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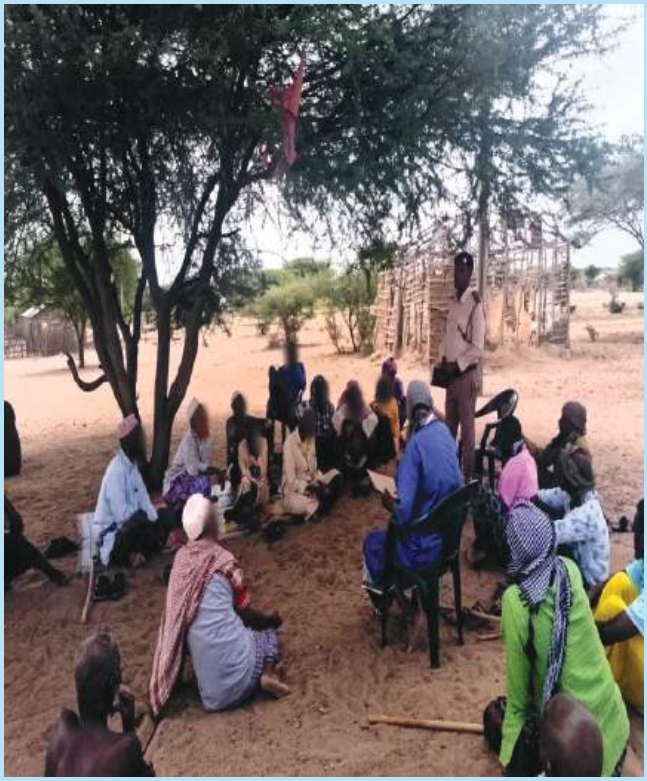
NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

Fighting Crime Through Research

THE IMPACT OF COMMUNITY POLICING IN KENYA



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THE IMPACT OF COMMUNITY POLICING IN KENYA

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ISBN 978-9914-9844-8-4

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FOREWORD

Ensuring a safe and secure environment for all citizens is not the preserve of law enforcement agencies but a concerted effort of the police, the public and other stakeholders. Community policing strategy is a constitutional and legal imperative. Kenya has been implementing community policing - integrating citizens in complementing security agencies in preventing crimes, and maintaining public safety, law and order.

The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) undertook this study to evaluate the impact of community policing strategy on police-community relations, crime prevention and management in the country.

The study established glaring lack of clarity between National Police Service-led Community Policing and Nyumba Kumi to the general public. This exemplifies how policy implementation overlaps can hamper successful implementation of critical initiatives such as community policing. The implication for policy is that the perceived differences in structure, leadership and execution framework may lead to implementation of parallel or competing initiatives leading to confusion, overlaps, duplication of efforts and security coordination challenges.

The study also found out low levels of public trust and confidence in the National Police Service (NPS) after decades of implementing community policing. This is a pointer to the persistence of systemic, long-standing, historical and deep-seated issues in the service that continue to negatively shape public experience, perception and opinion of the police.

Indeed, community policing can be an effective strategy against crime, improved police-community relations and community well-being. However, its success hinges on shared vision, coordinated efforts and public trust and confidence in police and policing.

These findings have significant ramifications for citizen's participation in security of our beloved nation. There is imperative for the National Police Service and other stakeholders to re-evaluate and institute remedies to revitalize the noble community policing strategy based on the public feedback from this research.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) acknowledges the important contributions by various individuals, stakeholders and institutions to the success of this study.

First and foremost, I am grateful to the Government of Kenya and the Ministry of Interior and National Administration for the financial support, without which the study would not have been accomplished.

The Centre is grateful to the Governing Council under the leadership of the chairperson, Hon. Dorcas A. Oduor, SC, OGW, EBS, the Attorney-General, for the strategic leadership, guidance and policy direction. Sincere gratitude to the Research and Development Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Samuel Wakanyua for the insightful technical and professional research guidance during the entire process of this study.

The Centre acknowledges the immense contribution and support from our stakeholders for the insightful inputs during the methodology workshop, data collection and validation workshop of the draft report. We thank members of the public who took their time to share insights, knowledge and daily-life experiences on community policing in Kenya. This study would not have been possible without your participation. I extend my appreciation to the Research Supervisors and Research Assistants whose input ensured quality data was collected.

Thanks to Mr. Vincent Odhiambo Opondo, the lead researcher and author for his dedication in this study and production of this report. I also extend my sincere appreciation to Dr. Wycliffe Nyachoti Osoti for peer-reviewing the report. I also register my gratitude to Mr. John Khakhudu Agunda for his editorial review that shaped the final report.

Finally, to all the others who participated in one way or the other, contributing to the success of this study, the NCRC remains indebted to you.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATION

CLC	Community Liaison Committees
CPAs	County Policing Authorities
CPC	Community Policing Committees
CP	Community Policing
CPF	Community Policing Forums
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
EACC	Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
IAU	Internal Affairs Unit
ICP	Integrated Community Policing
IPOA	Independent Policing Oversight Authority
KIs	Key Informant Interviews
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
NCPP	National Community Policing Programme
NCRC	National Crime Research Centre
NGAPU	National Government Administration Police Unite
NPF	Nigeria Police Force
NGAO	National Government Administrative Officers
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisations
NPS	National Police Service
US	United States
OCS	Officer Commanding Station
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences

DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

Community – This refers a group of people, living in the same geographical area or sharing similar attitudes, aspirations, and goals.

Community Policing – It is the approach to policing that recognises voluntary participation of the local community in the maintenance of peace and which acknowledges that the police need to be responsive to the communities and their needs. Its key element is joint problem identification and problem-solving, while respecting the different responsibilities the police and the public have in crime prevention and maintaining order.

Community Policing Committee – This is a committee elected by a community policing forum as per section 98(4) of the NPS Act, 2011, to coordinate, lead and represent the forum. The democratically elected members of a cluster are entrusted with managing the activities of the group/cluster

Nyumba Kumi - is a strategy of anchoring community policing at the household level or any other generic cluster. These households can be in a residential court, in an estate, a block of houses, a manyatta, a street, community of interest, a gated community, a village or a bulla.

Crime prevention - Refers to strategies, measures, and actions taken to reduce or eliminate the risk of crime occurring, and to minimise its potential harmful effects on individuals and communities. It focuses on averting crime, rather than just responding after the fact.

Crime management - Refers to the strategies, processes, and actions used by law enforcement agencies, communities, and other stakeholders to prevent, control, reduce, and respond to crime. It encompasses both proactive and reactive measures aimed at maintaining public safety and order.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ensuring a safe and secure environment for all citizens is not a preserve of law enforcement agencies but a concerted effort of the police, the public and other stakeholders. Community policing has been implemented in Kenya by integrating citizens in complementing law enforcement agencies' efforts in preventing crimes, and maintaining public safety, law and order. A successful community partnership in this endeavour depends to a great extent, on the public trust and confidence in police and policing.

Key Findings

Perceptions of safety in the localities

The study established that (57%) of the respondents felt safe in their communities, whereas nearly half of the respondents (43%) perceived their communities as unsafe. Perceptions and feelings of insecurity in the localities were attributed to among others, the rampancy of crimes in the localities, police unresponsiveness to distress calls and reported crimes, corruption among rogue police officers, rise in illicit alcohol, drug and substance abuse. Other reasons were lack of security infrastructure like streetlights, rise in criminal gangs, fear of retaliation from criminals gang when cases are reported, unresolved crime cases. Perceptions of (in)security translate into how citizens perceive and experience police and policing.

Public awareness of community policing in the localities

From the findings, more than half of the respondents indicated familiarity with the community policing approach. The study established that members of the public were inclined to confuse the National Police Service-led Community Policing with Nyumba Kumi. Whereas NPS-led Community Policing involves structured collaboration with law enforcement, Nyumba Kumi anchors community policing at the household level or any other generic cluster. Nyumba Kumi has since been integrated into the NPS led Community Policing. It is glaring that many Kenyans are unaware of these structural differences and integration of the two approaches. Nyumba Kumi seemed to resonate well with many citizens as it operates at the household and neighbourhood levels. The implication for this is that communities may expect Nyumba Kumi to handle critical security issues, leading to frustration when crimes in certain contexts may require police intervention.

Respondents also linked many government initiatives and activities to community policing but clearly they are not geared towards safeguarding public security. Many confused community policing initiatives with other government programmes such as youth empowerment projects like *Kazi Mtaani*, and environmental programmes due to several reasons. People assumed that all government-led local initiatives are the same or connected. Some government projects involve security aspects, making it easy for people to mix them up. This overlap causes people to assume all these initiatives are part of community policing/Nyumba Kunmi and this has the potential for creating security coordination gaps.

Citizen participation in community policing initiatives and activities

Majority of the respondents confirmed participation in community policing initiatives and activities. More males than females participated in community policing initiatives. Respondents who affirmed participation in community policing initiatives reported involvement in: Nyumba Kumi-related activities, community policing *barazas*, community crime awareness programmes, community policing forums, community policing committees, alternative dispute resolution fora. Others were involved in environmental conservation programmes, women's empowerment programmes, community led-Kazi Kwa Vijana initiatives, religious crusade against crime, community-police patrols, Gender-Based Violence Committees, and Residential Welfare Groups, among others.

Achievements of community policing

The study found out that community policing initiatives and activities had resulted in: the reduction in fear of crime, better understanding of local community needs, increased public awareness of security and crime issues, improved crime detection and prevention, active citizen participation in crime reporting. It also strengthened local cohesion, enabled resolution of petty offences through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, improved police visibility, reduced drug abuse and crime among youth, and enhanced closer police-community ties/working frameworks to address security concerns in the localities.

Community-police relations

The study established that community policing initiatives and activities had not influenced public trust in the police positively. From the findings, half of the respondents said community policing had not influenced their trust in the police. This is a pointer to the fact that there possibly could be long-standing, systemic, historical and deep-seated structural issues in the NPS that continue to negatively shape public experience, perceptions and opinion on the police.

Although citizens had low levels of trust in the police, it was established that community policing had enhanced cooperation between police and the community in the following ways: it improved reporting of crime and incidences, enhanced information/intelligence sharing, boosted involvement of members of the community in prioritisation of their security needs, encouraged active participation of the community in addressing crime risk factors in the neighbourhoods, supported community arrest and handing over criminals to the police, led to reduction of complaints against police, and enhanced openness and transparency in the activities of the police service.

The study also established that police had a difficult relationship with the following persons, groups and categories: Youth, boda boda operators, the business community, males, matatu public transport operators, victims of crime, women in some contexts, and informers.

Complaints against the police

Citizens had the following complaints against the police: Corruption, delayed response to distress calls and emergencies, police harassment and intimidation, rogue police officers collusion with criminals, unlawful arrests and detentions, limited police visibility, and abuse of police power. Others were police brutality and excessive use of force, police favouritism and discrimination in the discharge of duty, extortion of the vulnerable by rogue police, lack of confidentiality of information/intelligence shared by community, involvement of police in criminal activities and human rights abuses and violations.

Challenges in the implementation of community policing

The major challenges in the implementation of community policing were cited as: Resource constraints, low levels of public awareness on the concept of community policing, corruption

among rogue police officers, lack of trust between the general public and police, and lack of incentives for community members and police to implement community policing initiatives. Others were lack of motivation for community policing committee members, lack of monitoring and evaluation of community policing initiatives, lack of meaningful community empowerment and participation in the community policing programmes, poor coordination between community policing committees and the police, suspicion towards people participating in community policing being viewed as police informers, sustainability of community policing initiatives in the long run, general public apathy, and fear of reprisal from criminals if they cooperate with the police.

Key Recommendations

Arising from the findings and conclusions of the study, the following are recommended to inform policy review, evaluation and the revitalization of community policing discourse in the country:

1. The National Police Service (NPS) should address the rampant crimes in the localities and address public contentions that the police were unresponsive to distress calls and reported crimes. Empirical evidence has shown that police alone cannot effectively tackle security problems. The NPS should put in place the modalities to revitalise community policing as a key policing strategy to identify crime-risk factors, crime trends, hot spots, and criminals. Through this, the NPS will improve its efficiency and effectiveness in resolving local security challenges.

2. The Ministry of Interior and National Administration and the National Police Service should address long-standing systemic, historical and deep-seated issues by rogue officers in the service that continue to negatively shape public experience, perceptions and opinion of the police. Modalities should be instituted to address citizen concerns and complaints about police excesses, misconduct, abuse of power, human rights abuses and other violations that continue to influence public experience and perception about the service.

3. The Ministry of Interior and National Administration should address the recurring perception that NPS-led Community Policing and Nyumba Kumi are separate initiatives, despite their integration. Many Kenyans are unaware of the structural differences and the integration. The implication for policy is that the perceived differences in structure, leadership, and implementation framework may lead to confusion, duplication of efforts, overlaps and coordination challenges. Sections of the police and the National Government Administrative Officers (NGAO) may not be aware of this, and may continue with parallel or competing initiatives. In addition, communities may view Nyumba Kumi as distinct and expect it to handle serious security issues, leading to frustration when crimes in certain contexts require police intervention. There is need for nationwide public sensitisation and education to public, police officers and NGAO officials to address the recurring confusion between NPS-led Community Policing and Nyumba Kumi to enhance the effectiveness of police- community partnership in security.

4. Adopt a multi-agency approach and strengthen police accountability mechanisms to address corruption and other infractions by rogue officers in the National Police Service. The Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA), Internal Affairs Unit (IAU) and Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) should adopt multi-agency approach and strengthen police accountability mechanisms to address corruption, harassment, excessive use of force, human rights abuses and other violations by rogue police officers in the service – that lead to deep-rooted public mistrust and scepticism towards law enforcement among many Kenyan communities.

5. The Ministry of Interior and National Administration and the National Police Service should undertake concerted national public awareness campaigns to revive and entrench NPS-led Community Policing approach at the grassroots level to address low levels of public awareness of the concept of community policing. Low levels of public knowledge and awaness on the concept of community policing was a recurring theme and challenge mentioned by the study respondents. Such targeted public awareness campaigns should aim to revitalise and entrench community policing at the grassroot levels, including

schools and institutions of higher learning. Modalities should be explored to collaborate with the media and other strategic non-state actors in this endevour.

6. The National Police Service should address youth-police relations as the study established that youths are a specific category of persons that was said to have the most strained or difficult relationship with the police for various reasons, including youth over-profiling, youth over-policing, youth-targeting, blanket swoops on young people, generalized condemnation of young people as likely suspects or criminals. Such generalized profiling, targeting and condemnation put youths at odds with law enforcement officials. There is need for a paradigm shift for the National Police Service to address the strained or difficult relationship between law enforcement officers and young people. This should also be extended to the other groups such as boda boda operators business community, matatu public transport operators, victims of crime, women in some contexts, and informers who equally had difficult relations with the police.

7. The Ministry of Interior and National Administration and the National Police Service should strengthen training and capacity building to the community and police officers on implementation of community policing. The study respondents pointed out a lacuna in capacity building for stakeholders involved in community policing. It is imperative that community members and police officers receive regular trainings and capacity building because managing, preventing and controlling crime is increasingly becoming complex and dynamic. In addition, the dynamic nature of the policing environment makes police work a complex undertaking.

8. The National Police Service should undertake regular monitoring and evaluation of community policing initiatives and activities across the country to better understand; how, where and why community policing is working well so that successes can be replicated elsewhere and corrective measures instituted. The National Police Service should put in place a robust monitoring and evaluation framework for undertaking regular

monitoring and evaluation of community policing projects, initiatives and activities across the country.

9. The National Police Service should operationalize the County Policing Authorities. The County Governments through the County Policing Authorities (CPAs) are critical stakeholders to the discourse of community policing in Kenya. The National Police Service Act, 2011 provides for the creation of County Policing Authorities as strategies designed to improve security through decentralized, County-centered approaches. However, the County Policing Authorities have not been operationalised in the country despite their provision in the National Police Service Act, 2011. Institutionalization of the County Policing Authorities will go along way to support community policing strategies by ensuring that local concerns identified by community members are incorporated into the broader County-level policing plans. Modalities should be put in place to address the legal, policy, and administrative challenges in the operationalization of the CPAs.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Policing is a vital aspect of any civilised, progressive and modern society. Its functions have become numerous, diverse and complex, as the policing environment is dynamic. There has been a growing realisation that ensuring a safe and secure environment for all citizens is not the preserve of security agencies but a concerted effort of the police, the public and other stakeholders. This has necessitated the need for new approaches such as community policing. Community policing has, therefore, become an integral component of modern law-enforcement practices. It aims to build and enhance collaboration between the police and the community.

