a monthly allowance towards the needs of pre-school children. The development projects like sewing clubs are also assisted with funds if there is a need.

3.8.6 World Vision

This is also a non-governmental organisation which has a head office situated in Durban and a district office situated in Richards Bay. Locally (Mambuka), there is a project called Zizameleni. The approach of this organisation is that of developing communities through community participation.

This local project has under it several development projects as well as creches. It is the policy of this organisation that communities have to be assisted to develop in order to attain the position of self-reliance.

In summary, the above information about different organisations gives a version that each one of them has its own way of approach though the ultimate aim is that of developing communities. Some of the organisations may not have been included in the discussion above, but it is acknowledged that they are there but perhaps invisible. In that case they have not been deliberately left out.

3.9   CONCLUSION

The chapter covered the geographical description of the area; the socio-cultural conditions; authority structures, the economic position of the people; the resources or facilities available in the area; the activities or projects at Mambuka and lastly the organisations operating in the area.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Every scientific project has, as its basic aim, the acquisition of new knowledge and understanding. In order to arrive at this objective one or more research procedures and techniques may be used. The research procedures used in any study are determined by the nature of the research project.

This chapter deals with the research design, the research method, the sample and sampling techniques or strategies, the research instrument as well as the technique of data analysis and interpretation.

4.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

Designing refers to the process of making decisions before the situation arises in which the decision is to be made. Phillips (1966:7) states that the research design constitutes the blueprint of the collection, measuring and analysis of data.

Kerlinger as quoted by Lincoln and Guba (1985:221) defines design as follows:

> "Research design is the plan, structure, and strategy of investigation conceived so as to obtain answers to research

questions and to control variance. The *plan* is the overall scheme or program of the research. It includes an outline of what the investigator will do from writing the hypothesis and their operational implications to the final analysis of the data. The *structure* of the research is more specific. It is the outline, the scheme, the paradigms of the operation of the variables. When we draw diagrams that outline the variables and their relation and juxtaposition, we build structural schemes for accomplishing operational research purposes. *Strategy*, as used here, is also more specific than plan. It includes the methods to be used to gather and analyze the data. In other words, strategy implies how the research objectives will be reached and how the problems encountered in the research will be tackled."

Mouton and Marais (1994:79) maintain that the central consideration of validity in the process of data collection is that of reliability. They further stipulate that the reliability of data is influenced by four variables namely, the researcher(s), the participant, the research context or the circumstances under which the research is conducted.

In view of these definitions, it is clear that for a research project to attain good results, it has to be properly planned and structured in such a way that problems that might hinder the process are eliminated from the beginning. It therefore becomes important that the researcher's tools as well as the dimensions of the individuals or community involved are well co-ordinated. The research design enables the researcher to anticipate what the appropriate research decisions should be so as to maximize the validity of the eventual results of a particular project.

4.2.1 The research method

This research used both qualitative and quantitative methods. This was done to ensure that the researcher obtains as much information as possible in order to gather all the data from respondents. Each of the methods is defined below.

4.2.1.1 Qualitative method

Lincoln & Guba (1985:198) indicate that qualitative methods are stressed within the naturalistic paradigm because qualitative methods are more viable instruments for gathering data.

On the other hand Mouton and Marais (1994:204) view qualitative research as being inductive in that the researcher attempts to understand a situation without imposing pre-existing expectations on the setting. Qualitative research designs begin with specific observations and build towards general patterns that exist in the empirical world being studied. The qualitative researcher thus develops analytical. conceptual and categorical components of explanation from the data itself. They say the important assumption of the qualitative paradigm is understanding and interpreting a situation from the perspective of participants in the situation. This calls for emphasis on natural observation and field work in the collection of data in the natural setting of the subjects.

The researcher interviewed some of the respondents from various projects with the purpose of obtaining data that could not be collected in the form of an interview schedule.

4.2.1.2 Quantitative method

Mouton and Marais (1994:155) define quantitative method as an approach to research in the social sciences that is more highly formalized as well as more explicitly controlled.

In understanding this method, it is formalized in the sense that the instructions of a researcher have to be strictly followed by the respondent. This method was used to collect data from respondents using an interview schedule.

4.3 THE SAMPLE AND SAMPLING PROCEDURE

Sampling is, according to Babbie (1992:192), the process of selecting elements or subjects from the entire study population.

4.3.3.1 Sampling technique or strategy

The sampling strategy used in this study was the non probability sampling. Bailey (1982:97) argues that the advantage of non probability sampling is that it is less complicated than other strategies. It was therefore felt that this could be employed

without the statistical complexity of a probability sample.

The non-probability sampling procedure used in this study was the purposive or non-judgemental sampling. Babbie (1992:230) says this procedure is selected on the basis that the researcher knows the population and other elements focusing on the purpose of his or her study. Bailey (1982:99) is also of the opinion that the researcher uses his/her judgement about which respondents to choose and picks only those who best meet the purposes of the study. He stipulates that the advantage of purposive sampling is that the researcher can use his or her research skill and prior knowledge to choice of respondents.

In this study, the researcher concentrated on those projects which function smoothly and have been in existence for quite some time inspite of all the difficulties they might have. It was also ascertained that the respondents chosen were those who had been in projects for a longer period. The reason for this is that they are well informed about all the dimensions of their respective projects.

4.2.3.2 Sample frame

Babbie (1992:198) defines a sampling frame as the actual list of sampling units from which the sample is selected. In this research, the study population consists of eight (8) projects in which women of Mambuka are involved. Each project consists of about fifteen (15) members. Approximately one hundred and twenty (120) people are involved in community development activities which comprise projects like sewing,

gardening, knitting, grass-mats, block making, weaving and fence wire making.

The participants were drawn as follows: Out of each of the eight (8) projects, one
(1) member was interviewed which means that the total number of those women who
were involved in projects was eight (8) and two (2) men who are also participants.
Approximately two other people who are not involved in projects were interviewed.
The total sample size was approximately twelve (12) people.

4.2.4 The research instrument

4.2.4.1 Data collecting instrument

An interview schedule was used as a research instrument because of its effectiveness
in several studies with regard to administration and acquisition of the required
information. A schedule consisting of closed-ended questions was used to elicit
information on different aspects of the population involved in the study. Since the
questions were in English, the investigator had to translate them into isiZulu so that
all the respondents could easily understand them.

Babbie (1992:148) states that there are two structural requirements in which one
constructs closed-ended questions. Firstly, the response categories provided should
be exhaustive, meaning that they have to include all the possible responses that might
be expected from the respondents.

The second requirement is that the answer categories must be mutually exclusive so that the respondent should not feel compelled to select more than one answer.

In this study, the answers were provided against each question and the categories "other" and "specify" were added to accommodate different responses not available amongst those supplied. The category which was not applicable was also supplied in questions which had a 'yes' and 'no' as answers.

4.2.4.2 Focus groups

According to Babbie (1992:254-255), focus groups are a sample of participants brought together by the researcher for the purpose of probing various aspects of an issue. The participants for the focus group are selected on the basis of relevance to the topic under study. The main purpose of using focus groups is to explore rather than to describe or explain in any definitive sense. It is further stated that more than one focus group is convened in a given study since there is a serious danger that a single group would be too atypical to offer any generalizable insights.

As the study is partly qualitative, contact was made with participants from different groups where they were requested to come together for participation in the form of one large group so as to get some of the respondents involved, thus promoting participatory approach. They were asked specific questions with the purpose of collecting more detailed data regarding the study.

4.3   DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

As the study involves smaller groups of people in a large community, the technique of data analysis involved the use of content analysis which allowed for interpretation of data according to broad themes emerging from participants' interviews.   In defining content analysis Babbie (1992:317) states that it is the coding or classification of material in order to draw descriptive and explanatory conclusions.   On the other hand, tables and percentages were used for analysing data collected in the form of an interview schedule.

The researcher believes that the data collected and analysed both qualitatively and quantitatively best serves the interests of this study.

Data were analyzed and interpreted by means of "inductive abstraction" and generalisation.   Mouton and Marais (1994:103) view this strategy as appropriate to studies of descriptive nature.   _

4.4   CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the focus was on the research design which included the research method, the sample and sampling procedure, the research instrument as well as data analysis and interpretation.   There is a saying that: 'If you do not know where you are going the likelihood is you will not get there.'

CHAPTER FIVE

DATA ANALYSIS

5.1   INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer presents, analyses and interprets data collected using two methods, namely, qualitative and quantitative methods. Tables, descriptions and broad themes have been used to present nominal, ordinal and other forms of data.

5.2   PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

5.2.1   Identifying particulars of respondents or participants

It is important for this study to indicate the identifying particulars of respondents so as to understand the background circumstances from where the responses come. The researcher selected participants aged between thirty five (35) and sixty (60) years. With regard to experience in groups, the researcher selected those members who had been members of community clubs for at least two years and above. There were men amongst the respondents and their selection was in accordance with the two above mentioned variables, that is, age and experience but with reference to gender. Men were selected from those groups having more than one man.

