

KWALE COUNTY-BASELINE STUDY



2018-2019

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1. INTRODUCTION

Titanium mining is done by Base Titanium in Kwale and it started at the end of 2013 and the first bulk shipment of ilmenite departed from Mombasa in February 2014. The mine is currently producing 455,000 tonnes of ilmenite; 78,947 tonnes of rutile, and 25,951 tonnes of zircon each year¹. The Kwale Project is seen as a flagship project in line with Vision 2030 and its success will serve as a catalyst to attract further investment in Kenya. The Project is expected to contribute around \$225 million to the Government of Kenya in direct tax and royalty payments and close to \$1 billion in GDP contribution over the 13 year life of the mine.

1.1 Scope of the study

The study was done in six communities adjacent to Base titanium geographical coordinates S04°23.271' E39°24.992' which were Bumamani village, Kinondo village, Mkelekeleni village, Nguluku village, Mwaluvanga and Maumba village.

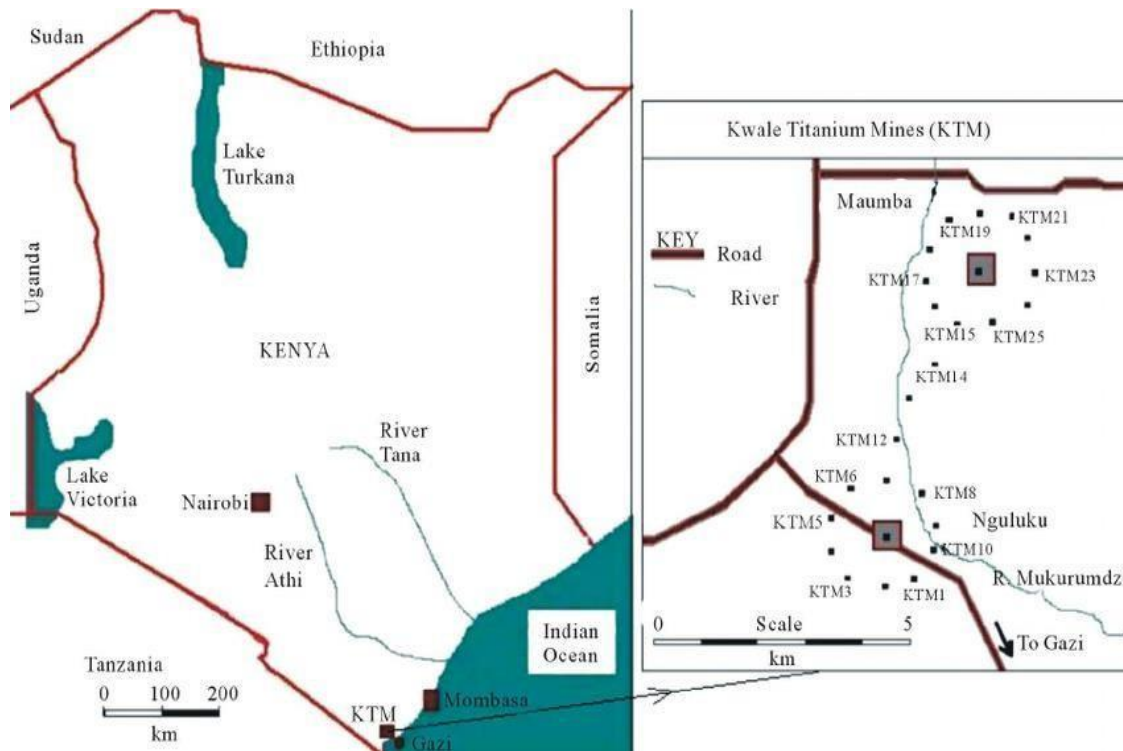


Figure 1 map showing, Kwale and the base Titanium mines.

¹ https://country.eiu.com/article.aspx?articleid=534396637&Country=Kenya&topic=Economy&subtopic=Fore_6

2. Data collection methods

2.1 Research instruments

2.1.1 Questioners

Data collection was done using questionnaires, residents living adjacent to the company and workers were interviewed. The results were analyzed using Minitab and represented in pie and bar charts.

2.1.2 Location coordinates

Field geographical coordinates were recorded using GPS device.

2.1.3 Photographs and videos

Sites images, photographs and videos were recorded to capture real time events and phenomenon

2.1.4 Water and soil samples

Water and soils samples were taken in several parts of the communities. Samples were sent to SGS laboratories for analysis

2.2 sampling

A total of 28 residences were interviewed, village sampling was done through systematic sampling procedures for all the villages and random sampling was done for household selection.