Community policing was initiated in Kenya to integrate citizens into complementing security organs in maintaining public safety, law and order to improve police-community relations. The role of communities in managing, preventing and controlling crime is increasingly essential, in the complex and dynamic 21st Century societies. However, this depends to a great extent on the public trust and confidence in the police.

Kenya has implemented community policing against a background of a long history of complaints against the police. Whereas progress has been made in rolling out and operationalising community policing initiatives across the country for several decades, its impact in addressing crime and integrating police with communities has yet to be fully ascertained. Therefore, research evidence is needed on the impact of community policing in crime management, its contribution to improving community-police relations and the factors impeding its effectiveness as part of strategic approaches to the crime discourses in Kenya since the promulgation of the 2010 Constitution and enactment of the National Police Service Act, 2011. The bulk of the existing studies on community policingthis have largely been academic.

1.2 Background

Community policing is an approach to policing that recognizes the independence and shared responsibility of the police and the community in ensuring a safe and secure environment for all citizens. The concept of community policing (CP) originated in London, England in 1829 with the establishment of a cooperative crime-fighting coalition between citizens and the police,

recognizing that police alone cannot effectively tackle security problems (Great Britain Metropolitan Police Office, 1829).

During the 1970s, the United States also experimented with community and neighbourhood-based policing projects, which yielded mixed results and faced challenges such as high costs, administrative inefficiencies, and citizen apathy (Herbert, 2009). However, in the early 1980s, a new direction for policing began to emerge in the US, known as community policing. This approach gained traction as its features garnered support from the public and media, ultimately becoming the dominant paradigm or popular policing model (De Maillard & Terpstra, 2021). The US Department of Justice's Office of Community Policing (2017) defines community policing as a partnership between law enforcement and the individuals and organisations they serve to develop solutions to problems and increase trust in the police.

Singapore has long been regarded as a pioneer of community policing in Asia. Singapore's neighbourhood police post and neighbourhood police centers, active citizenry programmes and public-private partnerships have fostered strong police-community cooperation. This has contributed to Singapore maintaining very low crime rates and high levels of public trust in the police (Singh, 2000).

The Japanese neighbourhood watch programmes - known as "Jichikai" have been central part of its community policing model for decades. The neighbourhood watch programmes are deeply embedded in Japanese society and play a crucial role in community safety and crime prevention**.** These programmes reflect Japan's strong culture of civic responsibility, cooperation and respect for social order. The neighbourhood watch programmes are community-based volunteer groups organized at the local level to monitor and maintain public safety. They work in close cooperation with local police departments known as (Koban or police boxes), municipal governments, and schools (Hera, 2024). Low crime rates in Japan are partially attributed to strong community vigilance and cooperation with law enforcement in the spirit of community policing. The programmes have been especially effective in reducing petty crimes, preventing juvenile delinquency and supporting the elderly and vulnerable populations.

Japan’s neighbourhood watch culture is rooted in a collectivist mindset where people feel responsible for each other’s safety, trust in police and public institutions and an emphasis on community harmony and mutual respect (Hera, 2024).

In the African context, community policing has gained significant traction across various African countries in recent decades as a way to improve police-community relations and enhance public safety (Alemika & Chukwuma, 2004). From an African perspective, community policing is seen as a means to address the historical legacy of authoritarian and repressive policing inherited from the colonial era. (Alemika, 2015). It emphasizes the importance of building trust between the police and local communities, as well as giving communities a greater voice in identifying and solving their own security challenges (Baker, 2010; Tankebe, 2013).

Community policing was first applied in South Africa with the introduction of Community Policing Forums (CPF) during the provisional Constitution era (Chappell & Gibson, 2019). The forums were to monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of the South African Police Service, to provide the police with advice on issues of community priority. The push for community policing in post-apartheid South Africa was driven by the need to transform the country's historically repressive and militarized police force into a more democratic, service-oriented institution (Brogden & Nijhar, 2005). Evaluations of the CPF model found out that it helped to improve police accountability, enhance information sharing, and facilitate joint problem-solving, though the sustainability and effectiveness of CPFs have varied across different communities (Marks & Goldsmith, 2006; Skogan, 2006).

Conversely, community policing in South Africa also faced significant challenges. Scholars have noted the persistence of militaristic and coercive policing approaches (Fourchard, 2011), the lack of meaningful community empowerment and the continued over-policing of marginalised communities (Brogden & Nijhar, 2005; Friedman, 2011).

Community policing in Nigeria was formally introduced in the early 2000s by the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) as a response to growing insecurity, widespread public mistrust of the police, and rising crime, especially in urban and peri-urban areas (Adedeji, 2012). In 2004 the NPF, with

support from international agencies rolled out pilot community policing projects in select states. The core features included partnerships with community members including local vigilantes, religious/traditional leaders, and civil society groups, recruitment of local police constables sometimes referred to as "Community Police Constables" with the aim of improving intelligence gathering and community engagement. The stategy also gave prominence to crime prevention, especially on petty crimes, domestic violence, and youth-related offenses (Kpae & Eric, 2017). Nigerian community policing had notable achievements and failures. In areas where community members trusted the police, intelligence sharing had improved, helping prevent crimes and the arrest of offenders. The major challenges and limitation of Nigeria's community policing included deep-rooted public mistrust of the police due to past abuse, corruption, extrajudicial killings and political interference where local leaders sometimes used community policing for surveillance or suppression of opposition, rather than public safety and lack of national legal framework anchoring community policing, making it reliant on executive discretion and local arrangements (Alemika, 2010; Kpae & Eric, 2017; Adedeji, 2012).

In the East African region, Tanzania embraced community policing (*Polisi Jamii*) as a shared responsibility between policing agencies and citizens. Tanzania introduced community policing on a pilot basis in the early 2000s, focusing on urban areas like Dar es Salaam. The approach involved creating neighbourhood watch groups and increasing police foot patrols in high crime prone areas. In 2006, Tanzania police landmarked a special reform that aimed at building trust between policing agencies and members of communities where officers operate. One of the important steps taken was the releasing (to community members where officers operate) private telephone numbers of senior police officers to facilitate contact between members of community and the police officers (Cross, 2014; Aloys, 2023).

In Uganda, community policing initiatives were launched in the late 1990s, with the establishment of Community Liaison Committees (CLCs) to facilitate collaboration between the police and local residents (Bwire & Nyenyembe, 2017). Evaluations have highlighted the potential of this approach to enhance information sharing, improve police responsiveness, and reduce crime, but also noted challenges such as inadequate resources, lack of political will, and

resistance from more traditional, militaristic elements within the police force (Okiria, 2014; Verma, 2005).

The adoption of community policing strategies have also been part of police reform efforts in Ethiopia over the past two decades. The country's approach to community policing, known as the Integrated Community Policing (ICP) programme, was introduced in the early 2000s with the goal of enhancing police-community cooperation, improving service delivery, and promoting democratic policing (Alemika & Chukwuma, 2004; Wondwosen, 2009). A central feature of the ICP programme has been the establishment of Community Policing Committees (CPCs) – platforms that bring together representatives from the police, local government, and community members to identify and address local security concerns (Bekele, 2007; Wondwosen, 2009). Evaluations of the CPC model found out that it helped improve information sharing, facilitated joint problem-solving, and enhanced perceptions of police legitimacy in some communities (Wondwosen, 2012; Yohannes, 2015).

Another key aspect of Ethiopia's community policing approach has been the deployment of neighbourhood-based police officers, known as "*Kebele"* police, who are responsible for patrolling and engaging with residents at the local level (Bekele, 2007; Yohannes, 2015). Studies have suggested that the *Kebele* police have had some success in building trust and improving police responsiveness, though concerns remain about their lack of accountability and the potential for abuse of power (Alemika & Chukwuma, 2004; Wondwosen, 2009).

It is noteworthy that the implementation of community policing in Africa has faced significant challenges, including public mistrust of the the police, lack of resources, resistance from police forces, and the difficulties in sustaining community engagement in the long term (Alemika & Chukwuma, 2004; Baker, 2010). Scholars have also highlighted the need to address the underlying socio-economic and political factors that contribute to crime and insecurity in many African communities (Brogden, 2004; Tankebe, 2013).

Kenyan Perspective

The community policing initiative in Kenya was designed to integrate citizens into law enforcement to complement security organs in maintaining public safety, law and order and to

improve police-community relations. Community policing in Kenya started as an initiative of Kenya Police and Nairobi Central Business District Association. It was also incorporated in the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation 2003-2007 (Ruteere, 2011). Community policing was formally launched in Kenya in 2005 by the then president as part of crime prevention strategy that was rolled out accross the country.

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 instituionalised community policing and provided for community policing in Article 244 (e) which requires the National Police Service to foster and promote relationships with the broader society. In addition, the National Police Service Act 2011 provides for community policing by establishing Community Policing Committees as one of the mechanisms for operationalizing community policing.

Kenya has been at the forefront of community policing initiatives in East Africa, with the country's National Community Policing Programme (NCPP) serving as a key component of police reform efforts since the 1990s (Mkutu & Sabala, 2007; Mwenda, 2017). The NCPP was introduced with the aim of promoting partnerships between the police and local communities, with the establishment of Community Policing Committees (CPCs) as a central feature (Ruteere & Pommerolle, 2003; Mwenda, 2017). These committees were intended to serve as platforms for information sharing, joint problem-solving, and collaborative crime prevention strategies (Mkutu & Sabala, 2007; Opondi, 2014).

Reviews of the community policing in Kenya have found that the programme has had mixed results in practice. On the one hand, it has been noted that the initiative helped improve police-community relations and increase public confidence in the police in some communities (Ruteere & Pommerolle,2003; Opondi, 2014). Community policing has also been credited with enhancing information sharing and facilitating more responsive policing in certain contexts (Mkutu & Sabala, 2007; Mwenda, 2017).

On the other hand, it has been established that community policing in Kenya has not been effective due to: lack of clear guidelines on the distribution of roles between the police, the community and other stakeholders, misconceptions of the concept by community members

which led to mushrooming of vigilante groups or their involvement in community policing across some parts of the country (Otiso, 2015). Some community members viewed it as a form of employment, however when they realized it was voluntary they withdrew their participation and misconceptions that community members participating in the initiative were police informers (Ruteere & Pommerolle, 2003; Okech, 2020).

The slow pace of mainstreaming community policing into police work across the services has also featured prominently. Additionally, there have been contentions on the lack of shared expectations between the police and community members on the objective of community policing, lack of motivation among members of the community regarding community policing and poor awareness among members of the public on community policing have been some of the noted challenges (Mwendwa, 2017).

1.3 Problem Statement

Kenya has implemented the community policing amid a long history of complaints over police excesses, corruption, misconduct, abuse of power and human rights abuses, all which have led to deep-rooted mistrust and scepticism towards law enforcement among many Kenyan communities.

More recently, *Nyumba Kumi* concept has also been incorporated as a key foundation to community policing philosophy. Nyumba Kumi is a strategy of anchoring community policing at house hold level or any other generic cluster (National Police Service, 2017).

Various studies that have examined the implementation of the community policing programmes have highlighted successes and failures of the approach in different contexts. Community policing has contributed to reduced crime; lessened disorder and anti-social behaviour, increased sense of public safety, and improved police-community relations in some areas. However, it has been noted that community policing has failed due to lack of ownership by the public, challenges of resistance from traditional police elements, some police officers seeing no value in community policing - other officers seeing it as an inconvenience and its activities as non-core to policing work. Others include lack of incentives for police officers to implement it, community policing

existing as a patchwork of largely dysfunctional committees and a few volunteers, and the difficulties in achieving meaningful community empowerment and participation in the programme.

Despite the progress made in rolling out and operationalisation of community policing initiatives across the country, its role in addressing crime and integrating police with communities remain unascertained. Inspite of all these challenges, community policing remains a key approach to how policing is undertaken by the National Police Service. Community Policing is anchored in the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and the NPS Act, 2011 – a legal requirement for the NPS and is considered central to policing in the country. Moreover, most studies on community policing have largely targeted the academic audience. Very few studies exists that speak from a policy persepective and which is important for policy makers and actors in the NPS. Where such studies exist, they are part of donor funded projects and their findings only available to the agencies involved. Such studies are also project specific.

Therefore, research is required to evaluate the impact of community policing in crime management, its contribution in improving community-police relations and factors impeding its effectiveness. The police need to understand how, where, why and how it is working well so that successes can be replicated elsewhere and corrective measures instituted.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study was to evaluate the impact of community policing in crime prevention and management through community-police partnership in Kenya.

1.4.1 Specific Objectives:

1. To examine the effectiveness of community policing in Kenya.
2. To assess the extent to which community policing has contributed to improving community-police relations in Kenya.
3. To evaluate the impact of community policing in crime prevention and management in Kenya.

1.5 Justification of the Study

This study is justified on the basis that the government initiated community policing to help improve police-community relations and strengthen crime prevention and management in the country. The National Task Force on Police Reforms established after the 2007-2008 post-election violence had recommended that community policing should be strengthened, in order to ensure the participation of the public in the provision of the public safety and security. The Constitution of Kenya 2010 recognises this imperative and provides for community policing in Article 244 (e) which requires the National Police Service to foster and promote relationships with the broader society. The National Police Service Act 2011 provides for community policing by establishing Community Policing Committees as one mechanism for operationalizing community policing. The Police Reforms Programme 2015-2018 laid emphasis on the need to strengthen the practice of community policing and *Usalama Msingi* initiative as crime deterrent measures.

This research evaluated the extent to which community policing has contributed to crime prevention in Kenya through improved community-police partnership. Insights from this study will inform policy and strategies in community policing in the country and contribute to an improved policing environment.

In addition, this research seeks to contribute to the existing and growing body of knowledge in the field of community policing in Kenya.

1.6 Scope of the Study

There are different varieties of the community policing as used in public and popular discourses. The focus of this research was on the National Police Service-led community policing as specified in the NPS Act, 2011. This research did not look at community policing projects that are implemented separately by NGOs and CSOs.

The study was undertaken in eleven (11) counties of Nairobi, Mombasa, Machakos, Kisumu, Nakuru, Nyeri, Uasin Gishu, Bungoma, Garissa, Turkana, and Isiolo where community policing programmes have been and are being implemented.

1. 7 Study Limitations

Empirical evidence points outs that impact studies are effective when there is a baseline. One of the limitations of this study was that the National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) did not have a baseline on the state of crime or the relationship between the community and police before this study. The study inferred impact of community policing from conversations and assesments with sample respondents, key informants and focus group discussion respondents.

1. 8 Theoretical Framework

This study was grounded on the Normative Sponsorship Theory

1.8.1 Normative Sponsorship Theory

Normative Sponsorship Theory was developed by Sower, *et., al* (1957). The theory is based on the assumptions that almost all people have a stake in community-ownership and an emotional attachment to cooperation and challenge. It posits that almost all people hold good will and are motivated to increase the quality of life in the community (Trojanowicz, 1992). It explains the philosophical basis of community policing - that a significant number of people have goodwill and that cooperation becomes a necessary factor in building a harmonious community.

Community policing is based on the two (2) assumptions of the normative sponsorship theory that: 1. Most people are more willing to cooperate than to deal with conflict and most people are willing to cooperate in order to accept a challenge, solve a problem, and improve their situation. 2. Most people are willing and motivated to work toward improving the quality of life in their community and neighbourhood (Sower, *et., al*, 1957). The theory argues that a community programme will be supported only if it is normative, "within the limit of established standard" to persons and interest groups involved (Trojanowicz and Dixon, 1974).

The philosophy of community policing is built on the belief that the people deserve and have a say on how their communities are policed in exchange for their involvement and support. The theory hypothesises that most people are of good will and will cooperate with others to facilitate the building of consensus. Therefore, the more the various groups share common values, beliefs, and goals, the more likely it is to agree on common goals.

According to Sower *et al,.* (1957), communities that follow the tenets of the normative sponsorship theory will have a higher likelihood of success. The philosophy of community policing requires that the people and the police work together in a concerted effort to solve community problems. The role of a community police officer is thus that of leader, facilitator, educator, and role model. It means the police departments must give up its power image, and be more cooperative with citizens. Police need more community input, planning and innovative responses in accepting the challenge of community problems. Police must be facilitators of change within the community and act as a catalyst to move citizens to identify and solve their own problems, whenever possible and feasible. Police may serve as a referral system to assist citizens in seeking solutions (Trojanowicz, 1992).

Once the community and the police department begin to develop a colaboration, both parties engage in goal sharing, resulting in a congruent relationship (Trojanowicz and Dixon, 1974). Normative sponsorship theory notes that programmes that challenge the 'sceptics' through involvement, participation, and cooperative action will be more effective than those that are conflict-oriented (Trojanowicz, 1982). Therefore, the police cannot be the only problem solvers and planners in a neighbourhood. An effective police-community relations programme requires a grassroots effort of the police and community working together to form a partnership for a better quality of life.