Table 1:   **Identifying particulars**

PARTICULARS		NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Age	35 - 45 years	4	33.3
	46 - 60 years	8	66.7
	Total	12	100
Gender	Women	9	75
	Men	3	25
	Total	12	100
Experience in groups	2 - 5 years	3	25
	6 yrs and over	9	75
	Total	12	100

5.2.1.1 Age

This table indicates that sixty-six point seven (66.7) percent group members are aged between forty-six (46) and sixty (60) years while on the other hand thirty-three point three (33.3) percent members are between thirty-five (35) and forty-five (45) years of age. This is usually a period where a person is actively involved in life, for instance, being engaged in the bringing up of children and either employed or somehow involved in the labour market.

These results therefore show that a large number is expected to be actively involved in other life activities for the functioning of their families. Therefore the hypothesis by Lieberman and Borman (1979:117) indicating that people belong to groups in order to fulfil services not being currently met in society by other systems receives support from this finding. It supports the suggestion that group members are involved in projects because their needs are not fulfilled in other systems like in the labour market.

5.2.1.2 Gender

According to the table, women form a large proportion in development groups. Although the sample was drawn according to types of groups' activities, it was found that women form seventy-five (75) percent of the respondents. Men's representation totals twenty-five (25) percent.

The high proportion of women's involvement in projects confirms the theory that although they have a number of duties to perform at home, they also have to be involved somewhere else outside home for various reasons. An argument by Fransella and Frost (1977:199) about an assumption that a woman's primary identity is that of 'homemaker' or housewife, assigns to her not one but many roles, wife, housekeeper and childbearer. This shows that women are expected not only to perform more than the roles mentioned, but they are already out of their homes seeking to fend for their families thus automatically changing the entire system of traditionally assigned duties.

79

5.2.1.3 Experience in groups

It was found that seventy-five (75) percent of respondents have been in projects for more than six (6) years and over, whilst twenty-five (25) percent have been there for a period of less than five (5) years. This indicates that membership's turnover is consistent and members are assumed to be keeping to these groups as long as their needs are still met.

During field work, the researcher learned from the focus group that most members have maintained their membership because they had no alternative avenues where they could establish themselves. So they have found projects to be alternative sources of income.

5.2.2 The initiation of community projects

It is not unusual that projects are initiated by the community itself with some influence and or motivation from development agents.

The following table reflects the position at Mambuka, the researched area:

Table 2   Initiation of Community Projects

PROJECT INITIATION	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Women of the community	10	83.3
Local community	2	16.7
Local leadership	0	00
Other	0	00
Total	12	100

Out of twelve (12) respondents, ten (10) respondents confirmed that projects had been initiated by women of the community. Two answered in favour of the local community.

The table indicates that the overwhelming majority of eighty three point three (83.3) percent respondents said the projects were initiated by women at Mambuka. The indication is that women themselves were the pioneers of their own projects. The advantage here is that if a project is people-driven, it tends to be sustainable. This confirms the view held by Carr as quoted by Ahmed (1985:118) who argues that women are often faced with the added burden of managing and operating the entire household and taking on tasks commonly performed by men. This is assumed to be due to so many reasons, including changes in social life, industrialization and other

factors. If women are the main role players in initiating projects, there is then a need for them to be given a place in decision-making structures in order to let them make decisions for themselves.

On the other hand, only sixteen point seven (16,7) percent said the projects were initiated by the local community, that included men and women. This shows that women are again involved in the initiation of projects. This leaves one with the conclusion that if projects can only be initiated by people who feel the need for such initiatives, then development agents might not experience any problems trying to help people identify their felt needs.

The table also indicates that none of the projects were initiated by the local leadership. This is an indication that projects are the initiatives of people at grassroots level who, due to various circumstances, feel the need for such groups. The local leadership is often composed of men. None of the projects were initiated by men. This could perhaps be explained as stemming from traditional, cultural beliefs and practices of male superiority, even in such matters where they ought to take the lead.

In the focus group, women spelt out that they actually took the initiative to be involved in projects because they were the ones who are 'fully responsible' for running their households making sure that all the family needs are met. This statement was confirmed even in some families where husbands were employed. Taking the responsibility of supporting a family is not an easy task that can be done

by any one. It needs a strong person financially and one who is responsible as well. Most women have been through a lot of difficulties and they have withstood hardships remarkably well, without losing control.

5.2.3 Membership of the Project

The purpose of this question was to find out about the composition of membership within projects, whether it is women only, men only or both women and men. Although the study focused on the involvement of women in groups, it is important that the projects be studied as they are. This means that some projects have men as members as well.

Table 2   Membership of the Projects

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PROJECT	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Women only	9	75
Men only	0	00
Women & Men	3	25
Total	12	100

This table indicates that the majority, that is, seventy-five (75) percent of projects have women only membership. If one looks at these results, one is inclined to conclude that women are more involved in community projects than men. Regardless of the reasons why women are involved in community development, the conclusion is that they are playing a significant role in projects.

This finding disproved the assumption that community development was a male prerogative as stated in the statement of the problem in chapter one. This is an indication that women play a very big role in the improvement of the economy in rural areas. The fact that women had all along been left out from the main structures of economy building was a mistake from the very outset. The discussion by El Ghonemy (1991:ix) regarding the establishment of women's units and other mechanisms of trying to include women in economy have shown that women are more important than anyone else in development and their inclusion was long overdue and it has been proved that they were always there and are still there.

Some responses, twenty five (25) percent, reflected that there are projects that have a combined membership of women and men. It appeared that women play various roles when it comes to community activities. The conditions under which women were raised, the circumstances they encounter in everyday life and the hardships they went through over the years shaped them to withstand any type of situation.

In the Mambuka community, women take part even in projects which have fewer male members. The category indicating that there were 'no men only clubs'

disproved the myth of viewing community development as a sphere which was always dominated by men and it shows that this domination was not there, but instead it came about so as to diminish women's recognition.

The overall impression is that women involved in projects in Mambuka form a large proportion of the population. This is assumed to be due to the pressing reasons on the part of women and not necessarily of their own choice.

5.2.4 Recruitment of members

It is important for this study to establish the methods used in the recruitment of members. The question sought to ascertain whether members were recruited according to localities, that is, people of one Induna or whether members were recruited according to their expertise.

Table 4   Recruitment of members

RECRUITMENT OF MEMBERS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Through localities	5	41.7
Through skills	1	8.3
Through own choice	6	50
Other	0	00
Total	12	100

Fifty (50) percent of respondents mentioned that they became involved because they were just willing to do so and join projects of their own choice. Each and every member should of course have that freedom of choice in order to be comfortable in whatever she/he is doing. The fact that women of Mambuka join projects out of their free will leaves one with the belief that people have all the potential to make their own choices as spelt out under the principles of community work by Rothmund and Botha (1991:2).

This table indicates that forty one point seven (41.7) percent gave the response that members group themselves according to localities. This means that people of one Induna come together and become members of a project. They then discuss their terms of reference or whatever they intend accomplishing. It is advantageous for

members to group themselves according to localities because they do not need transport to travel to and from the projects' meeting point.

The other kind of response which constitutes eight point three (8.3) percent, shows that there are some group members who are recruited according to their skills. This category is probably more applicable to those groups whose intentions include among other things, to produce goods for the market in projects like, for an example, sewing.

The overall results are that membership is mostly influenced by individual needs where a person weighs up what she/he wants to accomplish and comes to a decision of joining a project. The response indicating that members join according to localities might be an implication that people join because other women are already there even if an individual does not have a personal drive. The other version will be that even if that is the case, members end up being motivated and learn as much as possible in those groups irrespective of how they became members of such projects.

5.2.5 The Project's specific services to the community

This question's intention was to establish the broad service of the project to the community, that is, whether the aim is to generate income for each and every member involved or it is for the sake of improving their quality of life.

Table 5   The Project's specific services to the community

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Income generation	5	41.7
Development of Community	7	**58.3**
Other	0	00
Total .	12	100

This table indicates that fifty eight point three (58.3) percent said their projects were specifically intended for the improvement of the living conditions. Whether people really understand what the improvement of living conditions means or not, the fact is that each locality becomes proud if their project is successful and also wins in the shows held from time to time. This can then be seen to be well understood by members of the community. This supports the argument by Hugo (1984:207) that man must be able to develop and maintain himself so as to survive in a world that is becoming ever complex.

On the other hand forty one point seven (41.7) percent, see the main service being directed towards generating the income for individual members. This means that each member goes there with the purpose of getting something for her family. This is

understandable as most of the members are unemployed but the possibility of income from projects helping a person who needs instant cash is very slim.

The writer is of the view that the members of projects become involved in these activities for various reasons but at the end, each group wants to see itself emerging as the first in overall group performance. Comparatively, there seems to be a balance between the group working mostly for income-generation and one working just for the sake of improving the quality of life. The significant point is that all groups get some income after selling products regardless of how small or big and by so doing they all contribute towards the upliftment of quality of life.

