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# THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF URBAN POOR AND SUSTAINABILITY OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMS. THE CASE STUDY OF KAMUKUNJI SLUM, UASIN GISHU COUNTY, KENYA

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# THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF URBAN POOR AND SUSTAINABILITY OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMS.

## A CASE STUDY OF KAMUKUNJI SLUM UASIN GISHU COUNTY, KENYA

This Ethnographic study will focus on how poor people's everyday socio-economic experiences inform their participation and uptake of poverty alleviation programmes designed to improve their wellbeing.



*The city of Eldoret*

(sourced from <https://www.uasingishu.go.ke> on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019)

### What is the problem?

Since independence various programmes have been developed by the government and development partners to improve social welfare. However, these programmes are far removed from the realities of the people for whom they are intended, which has an impact on their sustainability.



*Map of Kenya showing the location of Eldoret*  
(source: Encyclopedia Britannica, <https://www.britanica.com/place/Kenya>)

### References

Deepa Narayan, 'Poverty is powerlessness and voicelessness ; Development Ethics (2000), 18-21.

Joseph Mukeku (2018) 'Urban Slum Morphology and Socio-Economic Analogies: A Case Study of Kibera Slum, Nairobi Kenya' Urbanisation, 3.1, 17-32. Doi: 10.1177/2455747118790581



A view of Kamukunji slums, Eldoret (Lily Njuguna, July 2019)

### Research questions

1. What is poverty for the urban poor in their everyday lives?
2. How does this understanding about poverty influence the urban poor's action and practice towards poverty?
3. To what extent do everyday actions and practices of the urban poor towards poverty influence participation in urban poverty alleviation programmes and their sustainability?

### Research hypothesis

1. Other than material needs, poor people experience powerlessness, exclusions from basic services and have unmet emotional and psychological needs (Narayan, et al, 2000).
2. Solutions to poverty are not always constructed upon the lives of the people hence their everyday experiences do not always form the core of poverty alleviation policy .
3. The disconnect between poverty alleviation programmes and poor people's everyday lives leads to poor sustainability of poverty alleviation policies

### Research Design

This Study adopts qualitative methodology. It will be focused on observation and interviews (in-depth interviews and life histories of variety of individuals, key informant interviews).

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