Community policing originated from the realisation that police will not be able to reduce the levels of crime on their own as they can barely deal with the symptoms of crime and that community involvement is a necessity if the underlying causes of crime are to be removed (Wilson and Kelling, 1989). In essence, it requires that police integrate into society and fully co-operate with the community. It assumes that if police and community work together creatively, it can lead to the solving of problems that may be the underlying causes of crime, fear of crime, dysfunctionality and general urban decay.

Community policing is both a philosophy (a way of thinking) and an organisational strategy (a way of carrying out that philosophy) that allows and enables the police and the community to

work together in solving the problems of crime, disorder and safety issues in order to improve the quality of life for everyone in the community (National Police Service, 2017).

While the Normative Sponsorship Theory offers useful insights into how people respond to authority and messaging based on shared values, it falls short in explaining the complex social, political, and power dynamics that shape community-police relations, especially in marginalised settings such as the informal settlements.

It also ignores coercion and power of the police by assuming that trust in police is based solely on norm alignments. In reality, trust is built (or broken) through daily interactions, historical memory, and policing can be based on fear or state force.
Despite the limitations, the theory can be applied in understanding the dynamics around implementation of community policing initiatives and programmes in Kenya.

CHAPTER TWO: METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the research design of the study, methods and tools of data collection and management, data analysis and ethical considerations.

2.2 Research Design

This study adopted a mixed method research design that integrated both quantitative and qualitative research approaches due to its ability to provide comprehensive insights and permit triangulation of the findings from the point of view of the actors, besides their interpretations and explanations of phenomena. Both primary and secondary data were utilized in this study.

Primary data was drawn from members of the public as sample respondents through a household survey. Key Informant Interviews (KIs), and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) also provided primary data for the study. Secondary review of literature was undertaken on the subject matter of community policing in Kenya and other jurisdictions to augment primary data.

2.3 Sampling of Study Areas and Sample Determination

2.3.1 Study areas

The study was conducted in December 2024 in Nairobi, Mombasa, Machakos, Kisumu, Nakuru, Nyeri, Uasin Gishu, Bungoma, Garissa, Turkana, and Isiolo counties. At the county level, simple random sampling of the sub-counties implementing community policing programmes was undertaken. The study utilised the NPS Directorate of Community Policing data on sub-counties where community policing programmes have been or are being implemented (see table 1 below). These counties were purposively selected to represent different regions of the country, including urban and rural areas, borderland and marginal dynamics. These counties have implemented various forms of community policing programmes and initiatives. Nairobi City County hosted various pilot sites at inception and various community policing programmes in various neighbourhoods, including in Kibera, Ziwani, Kasarani and Kilimani. Isiolo County was among the pilot sites where community policing was implemented. Garissa County was selected to provide an outlook of community policing in a marginal area with dynamics of violent extremism. Turkana County presents dynamism around persistent challenges of inter-intra ethnic

conflicts, cattle rustling and banditry. Mombasa, Machakos, Kisumu, Nakuru, Nyeri, Uasin Gishu, and Bungoma counties were implementing community policing programmes (Directorate of Community Policing, NPS).

Table 2.1: Sub-Counties implementingcommunity policing programmes

	County	**Sub-counties**
1.	Nairobi	▪ Ruaraka ▪ Kasarani ▪ Roysambu ▪ Kibra ▪ Langata ▪ Dagoretti South ▪ Dagoretti North ▪ Makadara ▪ Starehe ▪ Mathare ▪ Embakasi West ▪ Embakasi North ▪ Embakasi East ▪ Embakasi Central ▪ Embakasi South ▪ Kamukunji
2.	Mombasa	▪ Likoni ▪ Changamwe ▪ Nyali ▪ Mvita ▪ Kisauni
3.	Machakos	▪ Mavoko ▪ Machakos Town ▪ Matungulu ▪ Kathiani ▪ Mwala ▪ Kangundo ▪ Yatta
4.	Kisumu	▪ Kisumu West ▪ Kisumu Central ▪ Kisumu East ▪ Muhoroni ▪ Nyando ▪ Seme
5.	Bungoma	▪ Mt Elgon ▪ Kimilili ▪ Webuye West ▪ Webuye East ▪ Tongaren ▪ Sirisia

	County	Sub-counties
		▪ Kanduyi ▪ Bumala ▪ Kabuchai
6.	Nakuru	▪ Gilgil ▪ Nakuru ▪ Rongai ▪ Njoro ▪ Molo ▪ Naivasha ▪ Nakuru East ▪ Nakuru West
7.	Garissa	▪ Garissa Township
8.	Uasin Gishu	▪ Turbo ▪ Kesses ▪ Moiben ▪ Kapseret ▪ Soi ▪ Ainabkoi
9.	Turkana	▪ Turkana Central ▪ Turkana South
10.	Isiolo	▪ Isiolo
11.	Nyeri	▪ Mathira East ▪ Mathira West ▪ Nyeri Central ▪ Mukurweini ▪ Othaya ▪ Tetu ▪ Kieni West ▪ Kieni East

Source: Directorate of Community Policing, NPS data, 2024

2. 3.2 Sample size determination

The sampling unit for the members of the public was the household. A household survey was conducted with adult members of public (18 years and above) drawn randomly in the sub-counties of study. The households were distributed proportionately as per the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census (KNBS,2019). The sampled household provided one adult member (18 years and above) who participated in this study as a sample respondent.

Slovin's formula was used to determine the sample size for the members of the public drawn from the eleven (11) counties.

n = N/(1+(Ne^2) where:

n = target sample

N is the total number of conventional households, e is the margin of error

N=4,423,749, taking a margin of error term of 0.0295 which implies that e^2= 0.000870

n = 4,423,749/ (1+ (4,423,749*0.0295) = 1,149

Table 2.2 below indicates the sample distribution in the study areas.

Table 2.2: Sample distribution

County	Number of households	Sample size
Mombasa	376,295	98
Garissa	138,940	36
Isiolo	53,217	14
Machakos	399,523	104
Nyeri	244,564	64
Turkana	162,627	42
Uasin Gishu	301,110	78
Nakuru	598,237	155
Bungoma	357,714	93
Kisumu	296,846	77
Nairobi City	1,494,676	388
Tota	**4,423,749**	**1,149**

* The number of households is based on the (2019) Kenya Population and Housing Census, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics.

2.3.3 Sampling of key informants and focus group respondents

Stakeholders central to the implementation of community policing programmes in Kenya comprised key informants. Purposive sampling was used to select the key informants and focus group discussants for the study.

The key informants cluster included county police commanders, Officers Commanding Station (OCS), community policing police officers, community policing committee leaders and members, National Government Administrative officers, civil society organisation officials, faith based leaders, local business leaders, community leaders/opinion shapers and special interest

groups (including persons living with disabilities). Key informants were purposively sampled based on their stakes and participation in community policing programmes as indicated in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1 Key Informant respondents category

	Key Informant Respondents Category
1.	County police commanders
2	Officer Commanding Stations
3.	Community policing police officers
4.	Community policing committee members
5.	Community policing committee leaders
6.	Members of community policing forums
8.	National Government Administration Officials (NGAO)
9.	Community leaders/opinion shapers
10.	Civil society organization officials
11.	Business leaders
12.	Faith-based leaders
13.	Special interest groups (including persons living with disability).

Focus group discussion respondents were drawn from the members of the public residing in the sub-counties where community policing programmes had been or were being implemented. Focus group discussion respondents were stratified into two categories comprising youths (18-35years) - young men and women from critical social sub-sectors such as boda boda, matatu, hawkers, and youth groups. The second focus group comprised a mixed group of adults (above 35 years). Focus group respondents were not part of the household survey.

2. 4 Data Collection Methods and Tools

2.4. 1 Methodology workshop

A methodology workshop bringing together subject matter experts on community policing was convened to test the quality of the approach and validity of the tools before the study was rolled out.

2.4. 2 Data collection tools

An interview schedule in digital form uploaded onto computer tablets was used to collect data from the public through a household survey. Key Informants guide and Focus group discussion

guides were utilized to collect data from key informants and focus group respondents, respectively.

2.4.3 Methods of data analysis

Quantitative data was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) while qualitative data was processed thematically along the study objectives through content analysis and interpretation and presented in narrations. The findings of the study are presented thematically using frequency and percentage tables and figures guided by the research objectives. Data for this study was triangulated with information from other sources including secondary literature review on community policing in Kenya and other jurisdictions.

2.5 Ethical Considerations

This study adhered to amongst others, the following ethical considerations:

i. Informed consent was sought from the respondents and sampled institutions before the commencement of the data collection.
ii. Confidentiality was observed during data collection exercise.
iii. Anonymity was observed through anonymous data collection - as no personally identifiable information was collected in the study.
iv. Respect for respondents rights and diversity of opinion, views and experiences was upheld in the course of the study.
v. Research supervisors and research assistants were adequately trained and equipped for the research.

CHAPTER THREE: RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the results of the study from the data collected from questionnaries, interviews, KIIs and FGDs. The quantitative data is presented through frequencies, tables and figures while the qualitative data is presented thematically. It also discusses the results through linkage to relevant literature.

3.2 Socio-demographic characteristics of study respondents

The socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents are presented in Table 3.1 below. A total of 1,117 sample respondents were interviewed out of sample target of 1,149 in this study, representing a response rate of 97.2%. In terms of gender, 51% were female and male respondents were 49%. In regard to age, 44 % of the respondents were aged between 35-51 years, while 32 % were aged between 18-34 years, whereas 24% were aged 52 years and above.

Most of the respondents (71%) were married, 18% were single/never married. On educational level, 40% had secondary level education, 30% had primary level education, and 16% had middle-level college educational attainment. A fair majority of the respondents were literate enough to give informed views on the subject of the study.

In terms of occupational status, 33% were business persons, 18% were in casual/temporary employment in the private sector, 20% were unemployed, while 16% were engaged in subsistence farming.

In terms of length of stay in the locality (study site), most respondents (59%) had stayed in the localities 13 years and above, 10% had stayed for between 1-3 years, while 9% had stayed between 10 - 12 years, 9% between 4 and 6 years, and 8% had stayed for between 7- 9 years, while 5% had stayed for less than a year. This means that most of the respondents had stayed in the study sites long enough to be able to engage on the subject matter of community policing in the localities.

Table 3.1: Socio-demographic characteristics of study respondents

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	542	49
	Female	575	51
	Total	**1117**	**100**
Age	18-34	363	32
	35-51	488	44
	52 and above	266	24
	Total	**1117**	**100**
Marital Status	Single/Never married	199	18
	Married	803	71
	Separated	31	3
	Divorced	20	2
	Widowed	64	6
	Total	**1117**	**100**
Highest Level of Education	None	76	7
	Primary	332	30
	Secondary	450	40
	Middle level College	183	16
	University	61	5
	Adult Literacy	15	2
	Total	**1117**	**100**
Occupation Status	Permanent employment – Private Sector	45	4
	Permanent employment – Public Sector	52	5
	Casual/temporary employment- private sector	200	18
	Casual/temporary employment- public sector	38	3
	Business person	366	33
	Subsistence farming	182	16
	unemployed	228	20
	Other	6	1
	Total	**1117**	**100**
Length of stay in the locality (study site)	Below 1 year	52	5
	1-3 years	113	10
	4 - 6 years	102	9
	7- 9 years	85	8
	10 - 12 years	103	9
	13 years and above	662	59
	Total	**1117**	**100**

3.3 Effectiveness of Community Policing

3.3.1 Perceptions of safety in the localities

The study sought to gauge respondents' perceptions and experiences of safety in the localities. It established that nearly half of the respondents perceived their communities to be unsafe. When asked if they felt safe in their localities, 57% of the respondents said they felt safe, while 43% said they did not feel safe in the localities. In terms of gendered disaggregation of perceptions of safety, 60% of the male respondents indicated feeling safe in the community, whereas 55% of females felt safe. On the other hand, 40% of males felt unsafe, while more females (45%) felt unsafe in the localities as indicated in Table 3.2 below. The study proceeded on the assumption that where a high percentage of the respondents felt unsafe, it was likely that this would translate into how they perceived the police and policing.

It was also important to understand which demographics felt most unsafe. The finding on more females feeling unsafe than men is in tandem with other research studies that found out more women than men often feel unsafe due to a combination of social, cultural, and structural factors that increase their vulnerability to crime, harassment, and violence (Fox, et al., 2009). Women face a greater risk of sexual assault, domestic violence, and harassment in both private and public spaces. Fox, et al., (2009) hold that women are more likely than men to be victims of all types of crimes, including vicarious victimisation, theft, sexual assault, stalking, intimate partner violence, physical assault and family violence - including physical and psychological abuse, neglect, and witnessing family violence. A female respondent from the youth focus group discussion observed that women face increased crime threats at home and in workplaces:

> *"Women in Kenya are increasingly becoming victims of crime in places that used to be safe like homes – from attacks by intimate partners, relatives and neighbours. Women have also taken on other responsibilities like fending for their families late at night in both formal and informal workplaces, and they equally have to travel very early in the mornings to the market places and as result face increasing dangers of attacks by criminals."*

Table 3.2: Perception on safety

Response on perceptions of safety in the locality	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Yes	57%	60%	55%
No	43%	40%	45%

When the respondents who said they felt unsafe were prompted for reasons, they gave the following: 94% pointed out that crime was rampant in their localities, 62% said police were not responsive to distress calls or when crimes are reported, 49% cited corruption among rogue police officers, 49% indicated illicit brews and drug abuse was on the rise in the localities, 39% said limited/restricted movement of people at night was a factor, 32% blamed lack of streetlights to insecurity, 23% complained about rise in criminal gangs, 20% fear of retaliation from criminals when they report cases among other issues as highlighted in Table 3.3 below. When a majority of community members feel unsafe and hold that the police are non responsive, it signals serious challenges for policing and community's well-being. Ayiera (2015) study noted low citizen confidence in the police, with residents asserting the police as largely unavailable to serve the public or curb crime. This suggests eroded public trust in law enforcement and can lead to reluctance by the community to cooperate with law enforcement officers. Gjelsvik (2020) holds that effective cooperation between the police and the public requires that the police enjoy a certain minimum level of trust among the population.

Table 3.3: Reasons for feeling unsafe in the localities

Response on reasons for feeling unsafe in the localities	Percent of Cases		
	Total	Male	Female
Crime is rampant	94%	93%	94%
Police unresponsive to distress calls or when crimes are reported	62%	36%	30%
Corruption among rogue police officers (demand bribes)	49%	61%	62%
Illicit brews and drug abuse is on the rise	49%	18%	16%
Limited/restricted movement of people at night	39%	50%	49%
lack of streetlights	32%	27%	22%
Rise in criminal gangs and their activities	23%	50%	49%
Fear of retaliation from criminals when they report cases	20%	3%	1%
Many unresolved crime cases in the locality	19%	1%	1%
Increased cases of recidivism especially for petty crimes	13%	30.0%	18%
Absence of police station	9%	9%	9%

Response on reasons for feeling unsafe in the localities	Percent of Cases		
	Total	Male	Female
Frequent blackouts occasioning increase in crimes	8%	5%	0%
Fear of retaliation from the criminal's family	6%	23%	15%
Kidnappings of school children	3%	17%	14%
Rivalry among some clans which jeopardizes security	3%	15%	11%
Local community is hostile to people from other counties	2%	10%	4%
Rogue village elders collaborating with criminals in the localities	2%	3%	2%
Many cases of mob justice in the area	1%	2%	1%
Reported cases of dead bodies found in dumping sites in the locality	1%	1%	1%

3.3.2 Public awareness levels of community policing

The study had also set to find out if the respondents were familiar with community policing approach in the localities. From the findings, 56% of the respondents said they were familiar with community policing approach, while 43% said they were somewhat familiar with it, whereas 1% were not familiar with community policing.

The respondents were as also asked if they were aware of any community policing initiatives in their localities. From the findings, 99% of the respondents indicated awareness of community policing initiatives in the localities, while 1% reported that they were not aware of any community policing initiatives.