This question was directed to the focus group to establish what women believed they were offering to their community by involving themselves in these initiatives. The collective response from women was clear as they stated that while they need income, the main aims are to improve their living conditions and develop their own community resources. The onus is on various communities to take the initiative and do things on their own so that even if the development agents wish to assist, they can do so following the community's pace and wishes.

5.2.6 Availability of Project Constitution

It is important to know whether the community projects do have some sort of guidelines under which they operate.

Table 6   Availability of Project Constitution

PROJECT CONSTITUTION	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Yes	12	100
No	00	00
Total	12	100

The response to this question indicated that all group members interviewed said their projects had each a constitution. This means that each group has at least a foundation from which to operate and be guided in the group's activities for the entire membership. The writer views this as an important aspect as members of the group will always have some documentation to refer to as long as the group is still in existence.

5.2.7 Writing of the constitution

It is also important that we know who was involved in the writing of the project's constitution.

Table 6   Writing of Constitution

CONSTITUTION WRITING	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Management Committee	6	50
Local development Committee	2	16.7
Local leadership	1	8.3
Community development facilitators	0	00
Other	3	25
Total	12	100

Fifty (50) percent of respondents said their Constitutions were written by their Management Committees. It is not unusual that after the formation of a project, an executive or Management Committee is elected and it is this body which looks after all the logistics of the project including the writing of a Constitution. This gives the impression that people themselves are well organised to such an extent that they can take charge of their own issues.

The respondents, that is twenty five (25) percent gave their response as 'other', that is, those answers which were not supplied by the researcher. Two out of three respondents said their constitutions were written by the club members. This means that the entire membership was involved in the writing of a constitution. It would appear that this is a good idea, where all members become acquainted with the whole background of what their project is all about and what shape it will take for its survival. The disadvantage is that in most instances, this practice tends to take more time before the exercise is finished because of disagreement in reaching decision

acceptable to all members. Decentralising seems to be one way of resolving issues of delay in arriving at consensus decisions.

Sixteen point seven (16.7) percent stated that their Constitution was written by the local development committee. In the area of Mambuka, there is a development committee which consists of representatives from the entire area or from all localities. These representatives sometimes assist in developing projects to get off the ground and this kind of guidance might facilitate the writing of a Constitution. This shows that apart from being highly motivated, people still need some proper guidance so that they can move forward.

A small percentage, eight point three (8.3) percent expressed that their Constitutions were written by the local leadership. The local leadership of Mambuka includes indunas, councillors as well as the representatives of the development committee. There are many development activities in rural areas. In the case of a project constitution, it should be the members themselves who have to decide about the objectives of their activities. However, the local leadership in this area does not consider the writing of a constitution as a right of members of that group alone.

In this category there was one respondent who gave an answer that their constitution was written by just one member. The possibility is that this particular person might have been the founder member or perhaps a Management Committee member. This is possible if there are many clubs of the same kind where copying becomes common practice. In this case, any member can copy from the constitution of another club.

92

This is not acceptable as it is an indication that the club is not independent and cannot survive without being attached to others.

In summary, the writer regards the constitution as the list of guidelines for each and every organisation. It gives the direction of how the organisation should conduct itself in order to accomplish its aim(s). This is in line with a view held by Midgely (1995:114) that 'in order to achieve their goals people and communities need to cooperate with each other and share a common purpose'. A constitution therefore binds people together making them speak as one.

5.2.8 Appointment of Management Committees

In some groups Management Committees are appointed instead of being elected. In this study, this question was asked in order to find out how those groups which had Management Committees elected committee members into those positions.

Table 8   Appointment of Management Committee

MANAGEMENT APPOINTMENT	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
By members of project	12	100
By members of community	0	00
By local leadership	0	00
By community facilitators	0	00
Other	0	00
Total	12	100

The entire one hundred (100) percent gave a response that their Management Committees were appointed by members of their respective projects. It is our impression that the leadership of any organisation be put into position by the members of that particular body because if people just co-opt themselves into positions, there might be problems as each expects to be appointed unconstitutionally.

5.2.9 Administration of Projects

The administrative duties of some projects or organisations are sometimes carried out by people who are not members of the projects. There are instances where outside agents who are not part of the project administer them.

Table 9   Administration of projects

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Management Committee project	9	75
Local leadership	1	8.3
Mother/umbrella body/organisation government	2	16.7
Local development Committee	0	00
Other	0	00
Total	12	100

The majority, or seventy five (75) percent said that the administration of their projects was carried out by the Management Committee of their projects. This involved overseeing all the activities of the project by people who were also part of it, although some Management Committees were composed of people who were not part of the project in terms of being members of the project. This shows that most of the projects at Mambuka are controlled by management committees.

One the other hand, sixteen point seven (16.7) percent constitutes those responses which indicate that the administration of their projects is the responsibility of the local leadership. This percentage equals that of table 6 where the respondents answered that the groups' constitutions were written by the local leadership. Although the percentage is low it, however, means that there are groups which are to a considerable extent controlled by the local leadership.

The eight point three (8.3) percent is composed of those responses which are in favour of their administration responsibility being under the mother/umbrella body or a private organisation. The interpretation here is that there are projects in this area which are controlled by the local leadership, that is, those people who are socially and politically powerful in community affairs in general.

5.2.10 Management committee members who are not members of projects

It sometimes happens that the controlling body of a club consists of people who are not members of the group. In such circumstances this shows that members of clubs are not ready at all to take control of their own lives.

Table 10   Management Committee members who are not members of projects

APPOINTMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Yes	1	8.3
No	11	91.7
Total	12	100

The majority, or ninety one point seven (91.7) percent gave a response that their management committee members are also members of their projects. This is advantageous because it means that members effect plans of their projects themselves.

In such situations, there are no chances of decisions being imposed upon them by the powerful forces outside group membership.

The response by a small percentage of respondents, eight point three (8.3) percent indicated that some projects were being overseen by people who are not part of the projects. Although this is a smaller number, it shows that there are those clubs which still function under controlled environments where freedom of expression might be hindered by the gap between members and the Management created by the fact that these two sections may not necessarily have similar interests.

Although they cannot work in isolation, they definitely need assistance from the local leadership and the rest of the support systems in order to meet their needs. The importance of effective leadership has been highlighted by Cochrane quoted by Clarke (1994:154) when he states that it calls for the development of convincing organisational visions and the identification of achievable missions and that management is not just an executive process separate from policy-making. but it requires strong links between policy-making and implementation.

It is therefore plausible to argue that whenever Committees are elected or appointed, it must be considered that those committees have to be composed of people who are full members of the project.

5.2.11 Project funding

It is a fact that for the project to survive, it must have funds. It is common for projects not to be fully functional if there are insufficient funds available to continue with the club work. The question intended to ascertain whether clubs did have funds in their accounts.

Table 11   Project funding

PROJECT FUNDS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Yes	10	83.3
No	2	16.7

The majority of respondents, eighty three point three (83.3) percent reported that their clubs do have sufficient funds. This is a very important aspect in all organisations as they must have funds in order to survive. Although it was not asked what the position of those finances are, it is assumed that membership fees forms the basis of their financial standing. Funding is always a problem to most organisations which cannot receive assistance to extend their work and therefore members have to struggle and work hard to keep their projects going.

On the other hand, sixteen point seven (16.7) percent showed that there are groups which do not have sufficient funds. They experience problems in the purchase of

some materials which they use for production.

The writer is of the view that clubs have to plan at the beginning of the year and see how they will cope with little funds they have as funding is usually not available and clubs cannot rely on whether the organisation will get assistance or not.

The position that some clubs claimed to have funds leaves one with the question as to why their economic standing has remained stagnant without changing from being smaller activities to at least small businesses which could operate in well established centres.

Despite the fact that changes are not visible, groups are able to survive and continue functioning which indicates that the people of Mambuka manage to maintain a subsistence life although the economic growth is not sufficiently viable.

The present circumstances at Mambuka in terms of projects sustainability call for the need to have a strategic plan for effective changes so that while projects enable people to meet their basic needs they are at the same time involved in the development of the economy.

5.2.12 The manner in which the project secures funds

Funding can be obtained in many ways. Some projects are sponsored by bigger organisations, government, private organisations or the project might generate its own

funds. In most instances, this is not attainable because of the shortage of funds as companies can no longer cope with the vast demand out there.

Table 12   Procurement of funds

MANNER OF GETTING FUNDS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Procurement of funds	10	83.3
Not applicable	2	16.7
Total	12	100

All projects indicated that they had generated funds. Eighty three point three (83.3) percent, said they had generated these funds by selling their products. In this category, we have the 41.7 percent who had earlier said that they are involved in projects because they want to generate income for themselves. The rest of forty one point six (41.6) percent are amongst those who said they are more concerned about the development of the community resources than income generation.

The writer believes that it is imperative that the ultimate aim of projects be achieved. It is encouraging if projects work towards generating income through production because it is not easy to get markets for their products.

The sixteen point seven (16.7) percent represents the 'not applicable' category, that is, those who did not have funds and therefore could not answer this question.