Respondents who indicated awareness, mentioned the following as examples of community policing initiatives and activities in their localities: The majority, 94% mentioned Nyumba Kumi-related activities, 72% cited community policing-related public forums and barazas, 57% cited focused police foot patrols in the neighbourhoods, 53% named alternative dispute resolution interventions, 48% mentioned community policing-related *Kazi Kwa Vijana* initiatives, 36% cited gender-based violence desks and units, 34% cited environmental programmes, 32% mentioned youth group empowerments initiatives/activities, 31% cited community crime awareness programmes, 30% mentioned community policing committees activities, 29% pointed out the use of technology and social media (including WhatsApp groups, Fichua App and police hotlines), 28% cited community policing forums, 26% named child protection units/desks, 25% mentioned religious crusades against crimes, and 16% cited community crime reporting forums among many others as shown in Table 3.4 below. The

finding where majority mentioned Nyumba Kumi-related activities as a key community policing initiative has implications for NPS-led community policing strategy. There is often a tendency to confuse Nyumba Kumi and NPS-led Community Policing which were originally distinct concepts with overlaps. Both aim to reduce crime and improve security, but Nyumba Kumi is a strategy of anchoring community policing at the household level or any other generic cluster - more about community self-vigilance, whereas the NPS-led Community Policing involves structured collaboration with law enforcement. Nyumba Kumi has since been integrated into the NPS-led Community Policing. From the findings of the study, it is likely that many Kenyans are unaware of these structural differences and integration of the two approaches. From the key informant interviews and focus group discussions, Nyumba Kumi resonates well with many citizens as it operates at the household and neighbourhood level, making it more relatable to the citizens.

In addition, the Kenyan government actively endorsed and promoted Nyumba Kumi as a key security strategy since its launch in 2013 unlike the community policing that has been inconsistently implemented since its launch in 2005. A Deputy County Commissioner from Machakos county contends that Nyumba Kumi was more effective than NPS community policing:

> *"My honest opinion as a National Government Administrative Officer is that Nyumba Kumi was more effective than the community policing run by our counterparts in the National Police Service. Members of the public are more comfortable reporting crime challenges to NGAO directly than to the police for obvious reasons."*

A police officer from Isiolo county reiterated that implementation of community policing has been inconsistent over the years:

> *"The NPS community policing is in terminal decline. Truth be told, implementation of community policing has been left at the discretion of the station commanders. If you visit police stations in this county, you will encounter instances where some have active community policing programmes, yet others don't. It all depends whether the Officer Commanding Station sees value in it."*

Such viewpoints reflect realities on the ground with regards to implementation of the NPS-led Community policing and Nyumba Kumi. This typifies how policy implementation overlaps and oversights can affect the implementation of critical initiatives such as community policing. There is imperative need for concerted multi-agency framework to sensitise NGAO and NPS officials and the general public on implementation of community policing strategy at the grassroots.

The implication for policy is that communities may expect Nyumba Kumi to handle serious security issues, leading to frustration when crimes in certain contexts require police intervention. This has the potential to create security coordination gaps. According to Gjelsvik (2020), Nyumba Kumi and Community policing models have not been properly grounded locally. The existence of the two community policing models implemented by different actors at the same time has created some confusion and tension as the two models partly conflict.

Table 3.4: Community policing initiatives and activities in the localities

Community policing initiatives and activities	Total	Male	Female
	Percent of Cases	Percent of Cases	Percent of Cases
Nyumba Kumi-related activities	94%	94%	95%
Community policing-related public forums and barazas	72%	71%	73%
Focused police foot patrols in the neighbourhoods	57%	57%	57%
Alternative dispute resolution interventions	53%	52%	54%
Community policing related-Kazi Kwa Vijana initiatives	48%	44%	51%
Gender based violence desks and units	36%	32%	40%
Environmental programmes	34%	37%	31%
Youth group empowerments initiatives/activities	32%	33%	30%
Community crime awareness programmes	31%	33%	30%
Community policing committees activities	30%	38%	23%
Use of technology and social media (such as Fichua App and police hotlines)	29%	31%	28%
Community policing forums	28%	33%	24%
Child protection units/desks	26%	25%	28%
Religious crusades against crimes	25%	26%	24%
Community crime reporting forums	16%	16%	15%
Residential welfare groups	15%	17%	14%
Community child wellness programmes	14%	12%	16%
Guidance and counseling programmes	13%	11%	15%
Circulation of security advisories	11%	13%	10%

Community policing initiatives and activities	Total	Male	Female
	Percent of Cases	Percent of Cases	Percent of Cases
Scholarships to reduce illiteracy	11%	10%	12%
Health support programmes	10%	11%	9%
Community initiatives against drug abuse	9%	10%	7%
Crime and violence prevention trainings	8%	9%	7%
Police-community games (football matches etc)	8%	10%	6%
Peace caravans	8%	8%	7%
Community volunteered arrest of criminals	8%	9%	7%
Relief food programmes	8%	8%	8%
Women empowerment programmes	8%	6%	9%
Community-police sporting events	7%	10%	5%
Youth crisis intervention programmes	7%	8%	6%
Street lighting initiatives	6%	6%	6%
Erecting fences around homesteads	6%	6%	6%
Crime mapping and record keeping	5%	5%	4%
Erecting gates within community residences and sanctioning opening and closing hours	5%	4%	5%
Talent shows and exhibition programmes	4%	4%	3%
Joint Community-police patrols	4%	4%	3%
Academic days	3%	4%	2%
Crime evaluation surveys	3%	3%	3%
ICT hubs	3%	3%	2%
Community life-skills training programmes	3%	3%	3%
Groups and community-based organisations formed and addressing community policing initiatives	3%	3%	3%
Religious crusades against GBV and drug abuse	3%	4%	3%
Rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-convicts	2%	2%	2%
Police-community open days	2%	2%	2%
Victim support programmes	2%	2%	2%
Community-police sponsored medical camps	2%	1%	2%
Community policing initiative on door-to-door enrolment of elders for social protection fund	2%	1%	2%
Crime prevention road shows	1%	1%	2%
Cultural network programmes	1%	0%	1%
Contributing cash to pay or motivate community-led security groups	1%	1%	0%

From the findings in Table 3.4 above, respondents referred to many initiatives and activities that they linked to community policing but clearly are not. Many people confuse community policing initiatives with other government programmes such as youth empowerment projects by the National and County governments like *Kazi Mtaani, Kazi Kwa Vijana* and environmental programmes due to several reasons. The respondents assumed that all government-led local initiatives are connected. Some of the government projects involve security aspects, making it easy for the people to mix them up. This overlap made some to assume all these initiatives are part of community policing. Focus group discussion respondents in Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu, Turkana and Garissa concurred that most community members to do have the requisite information and grounding on the difference between community policing Nyumba Kumi and other government programmes that have security and development components for example, peace building committees. In addition, citizens expect to derive direct monetary benefits from community policing initiatives.

A focus group discussion respondent in Garissa said that local community members lack awareness on community policing and Nyumba Kumi approaches and how they can participate in the initiatives:

> *"People in the villages lack information on what community policing or Nyumba Kumi seeks to achive. Some think it is spying on the community; others think it is a source of employment; yet others perceive it to be any local initiatives by the government with a component related to security, youth empowerment or development. If people don't understand the very objective of community policing it means they will not be effectively engaged in it."*

Japan's neighbourhood watch community policing success is attributed to volunteerism-collectivist mindset where people feel responsible for one another's safety, trust in police and public institutions and emphasis on community harmony and mutual respect (Hera, 2024).

It is imperative for a policy framework to educate citizens that community policing is a civic duty and not a paid job**.** It should also explain how community policing collaborates with other government programmes but remains distinct.

Photo 1: Community policing meeting in Wajir County

3.3.3 Citizen participation in community policing

When respondents were asked whether they participated in community policing initiatives and activities, 63% affirmed participation, while 37% said they had not participated in any community policing initiatives. More males than females participated in community policing initiatives as indicated in Table 3.5 below.

Table 3.5: Citizen participation in community policing

Response on participation in community policing initiatives and activities	**Total** (%)	**Male** (%)	**Female** (%)
Yes	63%	69%	57%
No	37%	31%	43%

Respondents who affirmed participation in community policing initiatives reported involvement in the following initiatives: 65% in Nyumba Kumi-related activities, 44% in community policing barazas, 38% in community crime awareness programmes, 27% in community policing forums, 19% in community policing committees, 19% in alternative dispute resolutions, 16% in environmental conservation programmes, 14% in women empowerment programmes, 14% in community led-Kazi Kwa Vijana

initiatives, 14% in religious crusade against crime, 13% in community-police patrols. Some 12% were involved in Gender-Based Violence Committee, and 12% in Residential Welfare Groups among other initiatives and activities as indicated in Table 3.6 below.

Table 3.6: Community policing initiatives and activities

Community policing initiatives and activities	Percent of Cases
Nyumba Kumi-related activities	65%
Community policing barazas	44%
Community crime awareness programmes	38%
Community policing forums	27%
Community policing committees	19%
Alternative dispute resolutions	19%
Environmental conservation programmes	16%
Women empowerment programmes	14%
Community led-Kazi Kwa Vijana initiatives	14%
Religious crusade against crime	14%
Community-police patrols	13%
Gender-Based Violence Committee	12%
Residential welfare groups	12%
Community advocacy on child wellness programmes (vaccination and immunisation)	11%
Community advocacy initiatives against drug abuse	10%
Peace caravans	8%
Crime and violence prevention trainings	7%
Community-police sporting events	6%
Community mobilisation of children to attend schools	6%
Child protection and security awareness programme	5%
Community advocacy on student scholarships	5%
Guidance and Counseling programmes for school dropouts	4%
Joint community-police environmental tree-planting programmes	3%
Securing gates in residential areas by strictly observing closing and opening at designated hours	3%
Farmers empowerment initiatives	2%
Police-community open days	1%
Crime awareness and safety road shows	1%
Joint community-police neighbourhood cleanup days	1%
Street children rescue initiatives	1%

3.4 Impact of Community Policing in Crime Prevention and Management

3.4.1 Achievements of community policing

The study established that despite of some misgivings about the police, respondents indicated that community policing had achieved the following in their areas: Reduced fear of crime (66%), led to better understanding of local community needs (55%), increased public awareness of security and crime issues (54%), improved crime detection and prevention (50%), enhanced active citizen participation in crime reporting (49%). Others were, strengthened local cohesion (47%), promoted resolution of petty offences through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms (41%), improved police visibility (40%), reduced drug abuse and criminal activities among the youth (22%), and enhanced closer police-community ties/working frameworks to address security concerns (19%) among others as enumerated in Table 3.7. The implications of these findings is that positive accolades of community policing can be replicated elsewhere. A participant from the adult focus group discussion forum in Kisumu confirmed that community policing had indeed addressed crime challenges in their neighbourhood when Nyumba Kumi initiative were vibrant:

> *"I come from Obunga informal settlement that was once riddled with crimes. We could not venture out of our houses from 7pm, but since the time we implemented Nyumba Kumi in liaison with chiefs and police, crime dissipated. No stranger would pass by or reside in our estate without the knowledge of community members. We are now beginning to witness a resurgence of crimes because Nyumba Kumi is not as active and vibrant like it was before."*

Table 3.7: Achievements of community policing

Achievements of community policing	Percent of Cases
Reduced fear of crime	66%
Better understanding of local community needs	55%
Increased public awareness of security and crime issues	54%
Improved crime prevention and detection	50%
Enhanced active citizen participation in crime reporting	49%
Strengthened local cohesion	47%
Promoted resolution of petty offences through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms	41%
Improved police visibility (through regular patrols)	40%

Achievements of community policing	Percent of Cases
Reduced drug abuse and criminal activities among the youth	22%
Closer police-community ties/working frameworks to address security concerns	19%
Reduced drug trafficking in the locality	19%
Enhanced trust between police and the community	18%
Assisted in getting school dropouts to rejoin schools	17%
Improved quality of community life	14%
Enhanced environmental conservation through community-Kazi kwa Vijana Initiatives	14%
Increased school enrollment	13%
Increased information-flow due to improved communication between community members and the police	8%
Utilization of informers in addressing community security issues	8%
Crackdown on illicit brewing dens	7%
Improved police accountability	6%
Improved police efficiency	6%
Facilitated real-time feedback between community members and Police Officers	6%
Improved the relationship between the local community and the NGAO officials	5%
Led to formation of community watchdog teams	4%
Boosted business by creating a safer environment	4%
Reduced Gender Based Violence cases in the locality	4%
Addressed food insecurity through relief food programme	3%
Increased police legitimacy	2%

From the above findings on the achievements of community policing, the paradox is where citizens applaud the positive contributions of community policing as a crime-fighting strategy but still have low trust in the police. This can be explained through several interconnected factors. While people may recognise the benefits of community policing, their lived experiences with law-enforcement may still be negative. Issues such as police brutality, corruption, and delayed response to incidents undermine public trust, even when community policing initiatives exist (Mutahi et al., 2024). Citizens may be hesitant to fully engage with the police in community-led security initiatives, despite seeing the value in such initiatives. Moreover, decades of long-standing strained police-community relations and distrust may not easily be erased, even with some positive achievements of community policing efforts.

3.4.2 The role of community policing in addressing crime

When the respondents were asked about their level of 'agreement' on whether community policing had reduced crime in their localities, 69% agreed that it had addressed crime, 25% disagreed, while 6% were not sure whether community policing had addressed crimes in the localities as highlighted in figure 3.1. This positive feedback suggests that police and community can work together to prevent and reduce crimes. There is thus an imperative for the NPS to continue investing and improving community policing based on this public feedback so that successes can be replicated elsewhere. Indeed, this finding affirming that community policing had reduced crimes is in tandem with the practice in other jurisdictions where policing and law enforcement agencies are adopting community-based policing approaches in addressing crime and violence.

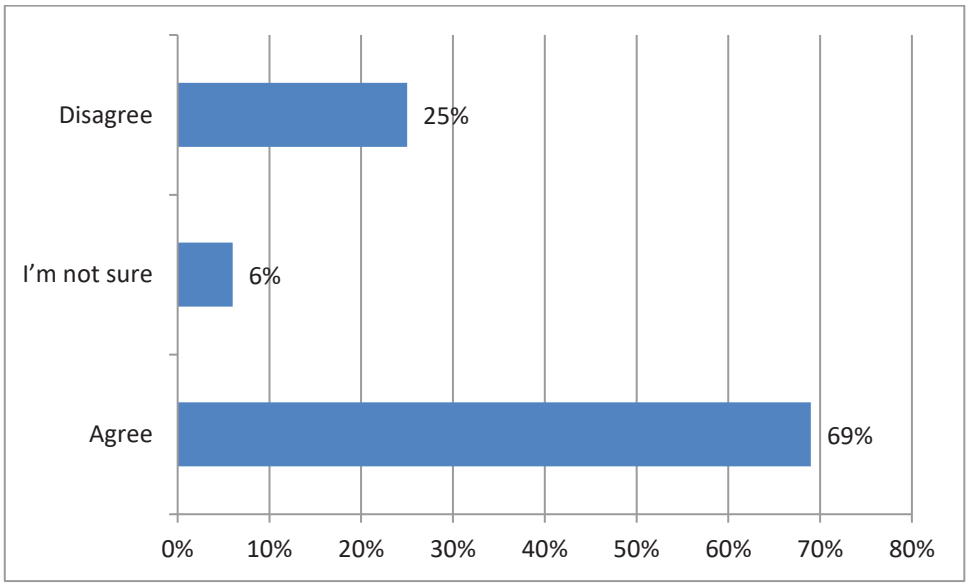

Figure 3.1: Community policing addressing crime

The 25% of the respondents who disagreed were asked to give reasons as to why community policing had not led to reduction in crime in their areas. The following were the reasons adduced: 91% said crime was still rampant in their localities, 81% attributed it to corruption among rogue law enforcement officers, 53% ascribed it to low levels of awareness of the community policing concept. Some 44% said criminal groups still exists in the localities, 36% pointed out inadequate resources to implement community policing initiatives, 36% said some police officers are incompetent, 35% attributed it to the reluctance by police to respond to their security needs, and 34% aver that people fear the police, 33% said people do not report crimes to police, 30%

attributed it to poor community participation in community policing initiatives, and 19% attributed it to corruption among some Nyumba Kumi officials as indicated in Table 3.8 below. The implication of these findings is that there is need to address the issues negatively affecting the noble community policing approach.

Table 3.8: Why community policing has not reduced crimes

Why community policing has not reduced crimes	Percent of Cases
Crime is still rampant in the area	91%
Some police officers are corrupt	81%
Low levels of awareness of community policing concept	53%
Criminal groups still exist in the areas (vigilantes, militia)	44%
Inadequate resources to implement community policing initiatives	36%
Some police officers are incompetent	36%
Non-responsiveness by some police officers to community security needs	35%
People fear the police	34%
People don't report crimes to police	33%
Poor community participation in community policing	30%
Some Nyumba Kumi officials are corrupt	19%
Nyumba Kumi members are not proactive	15%
Inaction by community policing officials on reported matters	13%

3.4.3 Issues for redress by community policing in the localities

The study had also sought to find out from respondents what issues community policing should address in their localities. When asked what they thought community policing should address, the respondents stated the following issues: Creation of job opportunities (65%), improving community-police relationship (53%), preventing illicit alcohol abuse and substance trafficking (50%), improving police accountability (43%), enhancing community participation in prioritisation of security needs (43%), instilling professionalism in the police service (35%). Others were public sensitization and awareness on crime and security issues (33%), enhancing alternative dispute resolution mechanisms (21.0%), improving police response during crises (21%), addressing witness protection issues (20%), addressing moral decadence in the community (16%), addressing GBV issues (15%), environmental hygiene (15%), promoting

cohesion and integration (12%), and addressing high school drop out rates (10%) as highlighted in Table 3.9 below.

Table 3.9: Issues for redress by community policing

What should community policing address in the localities	Percent of Cases
Assist in creating job opportunities	65.0%
Improve community-police relationship	53%
Prevent illicit alcohol, drugs and substance trafficking and abuse	50%
Improve police accountability	43%
Enhance community participation in prioritisation of security needs	43%
Instil professionalism in the police service	35%
Public sensitisation and awareness on crime and security issues	33%
Enhance alternative dispute resolution mechanisms	21%
Improve police response during crises and critical situations	21%
Address witness protection	20%
Address social and moral decadence in the community	16%
Address Gender-Based Violence (GBV) cases	15%
Deal with environmental hygiene	15%
Promote cohesion and integration among community members	12%
Address high school dropout rates	10%
Address security- related infrastructural challenges such as lack of street lights and roads	10%
Contribute to peaceful coexistence among community members	10%
Poor youth-police relationship	10%
Women protection and empowerment	9%
Address favouritism among community policing committees	9%
Rehabilitation of drug addicts and ex-convicts	8%
Vocational training sponsorships for youth to deter crime	8%
Address coordination problems in community policing	8%
Promote youth empowerment initiatives	8%
Encroachment on road reserve by makeshift stalls and buildings that harbour criminals	7%
Address protection of victims of crime	6%
Prioritise training of community policing members	4%
Security of community policing members	3%
Prioritise the construction of a police stations	3%
Address equitable distribution of resources among communities	3%
Enhance police patrols and visibility	3%
Juvenile delinquency	1%
Address rampant rape and defilement cases	1%

When people say community policing should create job opportunities as a priority, it suggests a misunderstanding of its core purpose. Community policing is not a job creation programme but rather a collaborative approach to crime prevention and public safety. However, such viewpoints may be pointers to deeper social and economic challenges in the communities. Community members may view community policing as a government-driven initiative rather than a shared responsibility between the police and the public. As a consequence, many expect direct benefits, such as employment or financial rewards. A youth from Nyeri focus group discussion forum pointed out that young people think community policing is source of employment to do community security work:

> *"My expectation and that of a lot of young people around Kenya is that we want community policing/nyumba to be a source of paid work for young people. A lot of young people are not engaged in these probono initiatives because of the expectation of monetary rewards. The challenge is how the government will get the buy-in of my peers into these initiatives."*

3.5 Community-Police Relationship

3.5.1 Initiatives to promote police-community relationship

This study profiled various community policing initiatives put in place to promote police-community cooperation. The highest ranked was 67% community-police hotlines, mobile phone contacts, WhatsApp groups for sharing information, 33% regular police patrols in the neighbourhoods, 33% Nyumba Kumi-police focal persons, 27% community volunteers to share information, 27% joint-community-police public *barazas*, 17% suggestion boxes. Others were 17% joint security/peace caravans, and 13% police-community hosted events (football matches, medical camps) amongst others as highlighted in Table 3.10. Modern technological approaches such as the use WhatsApp groups, mobile phone contacts and sharing of police hotlines with community members can significantly improve communication, coordination and response time to incidents.

Table 3.10: Initiatives to promote police-community relationship

Initiatives to promote police-community relationship	Percent of Cases
Community-police hotlines, mobile phone contacts, WhatsApp groups	67%
Regular police patrols in the neighbourhoods	33%
Nyumba Kumi-police focal persons	33%
Community volunteers to share information	27%
Joint community-police public barazas	21%
Suggestion boxes	17%
Joint community-police security/peace caravans	17%
Police-hosted community events (football matches, medical camps)	13%
Police-community open-days	3%
Interventions by NGOs to enhance community-police relationship	3%
Joint Police-NGAO -youth environmental conservation initiatives	2%
Police officers renting residential houses in the neighbourhoods	2%
The community volunteers to arrest criminals	1%

A resident of Nairobi from one of the informal settlements during the adult focus group discussion echoed public mistrust and strained police-community relations over the years despite collaborative efforts such as community policing:

> *"The truth of the matter is that the community does not and will never trust police in Kenya. Our lived experiences with corrupt, violent and abusive law enforcement officials has been negative.We are very careful in our engagements in nyumba Kumi activities. It is also a personal risk because community members view participation in community policing as spying on the community. Ad hoc joint activities between community and police will never repair or change the tainted police image in our psyche."*

3.5.2 Rating community-police relations

When respondents were asked to rate community-police relationships in their areas, 32% rated the relationship as average, 30% rated it as good; 29% rated it poor, 5% rated it as very poor, whereas only 4.0% rated the relationship as excellent as shown in Table 3.11.

Table 3.11: Community-police ralationship ratings

Rating	Total %	Male %	Female %
Excellent	4%	5%	2%
Good	30%	30%	31%
Average	32%	32%	32%
Poor	29%	27%	30%
Very poor	5%	7%	4%

Further, respondents who rated community-police relationship positively (that is excellent, good or average), were asked in what ways it had enhanced cooperation between police and the community in the localities. The following were the responses: 77% said it had improved reporting of crime and incidents, 72% stated that it enhanced information/intelligence sharing, 61% posit that it led to involvement of members of the community in prioritisation of their security needs, and 53% said it contributed to active participation of the community in addressing crime risk factors in their neighbourhoods. Some 41% said it contributed to community arresting and handing over criminals to the police, 34% felt it led to the reduction of complaints against police, 22% said it enhanced openness and transparency in the police service, 18% said it increased community confidence towards the police, 16% cited prompt response by police to citizen's complaints, and 15% asserted that it led to participation of non-state actors in crime management and prevention as highlighted in Table 3.12 below.

Table 3.12: Community policing role in community-police cooperation

How community policing enhanced community-police cooperation	Percent of Cases
Improved reporting of crime and incidents	77%
Enhanced information/intelligence sharing	72%
Involvement of members of the community in prioritisation of their security needs	61%
Active participation of community in addressing crime-risk factors in the neighbourhoods	53%
Community arresting and handing over criminals to the police	41%
Reduced complaints against the police	34%
Enhanced openness and transparency in the police service	22%
Increased community confidence levels in the police	18%
Led to prompt response by police to citizen's complaints	16%

How community policing enhanced community-police cooperation	Percent of Cases
Participation of non-state (NGOs, civil society and religious groups) actors in crime management and prevention	15%
Enhanced public safety in the community	7%
Facilitated cooperation between police and NGAO	6%
Facilitated recognition and celebration of excellent police officers supporting the community	1%

3.5.3 Community policing influence on public trust in the National Police Service

This study also sought to gauge how community policing had influenced citizens' level of trust in the National Police Service. When asked how community policing had influenced their level of trust in the police, 50% of the respondents said it had not influenced their trust, 33% said it had increased their trust in police, while 17% said it had reduced their trust in the police. When citizen participation in community policing does not influence their trust in the police positively- may be a pointer to deeper systemic issues in policing that go beyond just mere community engagements with the police. The National Task Force on Police Reforms (2009) found out that the police was perceived by many Kenyans as a coercive instrument of the State that served the narrow political and business interest of the elite. The community largely remained suspicious of police intentions and many regarded cooperation with police as a betrayal of friends or the community.

There conceivably could still be deep-seated issues in the NPS that continue to shape public perceptions of the police that go beyond simple participation in community policing activities and initiatives.

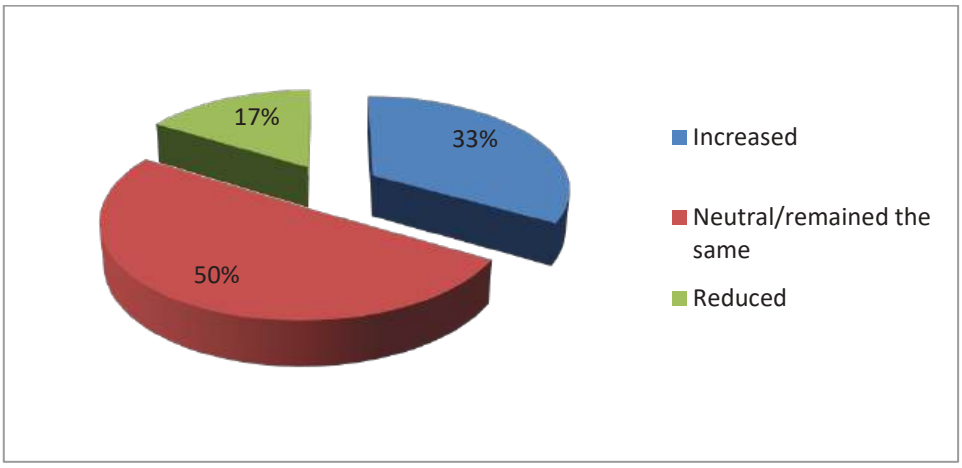

Figure 3.2: Influence of community policing on public trust

3.5.4 Complaints against the police

The study sought to find out the complaints citizens had against the police. Asked if there were any complaints against the police in their localities, (69%) affirmed there were complaints, while (31%) said there were no complaints against the police. More male respondents (72%) affirmed there were complaints against the police compared to (67%) of female respondents.

Table 3.12: Existence of complaints against the police

Response	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Yes	69%	72%	67%
No	31%	28%	33%

The respondents, who affirmed that there were complaints against the police in their localities were asked to provide the specific complaints. The following were the complaints that respondents had against the police. 82% ranked corruption top, 65% cited delayed response to distress calls and emergencies, 51% pointed out police harassment and intimidation, 50% mentioned cases of some police officers releasing criminals back into the community in unclear and compromised terms. Some 38% complained about unlawful arrests and detentions, 25% complained about limited police visibility (lack of regular police patrols), 24% complained about abuse of police power, 22% cited minimal police interactions with local community members, 20% was on police inaction on reported crimes, 21% complaint on police brutality and excessive use of force, 17% complained against police favouritism and discrimination in discharge of duty,

15% was on extortion of the vulnerable by rogue police officers, 14% complained against lack of confidentiality on information/intelligence shared by community members to the police, and 13% complained against police involvement in criminal activities such as kidnappings and abductions among others as highlighted in Table 3.13 below.

The National Task Force on Police Reforms (2009) pointed out corruption, impunity, lack of accountability, arrogance and hostility as among the most significant and most-enduring challenges affecting delivery of police service to civilians in Kenya and souring the relationship between police officers and civilians. These findings have significant implications for the challenges facing implementation of community policing in the country. Mutual trust and cooperation between the police and the public is fundamental to the success of police-community partnerships.

According to the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, various National Ethics and Corruption surveys in 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, have all ranked the police as the most prone to corruption among Government Departments and Agencies (EACC, 2021; 2022; 2023; & 2024).

If citizens perceive the police as biased, corrupt, unresponsive, or abusive, this erodes public trust in law enforcement. The public in turn withdraws its cooperation, making crime prevention less effective. In addition, citizens may view community policing as a government tool to control them rather than a genuine partnership for public safety.

Table 3.13: Complaints against the police

Specific complaints against the police	Percent of Cases
Corruption	82%
Delayed response to distress calls and emergencies	65%
Harassment and intimidation	51%
Rogue police officers colluding with criminals	50%
Unlawful arrests and detentions	38%
Limited police visibility (lack of regular police patrols)	25%
Abuse of police power	24%
Police brutality and excessive use of force	21%
Favouritism and discrimination in discharge of duty	17%
Extortion of the vulnerable by rogue police officers	15%
Lack of confidentiality on information/intelligence shared by community members to the police	14%

Specific complaints against the police	Percent of Cases
Involvement in criminal activities such as kidnappings and abductions	13%
Human rights abuses and violations	11%
Rogue police officers frame and plant contrabands on people such as drugs etc	3%
Misuse of fire arms	2%
Extra-judicial acts	2%
Police posts lacking police personnel to attend to community needs	2%

There was also convergence from focus group discussions in nearly all the counties of the study that corruption among rogue police officers was a major issue of concen to citizens in the country.

A focus group discussion participant in Nairobi decried impunity by rogue police officers on matters corruption:

> *"..Something radical needs to be done. You travel on the roads and are taken aback by the sheer impunity of traffic police officers routinely collecting Ksh.50…or Ksh…100… from matatus so openly that I wonder if it is in their job description. In addition, the level of impunity of rogue officers extorting bribes from people, bars and other businesses is alarming to say the least!."*

3.5.5 Persons/groups/categories of community members with strained relationship with the police

The study respondents pointed out that the following persons, groups and categories of community members had a difficult relationship with the police: Youth (59%), boda boda operators (26%), business community (22%), men (14%), *Matatu* public transport operators (10%), victims of crime (8%), women (4%), informers (4%) as enumerated in Table 3.14. The police having a difficult relationship with sections of the public such as youth, businessmen, boda boda riders, *matatu* operators, informers, victims of crime, has serious ramifications for community policing, crime prevention, and overall public safety for the country. IPOA (2013) study established that despite fair levels of awareness on the concept of community policing, only 7% of the public reported participation in community policing, while 39% of the public indicated non-participation for fear of being harassed by the police. Several factors influence

improving police-community relations, including historical contexts, recent events, social dynamics and individual interactions. If these groups feel violated, harassed, extorted, or unfairly treated by the police, they will not collaborate in crime prevention efforts (IPOA, 2013). These groups have a crucial stake in national security, and their cooperation is vital for effective policing.

Table 3.14: Persons with a strained relationship with the police

People/groups/categories of community members with a strained relationship with the police	Percent of Cases
Youth	59%
Boda boda operators	26%
Business community	22%
Men	14%
Matatu public transport actors	10%
Victims of crime	8%
Women	4%
Informers (who pass information/intelligence to police)	4%
Hawkers	2%
Refugees	2%
Immigrants	2%
Street families	2%
Human right groups/civil society	1%
Minority religious groups	1%
Majority tribes	1%
Minority tribes	1%

The study respondents were also asked to specify the issues or complaints leading to the strained relationship with the police. It was reported that youth are profiled as criminals (74%), Boda boda, *matatu* operators and hawkers are harassed unnecessarily (28%), extortion of businesses by rogue police officers (22%), random profiling, harassing, arresting persons of males compared to females (17%), arbitrary police swoops targeting youth (10%), *matatu* operators decrying bribery by rogue police officers (9%), harassment of business owners by rogue police officers (8%), demands for bribes from person profiled as ‘‘suspects’’ by rogue police officers (8%), lack of confidentiality of information/intelligence shared by informers to police (7%), and delayed police response to distress calls (5%) among others reasons as indicated in the Table 3.15 below.