100

The overall response shows that those clubs which have funds only get them through the selling of their products. One may conclude that the once-off funding either through donations or any other form of funding is not indicated which is possible, for instance if a club is funded in the form of being supplied with materials. The focus group indicated that projects sometimes receive funding from various sponsors but in most cases these are not enough because of the vast need for sponsorship in order to develop those projects into small businesses.

The researcher conducted interviews of this study towards the end of the year, at a time when clubs had already accumulated funds for the whole year as they pay out dividends from their generated income at the end of the year. It is also the case that projects are so developed that they are now in a position to save as much as possible.

As members divide their income at the end of the year to enable them to meet their financial commitments, there is always nothing left for the following year which means that there is no standing capital infusion to develop women's groups to economic independence.

5.2.13 Membership fee charged to members

Most clubs charge a certain amount as membership fee. This is an indication of being registered with the club. It is these fees which enable clubs to get capital for their production and meet the running costs of the project.

Table 13   Membership fee for project members

MEMBERSHIP FEE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Yes	12	100
No	00	**00**
Total	12	100

The response which is one hundred (100) percent indicates that all clubs do charge membership fee to each member. As it is common amongst all clubs, the reasons are likely to be the same amongst club themselves.

The writer concludes that it is these membership fees which have kept people together helping one another. Their contributions means a lot towards the growth of each and every club. The issue of financial support to clubs is a worldwide problem as expressed by Borman as quoted by Lieberman et.al. (1979:15) who maintains that groups are in most cases self-supporting and thrive largely on entrance fees from members rather than on government subsidies, sponsorship from organisations or public support.

5.2.14 Payment of membership fee

The question was asked to establish how often the membership fee is paid by each member.

Table 14   Payment of membership fee

PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP FEE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Monthly	3	25
Yearly	7	58.3
Other	2	16.7
Total	12	100

Fifty eight point three (58.3) percent of the respondents said that their membership fee is paid annually. This means that they pay at the beginning of the year. Twenty five (25) percent make their contributions on a monthly basis until the end of the period specified by the group.

The sixteen point seven (16.7) percent represents those clubs where membership is paid once and for all. If a new person intends to be a club member, s/he pays the joining fee which keeps her being a club member as long as she is still in the club.

5.2.15 Reasons which motivated members to be involved in projects

This question intended to find out what really made people, especially women, to move out of their homes and seek means either of survival (earning an income) or for other reasons.

Table 15   Reasons for involvement in projects

INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECTS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Poverty	2	16.7
Unemployment	4	33.3
Single Parenthood	0	0
Insufficient income	5	41.7
Other (specify)	1	8.3
Total	12	100

Forty one point seven (41.7) percent of the participants indicated that members were motivated to join clubs because they had insufficient income. This involves those women whose spouses are working but they cannot provide sufficient income to meet all the family needs.

Another thirty three point three (33.3) percent represents those responses where members joined clubs because they needed some form of employment. The implication here is that there are people who have no opportunity of securing employment to such an extent that they resort to other forms of getting an income.

Respondents totalling sixteen point seven (16.7) percent indicated that members joined clubs because one had to find means of alleviating poverty.

Eight point three (8.3) percent stands for the 'other' response where the answer was given in respect of those members whose reason for joining clubs were due to the funding they once received from the Department of Health. The assistance here included food parcels and this attracted them.

There may be varied reasons why women have been motivated into project work. However, the fact is that the responses given are interlinked as they all show that there is some missing point where women are struggling for an income to alleviate poverty and where they are also either unemployed or have insufficient income.

Unlike the responses that emphasized improving the conditions in their communities, these responses point to improving their economic status.

5.2.16 Community attitudes

It was to the advantage of this study to find out how the broader community of Mambuka views women who are involved in community projects. As mentioned earlier under the methods of study, the respondents asked included one from the local tribal leadership and one community member who was also not involved in projects. The results of the interview depict what challenges, if any, that the clubs in the community of Mambuka are facing.

The interviews conducted with two additional members who are not included in the projects are not part of the percentages given below but their responses will be added

in the relevant categories giving the explanation for those responses. This also applies in the following table 17, which is about the reason why other women are not involved in community projects. In case of projects members, the assumption is that they are aware of the attitude of the community in which they live and they are also aware of what the community says about their participation in community activities. It is thus important that they answer these two questions as well.

Table 16   **Attitudes to women participation in projects**

ATTITUDE TO WOMEN PARTICIPATION	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Developing community	6	50
Wasting time	1	8.3
Women make a living	5	41.7
Other	0	0
Total	12	100

Fifty (50) percent indicated that the participation of women in community projects is given high regard by the community members who live with the people involved in projects. One of those who are not involved in projects gave the response in this category. This score shows that the concept of developing communities is in the minds of people in those rural areas which are still far behind when it comes to development of communities.

Forty one point seven (41.7) percent shows respondents who feel that women make a living by involving themselves in projects. The other respondent who is not involved in projects also gave the response in this section by saying that women participate because of the felt poverty.

A small percentage of eight point three (8.3) was for those who felt that women need to do something constructive instead of spending all their time in unproductive activities. This response came from one of these women who are involved in projects.

The overall response in this question is attributed to the fact that women face the challenge of earning an income to help themselves and their families while at the same time they are implementing the objectives of community development, which are to meet the basic needs of the community, thus improving the quality of people's lives. The focus group emphasized that by participating in groups, women show that they are economically independent. Women's views are that they can cope with the challenges of life even if they are faced with the vast responsibilities of their households.

5.2.17 Women not involved in community projects

It is important that we establish the reasons why other women of this community do not participate in the local projects. The respondents of this question also included two members who are not involved in projects with the belief that they represent the

rest of the community.

Table 17   Women not involved in Community Projects

WOMEN NOT INVOLVED IN PROJECTS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Stable source of income	1	8.3
Husbands have sufficient income	3	25
Husbands disallow involvement	2	16.7
Uncertain	6	50
Total	12	100

Fifty (50) percent of the responses indicated that they did not know why other women are not involved in community projects.   It becomes difficult to say something categorical about another person without knowing why that particular person is not interested in a particular aspect.

Twenty five (25) percent of the participants said that women are not involved in any projects because their husbands have sufficient income.   This means that the spouse has to meet all the family needs including those of his wife.

Sixteen point seven (16.7) percent stands for those women who cannot really make decisions on their own.   These women have to consult for each and every single minor thing in the household.   Notwithstanding the importance of those activities

performed outside home, husbands would not allow their women to take part in any operation without their consent.

The responses indicated that eight point three (8.3) percent said that those women who are not involved have sufficient income. This category might be applicable to women who are working and earning salaries or wages that could help them lead a self-sufficiency life. The responses indicating that non-participation is due to adequate income are mere assumptions which might be disputed. This is for the reason that others do not participate, for example, because of certain problems, among others, the lack of time or lack of motivation.

The overall conclusion in favour of the majority is that the general perception on other women not getting involved in community projects is that they have sufficient income which comes from their husbands.

5.2.18 The approval of women involvement in projects by men

As discussed in previous chapters, some men believe that women should remain within the walls of their homesteads and should not participate in outside activities without their permission. In that case a woman has to ask for permission if she wishes to do something away from home. This happens to some women in spite of how good the relationship might be between her and her spouse, based on the belief systems. On one hand, this is good as couples have to know everything that happens between each other but on the other hand, it shows that there is no equality between

them as the man becomes responsible for all family decisions.

Table 18   Approval of women involvement in projects by men

APPROVAL OF WOMEN INVOLVEMENT BY MEN	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Yes	9	75
No	3	25
Total	12	100

The majority of seventy five (75) percent of the respondents said that their involvement in projects had to get approval from men. The number consists of those who have husbands living with the families. This indicates that the men are aware of what women are capable of and they acknowledge their endeavours.

Twenty five (25) percent of the respondents said that they do not need any approval from their men if they want to do something which does not have anything to do with housework. This shows that a woman can be free to join any club and be involved in its activities without being answerable to any other person. This number includes those who have men living with families as well as those who have no husbands or men living with them. Studies conducted by Green et.al. as quoted by Cahill (1994:163) found that married women were subject to quite a degree of control from their husbands over the kind of places they visited and they viewed this as the exercise of patriarchal control which indicates their fear that their wives are not safe

if outside the home.

The writer believes that even if it is not a matter of getting approval from the husband, there is a need for good communication between partners so that they can support and trust each other in whatever each one is doing.

5.2.19 Reason for approval by men

There must be reasons why some women are in such a situation where they cannot make decisions on their own. This particular question was directed at those who felt that they have to seek their husband's approval before joining others in groups in the community. Three answers were provided: another category being 'other' and the last one 'not applicable' for those who had said no in the previous question.

Table 19   Reason for approval by men

REASON FOR APPROVAL BY MEN	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Man is head of family	7	58.4
Wife not be away from home	1	8.3
Home duties are important	0	0
Not applicable	3	25
Other	1	8.3
Total	12	100

A large number of fifty eight point four (58.4) percent said men's approval is sought by women because a man is considered as the head of the family and therefore he has to take all decisions regarding each and every member of the family. This does not seem to be an acceptable practice as each person as an individual has the right to self-determination.

Twenty five (25) percent of the responses refer to those who provided a 'no' as an answer to the previous question of having to seek approval by men before being involved in community projects. So these are in the 'not applicable' category.

Eight point three (8.3) percent viewed the reason for approval by men to be that some men would not dare see women being involved in community activities outside the home, even if there is a need for additional income.

Another eight point three (8.3) percent gave an answer not provided in the questionnaire and said that approval by men is sometimes considered as a consultation, where one is expected to inform the spouse about all her intentions.

The writer feels that this is appropriate practice as partners need to be open with each other and report everything one is involved in so as to avoid certain misunderstandings that might arise. In some cases, men tend to dictate the terms of the relationship with women and that is a sign of inequality between men and women. Even if this situation of inequality exists in a relationship, women generally adhere to circumstances dictated by men as these are traditionally prescribed by society.

5.2.20 The involvement of men in projects

Although women's activities are the concern of this study, there is, however, a need to acknowledge that some men are also part of the projects in the area. This question is meant to determine the extent to which they are involved.

Table 20   The involvement of men in projects

INVOLVEMENT OF MEN IN PROJECTS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
None	3	25
Very minimal	5	41.7
Other	4	33.3
Total	12	100

Forty one point seven (41.7) percent said the involvement of men in community projects are very minimal which means that men are there but in minority. It is also clear that women form a big part of community projects, which shows that men are not very interested in these activities.

Thirty three point three (33.3) percent gave different answers regarding the involvement of men in community projects. Four respondents answered this question giving the reasons stated below. Three of them said that men are fully involved in certain projects like poultry farming, block-making and gardening. This shows that

there are certain projects which are viewed to be more convenient for men but it is found that women are also involved. The other additional information given by one of these respondents is that men are helpful in projects especially when it comes to the maintenance of buildings for chickens as well as repairing fences in vegetable gardens.

The respondents who felt that men are not involved in community projects is twenty five (25) percent. It is possible that the respondents are part of those projects which have women only. Nevertheless, this percentage is the smallest in the total response.

One respondent gave an answer which argues that men work in town and other places. As a result they do not have time to take part in community projects. This does not seem to reflect a full picture of their non-participation, as not all men are employed.

The focus group spelt out that whilst most men at Mambuka were unemployed, the majority was not involved in community projects because of their (men's) general perception that projects are women's activities. On the other hand, the writer acknowledged the notion of non-participation by some men to be due to their engagement elsewhere. During field work, there were men in different projects but in very small numbers.

It can be concluded that women are in majority in community clubs in this area but there are men as well who are involved although on a small scale.

5.2.21 Participation of project members in decision making

There are organisations which practice democracy to such an extent that all members become free to give their views in their group affairs. On the other hand, there are those which are run by one person who makes rules on his own and impose them upon members. It is thus important that we establish whether the projects we are referring to do give the people a chance to decide about matters that concern them.

Table 21   Freedom to participation in decision making

PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Yes	11	91.7
No	1	8.3
Total	12	100

Eleven out of twelve (12) respondents, said 'yes' when asked about their involvement in decision making processes of their respective clubs. The overwhelming majority of ninety one point seven (91.7) percent are in clubs which are people driven. This means that they will not have many problems because they are keeping each and every member informed about what is happening in the club. The mechanism which is used to achieve these, is in the form of meetings held whenever there are issues to be discussed as well as the regular scheduled meetings by different groups. This is supported by the statement as put forward by Kenneth Kaunda as quoted by Conyers

(1984:103) who describes the involvement of people in decision making as 'participatory democracy' which is viewed as the type of democracy in which citizens participate not only through their freely elected representatives but also by their own direct involvement in the decision-making process.

The eight point three (8.3) percent which is only one respondent indicated that the group is so autocratic to such an extent that all the decisions are not taken by the membership, but all powers lie with either one authoritative leader or founder member or with the management committee or with an organisation controlling the project.

In summary, most clubs have a practice of including all people in decision making. In this way, people can really own projects instead of seeing them as belonging to a group of people in positions. The few which are still controlled by few individuals need guidance in order to adopt modern styles of working with the people.

5.2.22 **Reason for not participating in decision making**

This question aimed at finding out why there are those groups which are not in favour of their members participating in the decision making regarding matters of their concern. Thus, the groups which had the 'no' answer to the previous question of participation in decision making by project members were asked to state the reason for not participating.

Table 22   Reason for not participating in decision making

NON-PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
No knowledge of decision making	0	0
Committee not encouraging participation	1	8.3
Other	0	0
Not applicable	11	91.7
Total	12	100

An overwhelming majority of ninety one point seven (91.7) percent belongs to that category of respondents who gave the answer 'yes' to the question whether their groups are free to have the entire membership participate in decision making or not.

Since one respondent, which is eight point three (8.3) percent said 'no', the reason given for this is that the management committee does not encourage participation. This means that all the decisions are taken by the Committee.

As mentioned in the previous table, it will be to the benefit of all the communities for people to be given proper coaching so that when they make efforts of uplifting themselves. they make such decisions with proper guidance.

5.3   CONCLUSION

This chapter focused on data analysis-presentation, analysis and interpretation of data. Amongst responses, some were expected, others unexpected and some were completely surprising. It is however, hoped that the analysis given meets the objectives of the study and the whole exercise will be beneficial to the community under study.

CHAPTER SIX

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1   INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on the summary of findings, conclusions as well as recommendations.

The study intended to investigate the role of women in the development of their community by looking at this from the angle of their involvement in community projects. The other aspects discussed included: the extent to which women are involved and the impact of their involvement. Lastly, it was hoped that the end of the study would provide contribution to the development of rural areas.

In re-stating the problem one could say that the community of Mambuka Reserve is composed of women who are engaged in community development projects. This trend has been observed and studied to find out the factors influencing women to be engaged, their level of engagement in such activities and the impact of their involvement.

Objectives of the study were to explore the motivating reasons for women's involvement, focusing on perceptions about changing roles of women's duties: focus on how women's potential could be strengthened; and finding out why certain women

are not involved. This study also intended to briefly look at how gender and development correlate.

The study was conducted by collecting data from those involved and others not involved in projects. The whole study was carried out after it was realised that there is a need for research to be undertaken so as to know what the position is regarding the women's involvement. It was also undertaken to find out what could be done to improve the conditions of their activities, thus embarking on the aspect of improving the quality of life. The instruments used in collecting data included the use of an interview schedule, a focus group and a study of relevant literature. The method of research was both qualitative and quantitative in an attempt to get exhaustive and also grounded data.

The basis of rural development lies in the people who form that particular community because they are the ones who know their needs, the resources they have and the knowledge of using certain methods to meet those needs. The environment in which people live plays a very important role as it has a great impact on their social life.

Women have made a great contribution towards community development which has been defined earlier in chapter 2 by Dunham who states that: 'Community development is concerned with the total community life and the total needs of the community. It is thus interdisciplinary and is concerned with both task goals and process goals: that is, it is concerned with achieving certain concrete objectives and with strengthening the qualities of participation, self-direction and co-operation'.

This definition gives a succinct summary as it looks at the collective achievement of goals by the community at large after identification of their needs.

The findings of the study and concluding remarks which are based on the information obtained from the respondents will be discussed below, followed by recommendations.

As the study is undertaken from social work perspective, the remarks will mostly refer to the profession of social work, although there is a diverse team of external development agents interested in the development of the area.

The findings of the study which are based on the information obtained from the respondents will be discussed below.

6.2 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

It was established from the study that the majority or eighty three point three (83.3) percent of the respondents indicated that projects in the area were initiated by women of the community, for a variety of reasons. Prime among these reasons was the economic growth and independence of participants and the projects themselves.

Women have been greatly concerned in issues affecting them. We have the example of the Beijing conference held in 1995, where women came together from different countries to share different experiences in the way they need to approach issues

affecting them.

In the area of study, it is women who have realised that they cannot wait for someone else to do things for them but they have to take the initiative.

It has been observed that seventy five (75) percent of the projects in this area of study are composed of women. This explains why the researcher decided to conduct a study focusing on women because they are the ones who are in majority in these clubs. There are many circumstances which leave women vulnerable to all the problems regarding their social life, like for instance migration, poverty and others as stated in the literature reviewed. The fact that women predominate in community projects is an indication that they want to move forward and do something towards the improvement of their communities.

Although project members join clubs of their choice, most of them become members of those clubs nearer to where they live. This is advantageous in many ways as it saves them time, transport costs and most of it all, they (women) become proud of their respective localities and become determined to see their area developing. Women are always engaged in different activities. Thus if they come together in one area they can achieve a lot. This is supported by the statement made in this study quoting Joakes (1987:68) who found out that women are expected to be involved in a range of quasiagricultural tasks and other household tasks within the environment where they live.