Youth focus group discussions highlighted the general challenges of youth-profiling, youth-targeting, over-policing, blanket swoops and generalised condemnation of young people as likely 'suspects' or 'criminals' in urban and rural areas. Youths decried being stereotyped as criminals by law enforcement officers, leading to unfair arrests, harassment and brutality. Whereas young people are over-represented in penal institutions compared to other population-age cohorts for various reasons, such generalised profiling, targeting and condemnation put them at odds with law enforcement. There is a need for a paradigm shift in the strained relationship between law enforcement and young people, given the fact that they constitute the biggest percentage of Kenya's population. This has implications for policing strategies for the country. A youth from Mombasa highlighted the challenges young people go through at the hands of law enforcement officers:

> *"Mombasa and the coastal region, in general have faced challenges of youth gangs and radicalisation. It is almost criminal to be a youth at the coast, because you are likely to be profiled and arrested as a criminal if found out in the streets at night. It is common knowledge that not all young people are criminals. Such profiling keep young people at odds with security officers. We have a lot of information on criminals, but we are very reluctant to share this with law enforcement officials, lest we are victimised along the way."*

Table 3.15: Complaints from persons with difficult relationships with the police

Complaints leading to difficult relations with the police	Percent of Cases
Youths are profiled as criminals	74%
Boda boda, matatu operators and hawkers are unnecessary harassed	28%
Extortion of businesses (for bribes) by rogue police officers	22%
Random profiling, harassing, arresting more males compared to females	17%
Arbitrary police swoops targeting youth	10%
Matatu and boda boda operators decry bribe demands from police	9%
Habitual harassment of business owners by rogue police officers	8%
Demands for bribes from person profiled as ''suspects''by rogue police officers	8%
Lack of confidentiality of information/intelligence shared by informers to police	7%
Delayed police response to distress calls	5%
Matatu touts are thought to be and profiled as likely criminals	3%
Some business persons are 'suspected' to collaborate with criminals in this locality	3%

Complaints leading to difficult relations with the police	Percent of Cases
Refugees are profiled and condemned as aliens	2%
Human right groups/civil society organisations are profiled, harassed and intimidated	2%
Immigrants are profiled as criminals, terrorists	2%
Police generally profile street families as criminals	2 %
Women are discriminated against by the police in some contexts, cases and situations	2%
Mistaken identity	2%
Bodaboda operating at night are accused of involvement in crime	2%
Profiling the youth as drug abusers or traffickers	2%
Victims of crimes are at times forced to bribe in order to get police services	2%
Majority tribes is viewed as harbouring criminals	1%
Minority tribe members are harassed and discriminated against	1%
Women decry unlawful arrest and harassment of their husbands and children by the police	1%
Police target youths with excessive use of force especially during demonstrations	1%

3.6 Challenges Facing Implementation of Community Policing

The major challenges facing the implementation of community policing as reported by respondents include the following: Resource constraints (59%), low levels of awareness by community members on the concept of community policing (59%) corruption among rogue police officers (59%), lack of trust between the general public and police (45%), lack of incentives for community members and police to implement community policing initiatives (38%), lack of motivation for community policing committee members (35%), and lack of monitoring and evaluation of community policing initiatives (31%). Others are lack of meaningful community empowerment and participation in the community policing programmes (29%), poor coordination between community policing committees and the police (28%), suspicion towards community members participating in community policing being viewed as police informers (28%), sustainability of community policing initiatives in the long run (28%), and public apathy and fear of reprisal from criminals if they cooperate with the police (25%), among others issues as indicated in Table 3.17 below.

Table 3.16: Community policing implementation challenges

Challenges facing implementation of community policing	Percent of Cases
Resource constraints to implement community policing programmes	59%
Low levels of awareness by community members on the concept of community policing	59%
Corruption among rogue police officers	59%
Lack of trust between the general public and police	45%
Lack of incentives for the general public and police to implement community policing initiatives	38%
Lack of motivation for community policing committee members	35%
Lack of monitoring and evaluation of community policing initiatives	31%
Lack of meaningful community empowerment and participation in the community policing programme	29%
Poor coordination between policing committees and the police	28%
Suspicion towards community members participating in community policing being viewed as police informers (spies)	28%
Sustainability of community policing initiatives in the long run	28%
Public aparthy and fear of reprisal from criminals if they cooperate with the police	25%
Inadequate training among community policing members	24%
Lack of identification materials for the Nyumba Kumi officials	23%
Corruption among some Nyumba Kumi officials	21%
Poor coordination between the police and the community members	19%
Misconceptions about what community policing is among community members	17%
Limited police presence in the localities	17%
Delayed police response to distress calls	16%
Corruption among some community policing officials	12%
Lack of offices and equipment for the community policing Committees	11%
Favouritism by Nyumba Kumi officials	9%
Resistance to change by some police officers seeing community policing as an inconvenience and its activities as non-core to policing work	8%
Some police officers seeing no value in community policing	8%
Corruption by some chiefs during the recruitment of youth for short-term empowerment opportunities	8%
Poor coordination among community policing members	8%
Ineffective Nyumba Kumi officials due to their advanced age	8%

Challenges facing implementation of community policing	Percent of Cases
Lack of cohesion between community members	7%
Infrastructural challenges (incl. inadequate street lighting)	7%
Hostility of some community members towards community policing members	6%
Bias among some community policing members when addressing community needs	6%
Favouritism among some community policing members	6%
Corruption among some Community Policing Committees	5%
Tribalism among some community policing officials	4%
Police stations, posts and patrol bases lacking adequate police personnel	3%
Political interference in community policing	1%

National Taskforce (2023) on Improvementof the Termsand Conditions of Service and other Reforms for Members of the National Police Service, Kenya Prison Service and National Youth Service says community policing as envisaged by the Constitution and National Police Service Act has yet to be implemented in the country.

Key informants from Isiolo, Nairobi, Kisumu and Bungoma pointed out an important gap relating to the challenges of capacity building, monitoring and evaluation of the performance of community policing initiatives being implemented across the country. A community policing committee member from Isiolo said:

> *"We have participated in the community policing initiatives for quite some time now, but we do not have a score card to find out if it is making any difference in the lives and security of our people. We also need to know our performance as community policing members. For the time Ihave been involved in community policing- no form of assesment on our performance has been undertaken. How then do we know if this approach is beneficial or not?."*

A community policing committee member from Uasin Gishu county pointed out challenges around limited capacity building programmes to community members participating in the community policing initiatives:

> *"I was enlisted as a member of community policing committee and we met the OCS once for a briefing on our role in the community policing discourse. I have not received any training or facilitation in this assignment. Many other community members have not been trained as well. We devise ways of doing community policing work that we think is best for us."*

IPAO (2024) study on the implementation of community policing across one hundred and fifty two (152) police stations in twenty five (25) counties established that most community policing initiatives being implemented were not in tandem with section 96 of the NPS Act, 2011 in its entirety. IPOA study cited various challenges hindering successful implementation of community policing including, confusion on the composition of the committee amongst the NPS officers, lack of clarity between community policing and Nyumba Kumi initiative and how they are interlinked, lack of facilitation for holding community policing forums, community's culture which reject the involvement of police in management of their affairs, and frequent transfers of Officers Commanding Stations that hinder sustenance of community policing committees. Others were failure to operationalise the County Policing Authorities, conflicts between the National Government Administration Officers and NPS as to who has the final say on community policing, general lack of interest by Officers Commanding Stations to establish area community policing committees, and lack of proper training on the roles of community policing amongst members of the public.

Photo 2: Abandoned community policing booth in Nairobi city centre, formerly a collaboration between the Nairobi Central Business District Association and Kenya Police

CHAPTER FOUR:SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents summary of the findings of the study with regards to the effectiveness of community policing in Kenya, the extent to which community policing has contributed to improving community-police relations in Kenya, and the impact of community policing in crime prevention and management in Kenya. The chapter also provides the conclusions, recommendations and areas for further research arising from the study.

4.2 Summary of Major Findings

4.2.1 Perceptions of safety in the localities

The study established that (57%) felt safe in their communities, whereas nearly half of the respondents (43%) perceived their communities as unsafe. In terms of gendered disaggregation of perceptions of safety, (60%) of the male respondents indicated feeling safe in the community, whereas (55%) of female respondents felt safe. On the other hand, (40%) of males felt unsafe, while more female (45%) felt unsafe in their localities. Perceptions and feelings of insecurity were attributed to among others, rampancy of crimes in the localities (94%), police unresponsiveness to distress calls and reported crimes (62%), corruption among rogue police officers (49%), rise in illicit alcohol, drug and substance abuse (49%), lack of security infrastructure like streetlights (32%), rise in criminal gangs (23%), fear of retaliation from criminals when cases are reported (20%) unresolved crime cases (19%), increased cases of recidivism especially for petty crimes (13%), lack of police stations (9%). Perceptions of (in)security translate into how citizens perceive and experience police and policing.

4.2.2 Public awareness levels on community policing

From the findings, 56% of the respondents indicated familiarity with community policing concept/approach; while 43% were somewhat familiar, and 1% were not familiar with community policing. The following are examples of community policing initiatives and activities in the localities that were mentioned: Nyumba Kumi-related activities (94%), community policing-related public forums and barazas (72%), focused police foot patrols in the

neighbourhoods (57%), alternative dispute resolution interventions (53%), community policing-related *Kazi Kwa Vijana* initiatives (48%), Gender-Based Violence desks and units (36%), and environmental programmes (34%). Others were youth group empowerments initiatives/activities (32%), community crime awareness programmes (31%), community policing committees activities (30%), use of technology and social media (29%) for example WhatsApp groups, Fichua App and police hotlines, Community policing forums (28%), child protection units/desks (26%), religious crusades against crimes (25%), and community crime reporting forums (16%).

The study found a tendency for members of the public to confuse National Police Service-led Community Policing with Nyumba Kumi. Many citizens are unaware of the structural differences between the NPS-led Community Policing and Nyumba Kumi and the fact that the two have since been integrated.

In addition respondents referred to many initiatives and activities that they linked to community policing but clearly are not. Many confuse other government programmes like youth empowerment projects like *Kazi Mtaani*, environmental programmes with community policing due to several reasons. People tend to assume that all government-led local initiatives are the same or connected. Some government projects involve security aspects, making it easy for people to mix them up. This overlap causes people to assume all these initiatives are part of community policing and this has the potential for creating security coordination gaps.

4.2.3 Citizen participation in community policing initiatives and activities

The study found (63%) affirmed participation in community policing initiatives and activities, while (37%) had not participated in any community policing initiatives. More males (69%) than females (31%) participated in community policing initiatives. Respondents who affirmed participation in community policing initiatives were involved as follows: (65%) in Nyumba Kumi-related activities, (44%) in community policing barazas, (38%) in community crime awareness programmes, (27%) in community policing forums, and (19%) in community policing committees. Some (16%) in alternative dispute resolutions initiatives, (16%) in environmental conservation programmes, (14%) in women empowerment programmes, (14%) in community led-*Kazi Kwa Vijana* initiatives, (14%) in religious crusade against crime, (13%) in community-

police patrols, (12%) in Gender-Based Violence Committee, and (12.0%) in residential welfare groups.

4.2.4 Achievements of community policing

The study found that community policing initiatives and activities had achieved the following: Reduction of fear of crime (66%), better understanding of local community needs (55%), increased public awareness of security and crime issues (54%), improved crime prevention and detection (50%), and active citizen participation in crime reporting (49%). It also strengthened local cohesion (47%), enabled resolution of petty offences through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms (41%), improved police visibility (40%), reduced drug abuse and crime among youth (22%), and enhanced closer police-community ties/working frameworks to address security concerns (19%) among others.

4.2.5 Community-police relations

It was established that community policing initiatives and activities had not significantly influenced public trust in the police in a positive way. From the findings, (50%) of the respondents said community policing had not influenced their trust, (33%) said it had increased their trust in police, while (17%) said it had reduced their trust in the police. This is a pointer to the fact that there are still long-standing systemic, historical and deep-seated structural issues in the National Police Service that continue to negatively shape public experience, perceptions and opinion about the police.

Even though citizens had low levels of trust in the police, the study established that community policing had enhanced cooperation between police and the community in the following ways: it had improved reporting of crime and incidents (77%), enhanced information/intelligence sharing (72%), involvement of members of the community in prioritisation of their security needs (61%), active participation of the community in addressing crime risk factors in the neighbourhoods (53%), community arresting and handing over criminals to the police (41%), reduction of complaints against the police (34%), and enhanced openness and transparency in the police service (22%).

The study established that police had a strained relationship with the following people, groups and categories: Youth (59%), boda boda operators (22%), business community (22%), males (14%), matatu public transport operators (10%), victims of crime (8%), women (4%) in some contexts, and informers (4.0%), among others.

4.2.6 Complaints against the police

In addition citizens had the following complaints against the police: Corruption (82%), delayed response to distress calls and emergencies (65%), police harassment and intimidation (51%), rogue police officers colluding with criminals (50%), unlawful arrests and detentions (38%), limited police visibility (25%), and abuse of police power (24%). Others were police brutality and excessive use of force (21%), police favouritism and discrimination in discharge of duty (17%), extortion of the vulnerable by rogue police (15%), lack of confidentiality on information/intelligence shared by community (14%), involvement of police in criminal activities (13%), and human rights abuses and violations (11.0%) .

4.2.7 Challenges facing implementation of community policing

The major challenges in the implementation of community policing were cited as: Resource constraints (59%), low levels of awareness by community members on the concept of community policing (59%), corruption among rogue police officers (59%), lack of trust between the general public and police (45%), lack of incentives for community members and police to implement community policing initiatives (38%), lack of motivation for community policing committee members (35%), lack of monitoring and evaluation of community policing initiatives (31%), lack of meaningful community empowerment and participation in the community policing programmes (29%), poor coordination between community policing committees and the police (28%), suspicion towards community members participating in community policing being viewed as police informers (28%), sustainability of community policing initiatives in the long run (28.0%), general public apathy, and fear of reprisal from criminals if they cooperate with the police (25.0%).

4.3 Conclusions

Community policing was initiated in the country to improve police-community relations, integrate citizen in complementing law enforcement agency's efforts in preventing crimes, maintaining public safety, law and order. Whereas progress has been made in implementing community policing across the country, various challenges have undermined its objective and impact. The implementation of NPS-led Community policing and Nyumba Kumi at the same time typifies how policy implementation overlaps can hamper successful implementation of critical initiatives like community policing. In addition, the public trust deficit in the National Police Service despite decades of implementing community policing – is a pointer to the persistence of systemic, long-standing, historical and deep-seated issues that continue to negatively shape public experience, opinion and perceptions of the National Police Service.

Community policing can be an effective strategy for crime reduction, improved security and police-community well-being. However, its success depends to a great extent, on public trust and confidence in police and policing. There is need therefore, for a policy framework to evaluate implementation of community policing in the country so that remedial interventions can be made to this critical strategy.

4.4 Recommendations

Arising from the findings and conclusions of this study, the following are recommended to inform review of policy processes underpinning community policing discourse in Kenya.

1. The National Police Service should address rampant crime in the localities

This study found that nearly half of the respondents who felt unsafe stated that crimes were rampant in their localities and this was in part due to non-responsiveness by police to distress calls and reported crimes. Empirical evidence has shown that police alone cannot effectively tackle security problems. The NPS should prioritise working with communities to identify crime trends, hot spots, criminals and insights into how to address crime risk factors. Through this, the NPS will improve its efficiency and effectiveness in identifying and solving local security challenges.

The study also found that the respondents were fairly familiar with community policing/Nyumba Kumi and were participating in different inititiatives and activities. This finding is an opportunity for the NPS to gain wider public trust and cooperation from the citizens.

2. The Ministry of Interior and National Administration and the National Police Service address systemic issues that continue to negatively shape public perceptions and opinion of police

This study established that 50 percent of the citizen participation in community policing initiatives and activities had not in any way influenced their trust in the police in a positive way. This may be a pointer to the persistence of historical, systemic, long-standing, and deep-seated issues that need redress to change public experience and perception about the police. The country has implemented community policing approach against a background of a long history of concerns and complaints over police excesses, misconduct, abuse of power and human rights abuses that continue to shape public opinion about the service to date. The NPS should put modalities in place to address the systemic issues in the service. The NPS should also align the newly created National Government Administration Police Unit (NGAPU) within the philosophy of community policing discourse as envisaged in the Constitution, 2010 and the National Police Service Act, 2011.

3. The Ministry of Interior and National Administration should address recurring perception that National Police Service-led Community Policing and Nyumba Kumi are separate initiatives

The study established a recurring perception among citizens that the NPS-led Community Policing and Nyumba Kumi are totally distinct initiatives, despite their integration. Nyumba Kumi is a strategy anchoring community policing at the household level or any other generic cluster, whereas the National Police Service-led Community Policing involves structured collaboration between the community and law enforcement. From the findings of the study, it is possible that many Kenyans are unaware of these structural differences and the integration. From the key informant interviews and focus group discussions, Nyumba Kumi concept seemed to resonate well with many citizens as it operates at the household and neighbourhood level, making it more relatable to the citizens. In addition, the government actively endorsed and

promoted Nyumba Kumi as a key security strategy since its launch in 2013 in contrast to the community policing that has been inconsistently implemented since its launch in 2005. The two strategies have since been integrated.

The implication for policy is the perception that Nyumba Kumi and National Police Service (NPS)-led community policing are different can create challenges in implementing effective community policing in Kenya. The perceived differences in structure, leadership, and implementation frameworks may lead to confusion, duplication, and lack of coordination. Sections of the police and National Government Administrative Officers (NGAO) may not be aware of this, and may continue designing parallel or competing initiatives. In addition, communities may view Nyumba Kumi as distinct from NPS-led community policing and expect it to handle security issues, leading to frustration when crimes in certain contexts may require police intervention. This can create security coordination gaps. There is also an imperative to the Ministry to integrate village elders in the community policing framework with the proposed Village Elder's Policy.

The Ministry of Interior and National Administration and the National Police Service should undertake nationwide sensitization campaigns to the general public, NPS and NGAO to address the recurring perception and confusion about NPS-led Community Policing and Nyumba Kumi to enhance the effectiveness of community-police partnerships.