With regard to the services which women render to their community while working in these projects. it has been established that fifty eight (58) percent are considerably aware that they aim at developing their communities other than generating income which scored forty one (41) percent. Rural communities still need attention in order to develop and this can be achieved through developing the economy and developing resources. Rankin (36:1992) sees resource development as a priority in rural areas.

The writer is of the opinion that these developmental initiatives have to be strengthened in areas where they have already started. In areas where women are the ones in the lead, programmes need to be developed specifically for them.

It was found out that all the projects have constitutions. It was also established that the constitutions of different organisations were written by members of the management committees. The fifty (50) percent which is the evidence of this testifies that most committees show considerable progress because they know the aspects involved in the running of an organisation.

In the case of the appointment of management committees. it was established that all groups contacted had their committees appointed by members of individual groups. The one hundred (100) percent response in this category is an indication that all groups are so developed to such an extent that they know all the procedures. It has been realised through experience that there are management committees which tend to monopolise everything belonging to the organisation but if this is guarded by the organisation itself through use of their constitution, mismanagement can be avoided.

It was established that seventy five (75) percent of the projects in this area have the administration duties of their clubs conducted by their management committees. This is a very important aspect as the successes and failures of a project entirely depends on the efficiency of the administration section. It was found out that management committees of clubs are also members of the projects. If administrative duties are carried out by people who are also members of a project, the possibility of maladministration is very small.

The study also found out that eighty three point three (83.3) percent of projects in the area have funds. All those who indicated that they have funds mentioned that they obtain them by selling their products. There is an outcry by mostly small individual business people that there is no market to sell the produce but it is amazing that people in this area do achieve their objectives of securing income by selling commodities they produce. Their secret might be that they have thoroughly researched the market to such an extent that they know which items are marketable. While this is what may be the case, another possibility might be that they do not produce high quality items they are capable of producing, but instead they only produce the products most needed by the rural people. This can be a shortcoming because it might hinder growth and let them remain where they are and eventually result in failure of the projects' progress.

When one looks at the problems encountered by various departments practising community development as mentioned in Chapter 2, it is found that the market is a problem. For instance, the Department of Agriculture has embarked on agricultural

shows with the purpose of finding appropriate markets on behalf of rural people who have problems in marketing their products.

It was also established that membership fee is paid by all members of the groups. The entire one hundred (100) percent pay an admission/or membership fee which varies from group to group whether it is paid initially at admission time, or annually. It was established that fifty eight point three (58.3) percent groups have their membership fees paid yearly which means that they pay at the beginning of the year. These funds are used as capital to generate income and members share the profit from the proceeds at the end of each year which they reinvest in the following year. The system seems quite sustainable in this way. We therefore can observe that if development agents want to assist these clubs, they will need to follow similar patterns of management if viable progress is to be attained.

Amongst the assumptions put forward the reasons which influenced women's involvement in community development were poverty. unemployment and others. In this study. it has been established that there are various reasons which act as forces motivating women in community development. The issue of husbands providing their women with incomes or earning insufficient income is one reason which scored higher, forty one point seven (41.7) percent, followed by unemployment thirty three point three (33.3) percent and poverty sixteen point seven (16.7) percent. The other· reason is that if there is funding other people not regular in projects tend to jump up and grab the opportunity but when that is over, those projects disappear.

It has been observed that people no longer use the term 'poverty' when they are in need but they rather use the term 'unemployment' or 'insufficient income' and other terms which are commonly used and regarded to be more acceptable when it comes to daily use of language.

When one goes back to the root causes of the situation in which communities, especially women find themselves in, it goes without saying that women need to be assisted in gaining more skills so that they can be able to make a living and improve their quality of life as stated in policies of most government departments and the Reconstruction and Development Programme. The emphasis here is on the upliftment of communities. As mentioned in the review of literature, the previously disadvantaged areas, like rural areas, will have to work harder especially the development agents who have to empower people in all ways that will suit their needs.

With regard to community attitudes as well as women themselves towards their participation in development activities. it has been established that fifty (50) percent of women are perceived to be more concerned about the development of their community resources. As mentioned earlier most rural people put more effort in the development of their communities. Since women are the ones who are mostly disposed to problems, they find themselves in difficult situations as they struggle to satisfy their needs while at the same time trying to take a leading role in community development.

While on one hand there is emphasis on community development, forty one (41) percent of the women are perceived to be making a living out of these projects. Women in this area are survivors. It has been observed that even if women still need instant cash for food, they still believe that working in groups is the best because they share their proceeds at the end of the year. So, the structuring of the programmes to assist their upliftment lies in considering these aspects which make drawbacks in these projects which are beneficial to the community as a whole.

Those women who are not involved in community projects have been found to have incomes which they get from their husbands, who are either working or they generate it through other means. There is a general feeling that people who are still not sufficiently motivated amongst women do not see reason in getting involved in activities which will make them self-reliant by contributing towards family income. The reasons will therefore vary from person to person as others will survive with the insufficient income even if it does not meet all their family needs.

It was established that seventy five (75) percent of the women in projects have to seek the consent of their men before they become involved in these projects. It is acceptable if one partner needs to be consulted in such matters. However, it becomes intolerable if one of them dominates to such an extent that the other party ends up becoming inferior to the other. The complexity of it comes with the prescription of household duties based on gender roles within society. With the modernisation of people's lifestyles there seems to be a vast difference between rural and urban life. In the past rural people knew and practised their societal prescribed roles with big

pride as those were norms which no one could change. Times have since changed as Le Roux observed as quoted by Steyn et.al. (1987:317) that in contemporary society norms tend to be less rigid and roles are accordingly not as clearly defined as before which eventually leads to role conflict at all levels of the population. Nevertheless, partners need to share whatever they do in the hope that all will work out well in their experience of new roles in a different life.

It was also found out in the study that women would seek approval from men because a man is regarded as the head of the family. It is recognisable that men should have all the status of supremacy they require, but should not make women feel the discrimination that this creates.

Furthermore the study found out that although the projects have been seen to consist of women in great numbers, men are also involved, to a lesser extent. The percentage of their involvement is forty one point seven (41,7) percent. This can be interpreted in many ways because as we have said that women still need more recognition by the entire community in their activities, this could mean that men have joined community development projects because they now acknowledge that women are involved in constructive work. Apart from these project groups there are other individuals who are involved in other projects working from their homes. They are also in the process of developing their own community work to earn a living. As conditions improve and all people become aware of the importance of self-help projects, the recognition women deserve will come to the fore and it is hoped that most social problems will be decreased.

It has been learned that ninety one point seven (91.7) percent of projects in this area have management committees which are open-minded and they allow their members to be part of the decision-making process regarding the activities of the organisation. If these aspects which promote development are given a chance, people will be able to realise their aspirations.

6.3   RECOMMENDATIONS

In this section the writer looks at different aspects which need to be taken into consideration in addressing women's issues. It was realised that women being already involved in community development, what they need is relevant guidance which will enable them make progress. The suggestions made are an indication that the study was conducted with an insight that there is a need for a well structured intervention to enhance people's efforts for their own development and upliftment. Community development is really directed towards working with people, involving them as much as possible in identifying and meeting their desired needs.

6.3.1 Future social work practice

It was mentioned in the literature reviewed that our communities need assistance in order to be uplifted if the process of community development is approached together with the people concerned. Jansson (1994:178) makes an elaborative contribution by saying 'when seeking to empower persons, development agents often emphasize survival skills, such as helping persons cope with the fragmentation of services,

understaffed services and hostile bureaucrats. Empowerment helps people develop personal plans to improve their lives'.

Jansson (1994:179) again referring specifically to the social work profession highlights that a social worker aiming to develop a new programme to address clients' unmet needs has to define specific social problems, collect data about their prevalence, propose specific interventions and convince decision makers that new policies are needed to address the problem.

The above problem emphasizes the importance of starting projects with full knowledge of what the people want as communities in development.

Another version comes from Lefeber et.al. (1971:79) who happened to realise that: 'rural community developments require the effective participation of the rural population in all socio-economic development activities. There is a desire to provide a co-ordinated set of technical, financial and social services aimed at motivating rural and agricultural initiatives and the grassroots participation and also be the formation of village co-operatives. This approach needs to come as a geographically widely dispersed rural development policy which would meet the country's constitutional commitment to cover the basic welfare requirements of the entire population'.

This confirms the notion that even the rural community members can be part of policy makers if they are given a chance to participate in the affairs of the community in which they live, thus influencing the operations of their local authorities.

It has been mentioned earlier from Rankin's work (1992:36) that it becomes a first step for a social worker practising in rural areas to embark on the process of resource development, vis-a-vis that of a social worker operating in urban areas, who would perhaps find all the basic resources accessible to the people. These are the challenges which rural practitioners have to face in their daily encounter with communities.

Siporin as quoted by Rankin (1992:37) explains that the role of a social worker as an agent who helps people to use internal and community resources, is a fundamental feature of, and generic helping process in social work practice. He further states that social work's gate-keeping function in regard to community resources is a source of potent power, of professional authority and influence with which to effect helping action.