4. Adopt a Multi-agency approach and strengthen police accountability mechanisms to address corruption and other infractions by rogue officers in the National Police Service

This study established that corruption among rogue police officers was ranked as the top complaint citizens had against the police. Complaints over police corruption – a recurring theme over the years, lead to deep-rooted mistrust and scepticism towards law enforcement among many Kenyan communities. The Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA), Internal Affairs Unit (IAU) and Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) should strengthen police accountability mechanisms and adopt a multi-agency approach to address corruption and other infractions by rogue officers in the NPS.

5. The Ministry of Interior and National Administration undertake concerted public awareness campaigns to revive and entrench community policing approach at the grassroot levels

One of the recurring theme and challenge mentioned by the study respondents is the low levels of awareness by general public on the concept of community policing. The Ministry of Interior and National Administration and the National Police Service should launch nationwide public education campaigns on community policing and create awareness how citizens should get involved. Such targeted public awareness campaigns should aim to revitalise and entrench community policing at the grassroot levels, including schools and institutions of higher learning. Modalities should be explored to collaborate with the media and other strategic non-state actors in this endevour.

6. National Police Service address youth-police relations

The study established that youth are a specific category of persons said to have the most strained or difficult relationship with the police for various reasons, including youth profiling, over-policing, targeting, blanket swoops on young people and generalised condemnation of young people as likely ‘‘suspects or criminal’’. Such generalised profiling, targeting and condemnation put youth at odds with law enforcement. There is a need for a paradigm shift for the NPS to address the strained or difficult relationship between the law enforcement and young people, given the fact that they constitute the biggest percentage of the population. This has significant implications for policing strategies in the long run for the country.

7. The Ministry of Ministry of Interior and the National Police Service to strengthen training and capacity building to the community, police officers and NGAO on community policing

The respondents stressed the need for capacity building for the citizens and law enforcement officials in the implementation of community policing in the country. There is thus an imperative for the general public, police officers, and NGAO to receive regular trainings and capacity building around community policing discourse because managing, preventing and controlling crime is increasingly becoming complex and dynamic. This makes police work a complex undertaking, hence the need for continuous learning.

8. The National Police Service to undertake regular monitoring and evaluation of community policing

Key informants and focus group discussions pointed out the lacuna in monitoring and evaluating the NPS-led community policing being implemented across the country. The National Police Service should put in place a robust monitoring and evaluation framework for undertaking regular monitoring and evaluation of community policing projects, initiatives and activities across the country. The NPS needs to understand how community policing is working so that milestones and successes can be replicated elsewhere and corrective measures instituted where there are challenges.

9. The National Police Service to operationalize the County Policing Authorities

This study found that ensuring a safe and secure environment is not the preserve of law enforcement agencies but a concerted effort of the police, the public and other stakeholders. County governments through the County Policing Authorities (CPAs) are critical stakeholders in the discourse of community policing in Kenya. The National Police Service Act provides for the creation of CPAs. The CPAs and NPS-led Community Policing are complementary strategies designed to improve security through decentralised, community-centred approaches. However, the CPAs have not been operationalised. When operational, the CPAs will go a long way in supporting community policing strategies by ensuring that local concerns identified by community members are incorporated into the broader county-level policing plans. The operationalisation of CPAs have been fraught with legal, policy, operationalisation and administrative challenges.

4.5 Areas for further Research

This study was undertaken in eleven counties. There is imperative to broaden the geographical scope to cover evaluation of the status of implementation of community policing in all the forty seven counties to provide a national outlook on the impact of community policing in Kenya.

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APPENDICES

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

Fighting Crime Through Research

APPENDIX I: INTERVIEW SCHEDULE (MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC)

Study on the Impact of Community Policing in Kenya

County: _____
Sub-County: _____
Location:_____
Sub-Location:_____
Date of interview: _____
Start time: _____ End Time: _____
Name of the Researcher: _____

Introduction

The **National Crime Research Centre** (NCRC) is a State Corporation under Ministry of Interior and National Administration established by the National Crime Research Centre Act, 1997.The Centre is conducting a study on the **Impact of Community Policing in Kenya**.

You are, therefore, requested to participate in the exercise by providing relevant information on the subject.

Privacy statement

All information shared will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will be used for research purposes only.

Respondent agrees to be interviewed

Section A: Respondent's Background Information

1. Sex
    1. Male
    2. Female
2. Age category of the respondent
    1. 18-34
    2. 35-51
    3. 52+

3. Marital status
    1. Single/Never Married
    2. Married
    3. Separated
    4. Divorced
    5. Widowed
4. Highest level of education attained
    1. None
    2. Primary
    3. Secondary
    4. Middle-level college
    5. University
    6. Adult literacy
5. Main occupation
    1. Permanent employment – Private Sector
    2. Permanent employment – Public Sector
    3. Casual/temporary employment- Private Sector
    4. Casual/temporary employment- Public Sector
    5. Businessperson
    6. Subsistence farming
    7. Other (specify)

6. Length of stay in the locality (study site):

    1. 1-3 years

    2. 4-6 years

    3. 7-9 years

    4. 10-12 years

    5. 13 years and above

Section B: Questions on Community Policing

7. (a) Do you feel safe in your community in this locality?
    1. Yes
    2. No

(b) If response is NO in Question 7 (a) above, give reason(s) as to why you feel unsafe in your locality?

1. We do not have a police station.
2. Crime is rampant.

3. No streetlights.
4. Police are not responsive when called or when crimes are reported.
6. Police Officers are compromised/ Take bribes.
7. Businesses Close up Early and Open Late.
8. Limited/restricted movement of people at night (people keeping indoors).
9. Illicit brew drug and abuse is on the rise
10. The local community is hostile to people from other counties
12. Fear of retaliation from criminals
13. Kidnapping of school children
14. Rise in criminal gangs and their activities
15. Rivalry among some clans which jeopardizes security
16. Many unresolved crime cases in the locality
17. Presence of counterfeit alcohol in the locality
18. Increased cases of recidivism especially for petty crimes
19. Fear of retaliation from the criminal's family
20. Rogue village elders collaborating with criminals in the localities
21. Frequent blackouts occasioning increase in crimes
22. Many cases of mob justice in the area
23. Reported cases of dead bodies found in dumping sites in the locality
24. Fear of flush floods during rainy seasons
25. Outbreak of contagious diseases
26. Others (Specify)

8. How familiar are you with community policing in this locality?
    1. Familiar
    2. Somewhat familiar
    3. Not Familiar

9. Are you aware of any community policing initiative(s) in this locality?

    1. Yes
    2. No

10. If Yes in Question 9 above, please provide examples of the community policing initiatives and activity(ies) in this locality?

    1. Public forums and barazas.
    2. Gender based violence desks, units.
    3. Child protection units/desks.
    4. Community policing committees.
    5. Community policing forums.
    6. Use of technology and Social Media (e.g Fichua App and police hotlines)
    7. Community crime awareness programmes
    8. Community crime reporting forums.
    9. Nyumba Kumi.
    10. Crime and violence prevention trainings.

11. Community-police sporting events.
12. Environmental programmess.
13. Religious crusades against crimes.
14. Rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-convicts.
15. Police-community open days.
16. Focused police foot patrols.
17. Police-community games (football matches etc).
18. Peace caravans.
19. Academic days.
20. Crime prevention road shows.
21. Youth Crisis Intervention programmes.
22. Crime mapping and record keeping.
23. Crime evaluation surveys.
24. Circulation of security advisories.
25. Scholarships to reduce illiteracy.
26. Kazi kwa vijana.
27. Youth group empowerments initiatives/activities
28. Alternative dispute resolution interventions.
29. Victim support programmes
30. ICT hubs
32.Community-police sponsored medical camps
33. Cultural network program
34. Community volunteered to construct a Police Post
35.Talent Shows and Exhibition programmes
36. Guidance and Counseling programmes
37. Contributing cash to pay or motivate community-led security groups
38. Putting up gates within community residences and sanctioning opening and closing hours
39. Child wellness programmes
40. Community life-skills training programmes
41.Groups and community-based organizations formed and addressing community policing initiatives
42. Community contributing to enhancing police mobility e.g purchasing motorbike for the police patrols etc
43. Residential welfare groups
44. Community initiatives against drug abuse
45. Street lighting initiatives
46. Use of alarm-enabled padlocks
47. Community-hired group of youth to provide security
48. Health Support programmes
49. Joint Community-police patrols
50. Community volunteered arrest of criminals
51.Relief food programmes
52. Erecting fences around homesteads in the neighbourhoods
53. Community policing initiated patrols in the neighbourhoods

54. Community policing partnerships with local NGOs to provide employment opportunities to youth and create awareness on the need to shun crime
55. Police participation in socio-cultural events (such as funerals and fundraisings)
56. Women empowerment programmes
57. Religious Crusades against GBV and drug abuse
58. Disability mainstreaming programmes
59. Community policing initiative on door-to-door enrolment of elders for social protection fund.
60. Community policing partnerships with local NGOs to address needs of orphans and destitute children in the community
61. Rural electrification initiatives
62. Emergency services like firefighting
63. Farmers empowerment initiatives
64. Peace and reconciliation initiatives
65. Police- community End-of-year parties
66. Others (Specify)

11. (a) Have you participated in any community policing initiative(s) in this locality?

1. Yes
2. No

11. (b) If Yes in Question 11(a) above please provide examples of the community policing initiatives you have participated in your locality.

1. Community crime awareness programmes.
2. Community policing committee.
3. Community policing forum.
4. Community-police sporting events.
5. Nyumba Kumi activities.
6. Crime and violence prevention trainings
7. Police-community open days.
8. Community-police patrols.
9. Peace caravans.
10. Crime safety road shows and awareness activities.
11. Community policing barazas.
13. Gender Based Violence Committee
14. Child wellness program (vaccination and immunization)
15. Participated in child protection and security awareness program
16. Women empowerment programs
17. Mobilizing children to attend school through a cultural network program
18. Kazi Kwa Vijana
19. Religious crusade against crime
20. Advocacy for student scholarships
21. Joint community-police environmental tree planting programmes

22. Joint community-police neighbourhood cleanup days
23. Community initiatives against drug abuse in the neighbourhoods.
24. Collecting money on behalf of the community to pay security groups
25. Ensuring that gates in residential areas are strictly closed and opened during the agreed hours
26. Environmental conservation programmes
27. Advocacy against drug abuse
29. Residential Welfare Groups
30. Guidance and Counseling programmes for school dropouts
31. Alternative dispute resolutions
32. Street children rescue
33. Community policing-youth initiated empowerment programmes
34. Rehabilitation and reintegration of ex- convicts
35. Police-community games eg. Football matches
36. Health care initiatives
37. Farmers empowerment initiatives
38. Volunteer arrest of criminals
12. Others (specify)

12. What has community policing achieved in this locality? Please, highlight the achievement(s) of community policing in this locality?

1. Reduced fear of crime.
2. Enhanced trust between police and the community.
3. Increased public awareness of security and crime issues.
4. Improved crime prevention and detection.
5. Enhanced active citizen participation in crime reporting
6. Closer police-community ties/working frameworks to address security concerns
7. Improved police visibility (through regular patrols etc).
8. Increased police legitimacy.
9. Improved police accountability.
10. Better understanding of local community needs.
11. Strengthened local cohesion.
12. Improved police efficiency.
14.Reduced drug trafficking in the locality.
15. Assisted in getting school dropouts to rejoin schools
16. Reduced drug abuse and criminal activities among the youth
17. Increased school enrollment
18. Real-time feedback between community members and Police Officers
19. Resolution of petty offences through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms
20. Formation of community watchdog teams
21. Improved quality of community life
22. Increased information-flow due to improved communication between community members and the police in times of emerging incidences
23. Utilization of informers in security issues
24. Quick and informed decision making during times of crisis
25. Crackdown on illicit brewing dens

26. Boosted business by creating a safer environment
27. Environmental conservation through Kazi kwa Vijana Initiatives
28. Timely communication of alerts on outbreaks of diseases to community members.
29. Improved the relationship between the local community and the NGAO officials
30. Addressed food insecurity through relief food programme
31. Reduced GBV cases in the locality
32. Others (specify)

13. (a) Generally, do you agree that Community Policing has reduced crime in this locality?

1. Agree
2. I am not sure
3. Disagree

13. (b) If you Disagree in Q13 (a) above, give your reasons?

1. Crime is rampant in this area.
2. Criminal groups still exist (vigilantes, militia)
3. People fear the police
4. People don't report crimes to police.
5. Police are corrupt.
6. Level of sensitization on community policing initiatives is low
8. Police are incompetent
9. Poor community participation
10. Inadequate resources to implement community policing initiatives
11. The community policing officials don't take any action when matters are reported
12. Nyumba Kumi officials are corrupt
13. Police reluctance to respond to security needs
14. Nyumba Kumi members are not proactive
15. Others Specify

14. What Community Policing initiatives have been put in place to promote police-community relationship in this locality?

1. Police-hosted community events (Football matches, Medical camps)
2. Police open-days.
3. Suggestion boxes.
4. Police Hotline, mobile phone contacts, WhatsApp groups
5. Joint security/peace caravans
7. Joint-Community-police public Barazas.
8. Regular police patrols
9. Police booth
10. Community volunteers to share information
11. Increased police presence in the locality
12. Contributing funds to pay security groups

13. Organizing the community into Nyumba Kumi units
14. Interventions by NGOs to enhance community- police relationship
15. Community construction of a police post in the locality
16. Joint Police, NGAO and Youth environmental conservation initiatives
17. Some police officers have rented residential houses in the villages
18. The community volunteers to arrest criminals
19. Others (Specify)

15. (a) How would you rate police-community relationship in this locality?

1. Excellent

2. Good

3. Average

4. Poor

5. Very poor

15. (b) If the answer in Question 15 (a) above is positive (that is either excellent, good or average), in which way(s) has community policing enhanced cooperation between the police and the community in this locality?

1. Enhanced information/intelligence sharing.
2. Reduced complaints against the police.
3. Improved reporting of crime and incidences.
4. Active community participation in addressing crime risk factors.
5. Enhanced openness and transparency in the activities of the police service.
6. Participation of non-state actors in crime management and prevention activities (e.g NGO', civil society, religious actors etc.
7. Involvement of members of the community in prioritization of their security needs
9. Community arresting and handing over criminals to the police
10. Respond swiftly to complaints
11. Celebrating Police Officers who are doing a good job and going far beyond the call for duty to support the local community
12. Increased level of confidence of community members towards the police
13. Promoted conflict resolution within the community
14. Police and NGAO officers are working together with the community to ensure every child is enrolled in school
15. It has enhanced public safety. When communities trust police officers, a safer environment is created
8. Others (Specify)

16. How has Community policing influenced your level of trust in the police in this locality?

1. Increased
2. Neutral/remained the same
3. Reduced.

17. (a) Are there any complaints against the police in this locality?

1. Yes
2. No

17. (b) If yes in Question 17 (a) above, what are these complaints?

1. Police brutality and excessive force.
2. Misuse of fire arm.
3. Delayed response to emergencies.
4. Harassment and intimidation.
5. Extra-judicial acts.
6. Involvement in criminal activities e.g Kidnappings and abductions
7. Unlawful arrests, detentions etc.
8. Corruption.
9. Abuse of police power.
10. Human rights abuses and violations.
11. Some police officers release criminals corruptly.
13. Lack of confidentiality of information/intelligence shared by community members to the police
14. Limited police visibility (lack of regular police patrols)
15. Extortion of the vulnerable people in the localities by rogue police officers
16. Police have minimal interactions with local community members
17. Police Officers are comprised and take bribes
21. Failure by the police to protect the identity of whistle blowers
22. Police releasing accused persons in unclear or compromised terms
23. Delayed police response to distress calls and/or emergencies
24. Favouritism and/or discrimination
25. In-action by police when crimes are reported
26. Lack of confidentiality of information/intelligence shared by community members to the police
28. Extortion of the vulnerable people in the localities by rogue police officers.
30. Police making arrests on Fridays and releasing offenders on Sundays ahead of arraignments in courts
31. Police post but lacking police personnel
32. Some police officers are colluding with the criminals
33. Some rogue police officers frame and plant contrabands on people e.g drugs etc
34. Presence of illegal firearms among criminal gangs

35. Limited police patrols
36. Some police officers are unethical (e.g.they consume alcohol during working hours)
37. Fear of and rise in rape and defilement cases in the locality
38. Overcrowding in residential areas which predisposes women and children to harassment by deviant neighbours
39. Unlawful arrests by the police since they profile every youth in this locality as a criminal
40. Rise of immorality in the locality
41. Police level false accusations of crime on people
42. Many cases of mob justice in the area
43. Others (Specify)

18. (a) Are there specific people/groups/categories of community members who have a difficult relationship with the police in this locality? Who are these?