The writer believes that a number of different roles social workers perform enable them to strengthen their expertise so they can be able to have that professional power mentioned above and be able to utilise any social work method.

In community development, a social worker uses mainly the community work method helping people tap resources according to their needs at any given period.

The role of a development agent involves. among other things. the willingness to accept people as they are and be accepted by them. By so doing, progress is made the way people want it. This sometimes eliminates obstacles that occur in the process which might end up denting the relationship between the development agent and the

community concerned. The practice of community development needs an experienced person to operate at the same level as the people and this calls for the development agent to identify himself or herself with the community so that even if the people get out of track, they can be easily brought back into position.

6.3.2 Future policy

It has been mentioned over and again in this study that the policies of any country have to be designed in such a way that they develop programmes that will be relevant to address people's felt needs. When looking at South Africa, it becomes evident that the state is becoming aware of the problems facing rural communities with special reference to those which affect women.

There are a number of programmes developed all over the world especially in African rural communities to address these problems but it would appear that it is never easy to attain such a goal. In an article edited by Lunt and Coyle (1996:163) Finch states as follows: 'Of much greater interest to citizens and social scientists alike are the outcomes to be achieved in terms of overall living standards or life chances. In this context and even within a national context, the specification and elaboration of indicators is weak. What is meant by the term quality of life and how can it be measured? Are the indicators to be aggregate or individual, objective or subjective? Against this background of uncertainty there must be caution about quantitative evidence reporting convergence and divergence of outcomes. That said, poor quantitative indicators (and they can be no more) are better than no indicators at all'.

The above quotation gives an interesting argument that there is no yardstick that can be used to measure the attainment of quality of life. As suggested earlier in this study, a mature and skilled development agent can do this only if it is done with the people concerned who will evaluate the achievement of their objectives set by themselves.

George and Miller in an article by Glynn (1994:64) argues that it is generally agreed that the boundaries between economic and social policy are ill-defined and that neither form of policy is superior to the other. Without economic growth social policy objectives are unattainable, without the social services, economic growth suffers and confers no benefits to large sections of the population who contributed towards its attainment.

Atkin as quoted by Lunt and Coyle (1996:141) acknowledges a statement by Pinker who comments specifically about the Social Policy in a multiracial Britain when he says: 'Social policy's neglect of 'race' emphasizes the politics of collectivism and the practice of state intervention to deal with social problems. It thus fails to recognise the needs of different social groups, emphasizing the principles of organization and administration and discrete policy areas such as employment, education, health and others while conceptual cleavages such as class, race and gender are ignored'.

The development programmes will be successful if there are sufficient resources to meet people's wants. The issue of funding development projects is crucial and needs to be taken into consideration because most people become discouraged to continue

participating due to the shortage of facilities used for production.

In most rural areas, people are engaged in small-scale farming as well as in other non-farm activities. This is supported by the White Paper on Agriculture for KwaZulu-Natal (1996:8) which indicates that in most rural areas, agriculture is the major and sometimes only economic driving force.

According to various studies, women are found to be in majority in these activities. Both farming and non-farming activities need funds in order to develop, grow and be of benefit to the people. It has been discussed earlier in this section that it becomes difficult to empower people if the resources are not available. This is especially the case in rural areas where material support is needed because people are poor. The will-power might be there but if there are no support systems all the effort is wasted.

There are certain programmes aimed at: capacity building, economic empowerment and community development and they are all meant to address poverty.

Like other departments, the Department of Agriculture says it is imperative that agricultural development be supported as this can enable them to promote and facilitate integrated rural development. This department sees this as an important vehicle through which many people in this province presently plagued by poverty, will raise themselves to positions of economic security.

The writer maintains that the shift towards practical development programmes will have to be overemphasized to lay the foundation for genuine community development.

Working together is sometimes a problem for most people representing various sectors. It has been noted especially in rural areas that there is a lot of duplication of services. There are many development agents from the state departments, non-governmental organisations and the private or business sector. Their goal is the same as they all intend to develop the communities concerned. The writer feels that it is long overdue for all stakeholders to come together and differentiate their roles to avoid this duplication we are all concerned about. The Department of Social Welfare emphasizes the concept of partnership with the private sector which can have a positive impact on the planning. especially for underdeveloped areas.

The KwaZulu Natal Agricultural White Paper (1996:29) states that the needs of rural dwellers are multi-facetted, which calls for their extension staff to evaluate them in a holistic manner and facilitate the addressing of other non-agricultural needs by relevant organisations.

The above statement is an indication of the need to work hand in hand between various departments and organisations addressing the concerns of the communities concerned.

The draft White Paper on National Welfare (1996:24) indicates that the mechanisms will be designed to facilitate intersectoral policy formulation, planning, monitoring

and evaluation, co-ordination and the definition of functions and responsibilities. The intention is to have national and provincial strategies in order to develop social programmes. It has been repeatedly mentioned that women are the ones who are widely affected by problems as they are the caretakers or housekeepers of their families having all the traditionally prescribed roles to perform. In this regard programmes need to put more emphasis on rural women.

6.3.3 Future social work education

Various conferences have been held and suggestions made to have special training for rural workers but this has not been implemented especially in this province of KwaZulu-Natal where areas are predominantly rural. There is absolutely no extra training received by rural workers who have undergone similar training at institutions where all others train. The in-service training could perhaps help to equip them with those extra skills relevant for rural areas. It would be to the advantage of the rural areas to be considered if the principle of having equity amongst all racial groups and communities is seriously implemented.

6.3.4 Future research

Rural women in most African states, for decades, have been exposed to all forms of oppression due to traditional stereotypes; industrialisation; colonialism; apartheid; land issues (forced removals) and many more others. The important point here is that women are involved in community development. They mostly use their indigenous

knowledge and experience to accomplish most of their goals. There is a need for development agents to have an understanding of the way people relate to different activities and how they approach those problems affecting them, their families and the whole community.

The global community, both rural and urban, is slowly becoming aware of some of the following aspects about women:

- recognition of women as individuals capable of making their own decisions about their concerns;

- involvement in community development activities:

- gender inequality.

The question remains whether rural women in particular, will ever be at the same level as men in terms of all the above aspects as they affect their lives. The problem of gender inequality also makes things worse because there are still those who believe that some other things cannot be done by a certain category of people. Sainsbury (1994:152) argues about the influence of social policy in terms of division of labour, where these policies reinforce the division of labour within family. He further argues about the boundary between the public and private spheres, and the degree to which women's work is paid or unpaid. In work places for instance, Jansson (1994:179) gives an example that women may remain in rolls because they lack job skills or live

in areas where virtually no jobs exist for relatively unskilled women.

It will take time before some men realise that women are as important as they are when it comes to any type of work. Cahill (1994:163) says while men regard the home as a place of non-work, for very many women it is the site of work. Women are expected to do the bulk of the household tasks constituting what sociologists call a 'double shift'.

According to Bussemaker and Kersbergen in an article edited by Sainsbury (1994:14) several welfare states in western countries experience the problems where policies meant to address social problems tend to promote a high degree of stratification and inequality.

As mentioned earlier, in the area of study some men estimated at forty one point seven (41.7) percent have now an insight of community development projects as they are also involved in community activities which means there should be programmes to promote the recognition, breaking the barriers between men and women, thus encouraging the development of their communities.

There is therefore a need for more information about themselves (women) so that the programmes designed can be relevant if the community and its dimensions are well known to the development agents.

This study was conducted by looking at just one particular community whereas there are many other rural communities within the district. In the case of Mambuka area, there can be other studies directed towards those identified gaps for which this study was not intended. Those gaps include 'the possibility of having the people becoming more or fully involved in decision making within their community leadership structures and 'the issue of development under tribal authority versus development under local government structures'.

6.4   **CONCLUSION**

This chapter dealt with the summary of findings, conclusions and focusing on the recommendations. It is hoped that these recommendations will be implementable for those who need such information.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Abott, P. and Sapsford, R. (1987): Women and Social Class. An overview. Tavistock Publications, London.

2. Afshar, H. (ed) (1991): Rural Women. Women, development and survival in the Third World. McMillan Press. New York.

3. Ahmed, L. (ed) (1985): Technology and Rural Women. George Allen and Unwin. Australia.

4. Babbie, E. (1992): The Practice of Social Research. Wadsworth, Carlifornia.

5. Bailey, K.D. (1982): Method of Social Research. McMillan Publishing Co. New York.

6. Bernstein, H.; Crow, B. and Johnson, H. (ed) (1992): Rural Livelihoods. Crisis and Responses. Oxford University Press. New York.

7. Bouma, G.D. (1993): The Research Process. Oxford University Press. New York.

140

8.   Brydon, L. and Chant, S. (1989): Women in the Third World. Gender

      Issues in Rural and Urban Areas. Edward Elgar Publishing Limited.

      England.

9.   Cahill, M. (1994): The New Social Policy. Blackwell Publishers. United

      Kingdom.

10.   Chambers, R. (1983): Rural Development. Putting the last first. Longman

      Scientific and Technical. England.