1. Youth.
2. Women.
3. Boda boda operators.
4. Matatu public transport actors.
5. Hawkers.
6. Business community.
7. Refugees
8. Human right groups/civil society
10. Immigrants
11. Street Families
12. Minority religious groups
13. Persons of the male gender (Men)
14. None
15. Drug addicts
16. Muslim religious leaders
17. Victims
18. Illiterate girls
19. Squatters
20. Informers (people who pass information/share intelligence with the police)
21. Majority tribe
22. Minority tribe
23. Land owners
24. Poor people
25. Others (Specify)

(b) If persons/group/category is selected, please provide these issues/complaints leading to the difficult relationship with the police?

1. Youths are profiled as criminals.
2. Boda boda, matatu operators and hawkers are unnecessary harassed
3. Refugees are profiled and condemned.
4. Human right groups/civil society organizations are profiled, harassed and intimidated.

6.Unnecessary harassment of business owners by rogue police officers
7. Immigrants are profiled as terrorists.
8. Arbitrary police swoops targeting youth
9.Immigrants are profiled as criminals.
10.Police generally consider street families as criminals.
11. Matatu operators decry bribery demands from the police.
12. Resistance of boda boda operators from being arrested
13. Matatu touts are thought to be likely criminals
14. Certain minority religious groups viewed as extremists and places of radicalization
15. Extortion of businesses (demand for bribes) by rogue police officers e.g bars, pubs (Illegal taxation of bar owners)
16. Random profiling, harassing, arresting persons of male gender compared to females.
17. Muslim religious leaders are harassed and intimidated
18. Police take bribes from the accused persons and release them on lenient bond/bail
19. Some business persons are assumed to collaborate with criminals in this locality
20. Failure by police to act adequately on cases of rape against women
21. Profiling illiterate girls as illegal immigrants
22. Profiling drug addicts as criminals
23. Women are discriminated against by the police in some cases and situations
24. Drug addicts resisting arrest by the police
25. Majority tribe is viewed as harbouring criminals
26. Failure of police to protect the identity of informers
27. Lack of confidentiality of information/intelligence shared by informers to police
28. Delayed police response to distress calls
29. Minority tribe members are harassed and discriminated against
30. Men confront rogue police officers
31. Vandalism of property (exhibit) under police custody (e.g motor cycles, vehicles)
32. Mistaken identity
33. Boda boda operators decry bribery demands from the police
34. Bodaboda operating at night are accused of ferrying criminals
35. Women decry unlawful arrest and harassment of their husbands and children by the police
36. Extortion of bodaboda operators by the police (e.g police fail to pay bodaboda for being ferried for patrols)
37. Youths are disrespectful to the police especially during demonstrations so police target them for revenge
38. Profiling the youth as drug abusers or traffickers
39. Police intimate and harass women
40. Victims are forced to bribe in order to get police services
41. Police extort land owners when undertaking construction work in their own parcels of land
42. Police discriminate against the poor
43. Limited police presence in crime-prone areas
44. Police doubt that some street families are spies of IPOA, DCI and NIS monitoring their movements
45. Other (Specify)

19. What do you think community policing should address in this locality?

1. Crime and violence prevention and reduction.
2. Improve police accountability.
3. Enhance community participation in prioritization of security needs.
4. Improve community-police relationship.
5. Address witness protection issues.
6. Create job opportunities.
7. Instill professionalism in the police service
9. Address Gender Based Violence (GBV) cases in the community.
11. Prevention of illicit alcohol, drugs and substance trafficking and abuse that leads to crimes
12. Encroachment into road reserve by shanty stalls and buildings that harbor criminals.
13. Address social and moral decadence in the community.
14. Enhance alternative dispute resolution mechanisms
15. Public sensitization and awareness
16. Deal with environmental hygiene
17. Address victim protection issues
18. Improve police response during crisis and critical situations
19. Women protection and empowerment
20. High school dropout rates
21. Address security- related infrastructure challenges such as lack of street lighting and roads
22. Peaceful coexistence among community members
23. Improve drainage systems
24. Address favouritism among community policing committees
25. Tribalism and favouritism in economic opportunities
26. Address the easy accessibility of illicit drugs among the youth
27. Help in creating transparency in the provision of economic activities for youths
28. Promote cohesion and integration among community members
29. Rehabilitation of drug addicts and ex-convicts
31. Address the issues facilitating contagious diseases
32. Vocational training sponsorships for the youth to deter crime
33. Security of community policing members
34. Juvenile delinquency
35. Promote embracing vocational training amongst the youth
36. Address coordination problems of community policing
37. Poor youth-police relationship
38. Human- Wildlife conflicts
39. Prioritize training of community policing officers
40. Prioritize the construction of a police station in the area,
41. Address the problem of lack of merit of some community policing officials
42. Construct public utilities such as public toilets
43. Address rampant rape and defilement cases
44. Address equitable distribution of resources among communities
45. Address high levels of illeteracy among the youth
46. Promote youth empowerment initiatives
47. Enhance police patrols
48. Address persistent power blackouts

8. Others (Specify)

20. Generally, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of community policing in this locality?

1. Effective
2. Somewhat effective
3. Not effective

21. In your opinion, what are the challenges facing the implementation of community policing in this locality?

1. Lack of trust between the police and communities.
2. Resource Contraints:lack of resources to implement community policing activities, programmes etc.
3. Poor coordination between policing committees and the police.
4. Lack of public awareness: low levels of awareness by community members on the concept of community policing.
5. Public aparthy and fear of reprisal from criminals if they cooperate with the police.
6. Lack of monitoring and evaluation of community policing initiatives.
7. Lack of meaningful community empowerment and participation in the community policing programme.
8. Misconceptions about what community policing is among community members.
9. Community members participating in community policing are viewed as police informers(spies).
10. Resistance to change by some police officers seeing community policing as an inconvenience and its activities as non-core to policing work.
11. Lack of incentives for community members and police to implement community policing initiatives.
12. Lack of motivation for community policing committee members.
13. General deep-rooted mistrust and scepticism towards police in the community.
14. Some police officers seeing no value in community policing.
15. Sustainability of community policing initiatives in the long run.
16. Corruption among some police officers.
17. Corruption among some Nyumba Kumi officials.
18. Corruption among some community policing officials.
20. Lack of cohesion between community members
22. Lack of identification materials for the Nyumba Kumi officials.
23. Poor coordination between the police and the community members.
24. Inadequate training among community policing members
25. Lack of offices and equipment for the Community Policing Committees
26. Corruption among Chiefs during the recruitment of youth for short-term empowerment opportunities
27. Tribalism among some Police Officers
28. Corruption among some Community Policing Committees
29. Misappropriation of public funds by some public officials such as Chiefs
30. Hostility of some community members towards community policing members

31. Tribalism among some community policing officials
32. Limited police presence in the locality
33. Easy accessibility of illicit drugs among the youth
34. Delayed police response to distress calls
35. Cartels selling water to residents at high prices
36. Poor coordination among community policing members
37. Bias among some community policing members when addressing community needs
38. Ineffective Nyumba Kumi officials due to their advanced age
39. Favouritism among some community policing members
40. Favouritism by Nyumba Kumi officials
41. Police stations, posts and patrol bases lacking adequate police personnel
42. Cartels involved in public utilities (eg, illegal electricity connection)
43. Inadequate street lighting
44. Criminals have become sophisticated through the use of technology to commit crime
45. Political interference in community policing
46. Lack of vocational training sponsorships for the youth
47. Presence of many betting and pool-game areas contributing to high crime rates in the locality
48. Other (specify)

22. What would you recommend to improve community policing in this locality?

1. Create awareness to the community on the concept of community policing, Nyumba Kumi.
2. Strengthen training and capacity building to the community and police service.
3. Undertake regular monitoring and evaluation of community policing initiatives.
4. Build partnerships with non-state actors such as civil society, NGOs, private sector etc for resource mobilization, public education and trainings.
5. Enhance resource allocation for community policing initiatives, activities and programmes.
6. Address persistent issues around police excess (brutality, human rights abuses, corruption etc)
7. Address coordination challenges in community policing.
9. The police and the community should leverage technology and innovation to fight crime and insecurity(e.g mobile phone Apps to report crime
10. Provide incentives for community members and police to implement community policy activities, projects and initiatives.
11. Address corruption among rogue police officers.
12. Address level of trust between NGAO,police and community members
13. Regular transfers of police officers to different places far from their current stations
14. Increase police beat and patrols in the localities
15. Build more police posts closer to the communities
16. Community Policing Committee members should be given a stipend to motivate them to work better
17. Improve promptness in police response to reported incidents, issues, and crimes.
18. Establish community policing information desks at the location level where the locals can report cases
19. Adequate incentives for community members and police to implement community policing initiatives
20. Enhance community -police relationship
21. Provide sustainable programmes for youth empowerment

22. Address persistent issues around drug abuse
23. Promote sustainability of community policing initiatives
24. Address corruption among Chiefs and their Assistants
25. Integrate neighbourhood watch groups into community policing and Nyumba Kumi programmes
26. Provision of offices and equipment for community policing
27. Address corruption among Nyumba Kumi officials
29. Facilitate training of community policing members
30. Address tribalism among some Police Officers
31. Establishing safety and security mechanisms for community policing members
32. Address tribalism among some community policing officials
33. Enhance witness protection mechanisms
34. Provision of identification materials for community policing members
35. Enhance human resources among law enforcement agencies
36. Address corruption among community policing officials
37. Deal with cartels that interfere with public utilities such as water and electricity supply
38. Construct public toilets
39. Address fear of reprisal from criminal gangs
40. Selection of youthful Nyumba Kumi members
41. Address favouritism among community policing members
42. Police to undertake timely response to community security needs
43. Address victim protection issues
44. Regular maintenance of security related infrastructure eg street lightings in the localities
45. Installation of community policing suggestion boxes
46. Widespread communication on the dates of community policing public forums and barazas
47. Address biases among community policing officials
48. Joint police- community crackdown on drug dens
49. Address biasness among community policing members
50. Improve street lighting
51. Address favouritism by Nyumba Kumi officials
52. Address political interference in community policing
53. Provision of vocational training sponsorships for the youth
54. Establish reliable communication channels to relay information to all community members
55. Regulate the number of betting and pool-game areas
56. Other (specify)

23. Please ask any questions or concerns you may have about this survey.

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Thank you for your time

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

Fighting Crime Through Research

APPENDIX II: KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW GUIDE

(CSO, Community members, Community leaders, Business leaders,Clergy/Faith based leaders)

The **National Crime Research Centre** (NCRC) is a State Corporation under Ministry of Interior and National Administration established by the National Crime Research Centre Act, 1997.The Centre is conducting a study on the impact of community policing in Kenya.

You are, therefore, requested to participate in the exercise by providing relevant information on the subject. All information shared will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will be used for research purposes only.

Objective 1 Questions: To evaluate the impact of community policing in in crime management in Kenya

1. Are you familiar with the community policing initiative by the police in this locality? If yes, what do you know about it?
2. Do police officers partner with community members in preventing and fighting crime in this locality? If yes how do they do it?
3. In your assessment have community policing initiatives been effective in addressing crime in this area? If yes how and why; if No why? Please explain?
4. In your assessment has the community's responses to crime changed as a result of the community policing? If yes, explain
5. In your assessment has the police responses to crime changed as a result of the community policing programmes? If yes, explain
6. Do you feel that the local police understand the unique needs and concerns of your community?
7. On a scale of 1-5 how would you rate police services in this community?

Objective 2 Questions: To assess the extent to which community policing has contributed in improving community-police relations in Kenya

1. Do residents in this locality feel confident in reporting crimes to the police? (Please explain)
2. In your view has the trust between the police and residents in this locality improved as a result of the community policing programme? (Please explain)
3. Are residents regularly consulted by the police on matters touching on security in this locality? If yes elaborate
4. Have there been any public sensitization/awareness programmes organized by the government or the civil society to create awareness to the residents on police-citizen cooperation?
5. Do you have any complaints against the police in this area and how are such complaints handled by the police? If yes which ones?
6. Are there specific groups/categories of residents that have a difficult relationship with the police in this area? Which ones?
7. Do you feel that the police appreciate and act on the views of the residents in this community?

Objective 3 Questions: **Examine the effectiveness of community policing in Kenya**

1. In your assessment, how well is community policing working in this community? (Please explain)
2. In your view, what challenges have hindered effectiveness of community policing in this area?
3. What were your expectations on community policing when it was launched? Have your expectations been met, please explain?
4. What recommendations can you make towards improving community policing in this locality?
5. Are there opportunities to review the effectiveness of community policing in this area? What are these?

Thank you for your time

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

Fighting Crime Through Research

APPENDIX III: KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW GUIDE

(County police commanders; Station Commanders (OCS);Community policing police officers;NGAO, Members of community policing forums; Community policing committee leaders;Community policing committee members)

The **National Crime Research Centre** (NCRC) is a State Corporation under Ministry of Interior and National Administration established by the National Crime Research Centre Act, 1997.The Centre is conducting a study on the impact of community policing in Kenya.

You are, therefore, requested to participate in the exercise by providing relevant information on the subject. All information shared will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will be used for research purposes only.

Objective 1 Questions: To evaluate the impact of community policing in in crime management in Kenya

1. In your assessment have community policing measures been effective in addressing crime in this area? If yes how and why; if No why? Please explain?
2. How has community policing impacted crime in this area? Have crime levels reduced or gone up since implementation of community policing programmes?
3. In your assessment has the community's responses to crime changed as a result of the community policing programme? If yes, explain

Objective 2 Questions: To assess the extent to which community policing has contributed in improving community-police relations in Kenya

1. Do residents in this locality feel confident in reporting crimes to the police?
2. In your view has local community trust in the police and policing services in this locality improved as a result of the community policing programme?

3. Do you regularly consult residents on matters touching on security in this locality? If yes elaborate.
4. How would you describe the relationship between the police and residents after the introduction of community policing? Very friendly? Unfriendly? Please explain?
5. Have you undergone any training on community policing in this locality in what areas?

Objective 3 Questions: **Examine the effectiveness of community policing in Kenya**

1. In your assessment, how well is community policing working in this community? If yes why? If no why?
2. In your view, what challenges have hindered effectiveness of community policing in this area?
3. Do you think that community policing is an effective way of fighting crime?
4. What recommendations can you make towards improving community policing in this locality?

Thank you for your time

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

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APPENDIX IV: FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION (FGD) INTERVIEW GUIDE

The **National Crime Research Centre** (NCRC) is a State Corporation under Ministry of Interior and National Administration established by the National Crime Research Centre Act, 1997.The Centre is conducting a study on the impact of community policing in Kenya.

You are, therefore, requested to participate in the exercise by providing relevant information on the subject. All information shared will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will be used for research purposes only.

Objective 1 Questions: To evaluate the impact of community policing in in crime management in Kenya

1. Do police officers partner with community members in preventing and fighting crime in this locality? If yes how do they do it?
2. In your assessment have the community policing measures been effective in addressing crimes in this area? If yes how and why; if No why? Please explain?
3. In your assessment has the community's responses to crime changed as a result of the community policing programme? If yes, explain
4. In your assessment has the police responses to crime changed as a result of the CP programme? If yes, explain
5. Do you feel that the local police understand the unique needs and concerns of your community?

Objective 2 Questions: To assess the extent to which community policing has contributed in improving community-police relations in Kenya

1. Do residents in this locality feel confident in reporting crimes to the police?

2. Has the trust between the police and residents in this locality improved as a result of the community policing programme?
3. Are residents regularly consulted by the police on matters touching on security in this locality? If yes elaborate
4. Have there been any public sensitization/awareness programmes organized by the government or the civil society to create awareness to the residents on police-citizen cooperation?
5. How would you describe the relationship between the police and residents after the introduction of community policing? Very friendly? Unfriendly? Please explain?
6. Are there any complaints against the police in this area and how are such complaints handled by the police? If yes which ones?
7. Are there specific groups/categories of residents that have a difficult relationship with the police in this area? Which ones?
8. Do you feel that the police appreciate and act on the views of the residents in this community?

Objective 3 Questions: **Examine factors impeding the effectiveness of community policing in Kenya**

1. In your view, what challenges have hindered effectiveness of community policing in this area?
2. Are members of the community here involved in working with the police in prioritization of their security needs?
3. Do you think that community policing is an effective way of fighting crime?
4. What were your expectations on community policing when it was launched? Have your expectations been met, please explain?
5. Are there opportunities to review the effectiveness of community policing in this area? What are these?
6. What recommendations can you make towards improving community policing in this locality?

Thank you for your time

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ISBN 978-9914-9844-8-4
9 789914 984484