11.   Clarke, J.; Cochrane, A. and McLaughlin, E. (1994): Managing Social

      Policy. Sage Publications. London.

12.   Conyers, A. (1984): An Introduction to Social Planning in the Third World.

      Preston Press. Norwich.

13.   Deakin. N. (1994): The Politics of Welfare -Continuities and Change.

      Harvester Wheatsheaf. New York.

14.   Dlamini, C.R.M. (1994): The Judicial Analysis and Critical Evaluation in a

      Changing Zulu Society. Kwa-Dlangezwa. University of Zululand.

15.   Dunham. A. (1970): The New Community Organisation. Thomas Y.

      Crowell Company. Peacock.

16.   Ferrinho, H. (1980):   Towards a Theory of Community Development.   The
        Rustica Press.   Cape Town.

17.   Fransella, F. and Frost, K. (1977):   On Being a Woman.   Tavistock
        Publications.   London.

18.   George, V. and Miller, S. (ed) (1994):   Social Policy Towards 2000 -
        Squaring the Welfare Circle.   Routledge.   London.

19.   Giggey, S. (1988):   Rural Community Resource Centres: A guide for
        developing countries.   McMillan Education Ltd.   London.

20.   Hoggart, K. and Buller, H. (1987):   Rural Development: A Geographical
        Perspective.   Croom Helm Ltd.   New York.

21.   Horton, P. and Hunt, C. (1976):   Sociology.   McGraw-Hill Kogakusha Ltd.
        Japan.

22.   Ironmonger, D. (1989):   Households Work.   Allen and Unwin Hynman
        Company.   Australia.

23.   Jamieson, L. and Corr, H. (1990):   State, Private Life and Political Change.
        The McMillan Press Ltd.   London.

24. Jansson, B. (1994): <u>Social Policy - From Theory to Practice</u>. Brooks/Cole Publishing Company. Carlifornia.

25. Joakes, P. (1987): <u>Women in the World Economy (Instraw)</u>. Oxford University Press. New York.

26. Lefeber, L. and Chaudhuri, D. (1971): <u>Regional Development Experiences and Prospects in South and South East Asia</u>.

27. Lieberman, M.; Borman, L. and Ass. (1979): <u>Self-help groups for coping with crisis</u>. Jossey-Bass Publishers. London.

28. Lincoln, Y. and Guba, E. (1985): <u>Naturalistic Inquiry</u>. Sage Publications. London.

29. Lunt, N. and Coyle, D. (1996): <u>Welfare and Policy-Research Agendas and Issues</u>. Taylor and Francis Publishers. London.

30. McNicoll, G. and Cain, M. (ed) (1990): <u>Rural Development and Population: Institutions and Policy</u>. Oxford University Press. New York.

31. Midgely, J. (1995): <u>Social Development. The Developmental Perspective in Social Welfare</u>. Sage Publications. London.

32.   Mouton, J. and Marais, H.C. (1994): Basic concepts in the Methodology of the Social Sciences. HSRC Publishers, Pretoria. South Africa.

33.   Pascall, G. 91996): Social Policy: A Feminist Analysis. Tavistock Publications. London.

34.   Phillips, B.S. (1976): Social Research: Strategy and Tactics. McMillan Company. New York.

35.   Ross, M.G. (1955): Community Organisation. Theory and Principles. Harper and Brothers Publishers. New York.

36.   Sainsbury, D. (1994): Gendering Welfare States. Sage Publications. London.

37.   Steyn, A.F. et.al. (1987): Marriage and Family Life in S.A. Research Priorities. HSRC. Pretoria. South Africa.

JOURNALS

1. Bayley, J.E.: A motivation for the Establishment of Agency-based Social Research Posts. **Social Work** Vol.20, 1984, 224-226.

2. Dlamini, P. and Juliá M.: South African women and the role of social work: wathint' abafazi wathint' imbokodo (provoke women and you've struck a rock). **International Social Work.** Vol.36, 1993, 341-355.

3. Goudie, S. and Kilian, D.: Focus: Gender and Environmental Impact Assessment. **Agenda** Vol.29, 1996.

4. Harley, S.: for the good of family and race: Gender, work and domestic roles in the black community. Women in culture and society. **Signs**, Vol.15 1990, 336-349.

    -

5. Hugo, E.: Community work as an Integral Part of Community Development. **Social Work.** Vol.20, 1984, 204-210.

6. Kgarimetsa, M.: The two faces of poverty - urban and rural. **Social Work Practice.** Vol.3, 1992.

7.   Lambert. W.: Social Work Theory and Community Development Practice: A case analysis of community issues and problems of implementation in Rehoboth, Namibia. **Social Work**, Vol.27, 1991, 79-82.

8.   Levi, Y.: Institution Building Through Self-help in Rural Developing Areas: An integrated Approach. **International Review of Community Development.** Vol.31-34, 1975, 261-268.

9.   Nkopane, M.: Empowering Women: A report back. **Agenda** Vol.28, 1996, 118-120.

10.   Rankin, P.: Resource Development as a priority in rural areas - the role of the Social Worker. **Social Work.** Vol.28, 3, 1992. 36-43.

11.   Rothmund. G. and Botha. D.: The specific content of community social work as a guideline for supervision. **Social Work practice.** Vol.3, 1991, 2-8.

PAPERS AND GOVERNMENT GAZETTES

1.   Annual Report: Department of Social Welfare and Population Development. KwaZulu Natal 1996.

2.   Daily News: 19 July 1976.

3.   Draft White Paper: Social Welfare and Population Development. Vol.368
        1995.

4.   El Ghonemy, M.R. (ed): Development strategies for the rural poor. Food
        and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, 1991. Rome.

5.   Policy Speech: Department of Social Welfare and Population Development.
        KwaZulu Natal, 1997.

6.   Population Development Programme: Women of the 90's. February 1990.

7.   Subcommittee Welfare Advisory Council for Black Communities Model:
        Social Services in Informal Settlements. 1993, Pretoria.

8.   White Paper on Agriculture: KwaZulu Natal 1996.

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Answer all questions except if instructed otherwise by marking with an [X] in the appropriate block.

1. Identifying particulars of respondents or participants

    Age: 30 - 45 years   ☐

                  46 - 60 years   ☐

    Gender: Female   ☐

                  Male   ☐

    Experience in gropus: 1 - 5 years   ☐

                               6 years and over   ☐

    2. Who initiated this project?

        *   The project was initiated by women of the community

        *   It was initiated by local community

        *   It was initiated by local leadership

        *   Other   -
              (Specify...)

3. Who are the members of this project?

    *   Women

    *   Men

    *   Women & men

4. How are members recruited to join the project?

    *   Members group themselves according to localities

    *   Members are recruited according to their skills

     *   Members join projects of their own choice

     *   Other
           (Specify..)

5.   What are the project's specific services to the community?

     *   Income generation for community members

     *   Development of the community

     *   Other
           (Specify..)

6.   Does the project have a constitution?   Yes ☐   No ☐

7.   If yes, who wrote the constitution?

     *   Management Committee

     *   Local development committee

     *   Local leadership

     *   Community development facilitators

     *   Other
           (Specify..)

8.   Who appoints a Management Committee?

     *   Members of project

     *   Members of the community

     *   Local leadership   -

     *   Community development facilitators

     *   Other
           (Specify..)

9.   Who runs the project's administration?

     *   Management Committee of project

     *   Local leadership

     *   Mother/umbrella body/Private Organisation

     *   Government

	*	Local development committee		☐
	*	Other		☐
		(Specify...)		

10. Are there any management committee members who are not members of the project?

Yes ☐ No ☐

11. Does the project have funds? Yes ☐ No ☐

12. If yes, how does the project get funds?

_____

13. Is there any membership fee charged per member?

Yes ☐ No ☐

14. If yes, how is it paid?

* Monthly

* Yearly

* Other
  (Specify...)

15. What reasons motivated members to be involved in projects?

* Poverty

* Unemployment

* Single parenthood

* Insufficient income

* Other
  (Specify...)

16. What is the attitude of the community towards participation of women in projects?

* They appreciate women's initiative to develop community

* They feel that women are waiting time

150

*   They know this is how women make their living

*   Other
(Specify...)

17.   Why are other women not involved in community projects?

    *   They have stable sources of income

    *   Their husbands have sufficient income

    *   Husbands do not allow them to be involved in activities outside the home

    *   Other
(Specify...)

18.   Do men have to approve of their wives to be involved in community projects?

    Yes ☐   No ☐

19.   If yes, why?

    *   Because a man is the head of the family

    *   A man does not want his wife to be away from the homestead

    *   A man considers other home duties to be important

    *   Other
(Specify...)

20.   What is the involvement of men in projects?

    *   None

    *   Very minimal

    *   Other
(Specify...)

21.   Are members of projects free to participate in decision making pertaining to day to day running of the organisation?

    Yes ☐   No ☐

151

22.   If no, why?

    *   Members have no knowledge of decision making

    *   Management Committee does not encourage participation

    *   Other
              (Specify...)