2.3 Study limitations

Limiting factor for this study was the remote setting of the villages around Base titanium, language barrier as many of our field researchers could not fully understand kidigo and kikamba language which were the major spoken languages.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Research was done using questionnaires and 28 respondents were interviewed 3 of the respondents declaimed, Findings were analyses using Minitab and represented in pie and bar charts.

3.1 Biodata

3.1.1 Gender

Gender turnout was fair enough with male being slightly higher at 53.6% and female turnout at 46.4%. This variation was realized because where women and ladies were with men or in a household, women did not want to take part in interviews even when they were permitted.

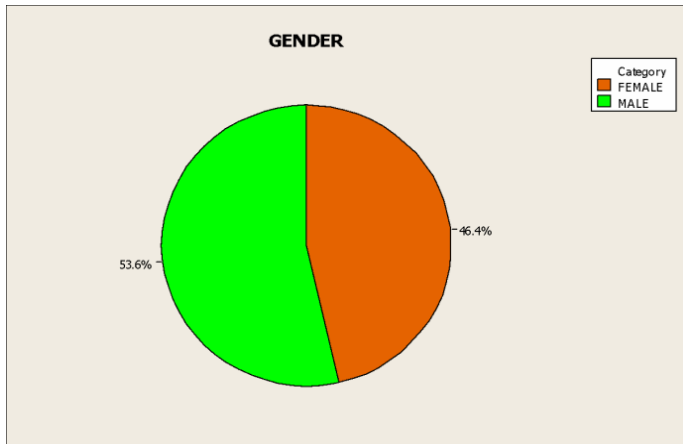


Figure 2map showing, Kwale and the base Titanium mines.

3.1.2 Age Composition

The age categories to those who were interviewed ranged from 18 years to above 45 years as this age bracket gave realistic views and opinions. 42.9% of the respondents were above 45 years of age, this age category were most found in household as they stays indoors as the other economic productive age between 20 years to 40 years go out for work. Out of the 28 respondents who were interviewed 35.7% were of the age 25-34 years while age category between 15-24 years and 34-44years were 10.7% each category.

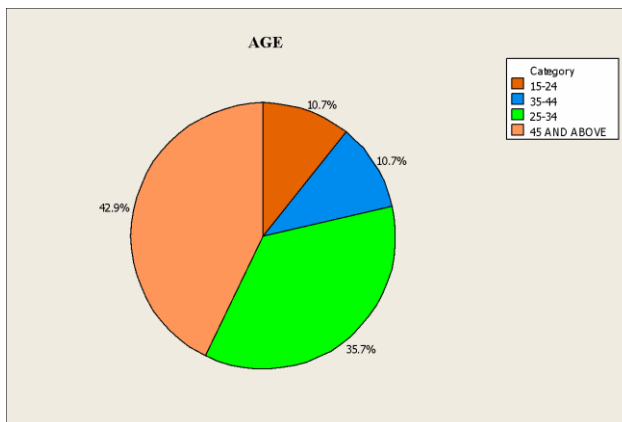


Figure 3Age composition

3.1.3 Disability

None of the respondents interviewed had any form of disability

3.1.4 Literacy level

The study also found that most of the residence did not complete 8-4-4 Kenyan education system which is a major and fundamental human right to education which is the driving goal to poverty eradication on the Kenyan vision 2030. Our study shows that 53.6% of those who were interviewed attended primary level education but most of them did not complete primary system. 25% did not attend any education system, only 10.7% and 3.6% of our respondents completed secondary and tertiary levels respectively. 3.6% attended Arabic (madarasa) education system.

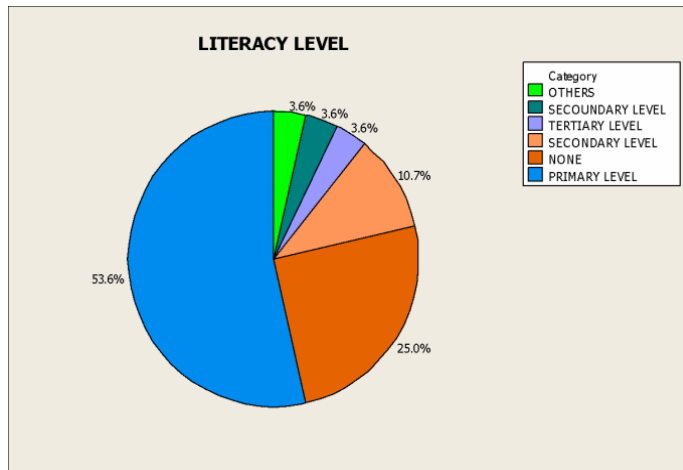


Figure 4 Literacy level in the study site

3.1.5 Language

The language of communication in these regions was majorly Kiswahili and native languages as represented in the pie chart. 57.1% of the respondents could fluently communicate in Kiswahili, 28.6% speak native language while only 14.3% could fluently communicate in English.

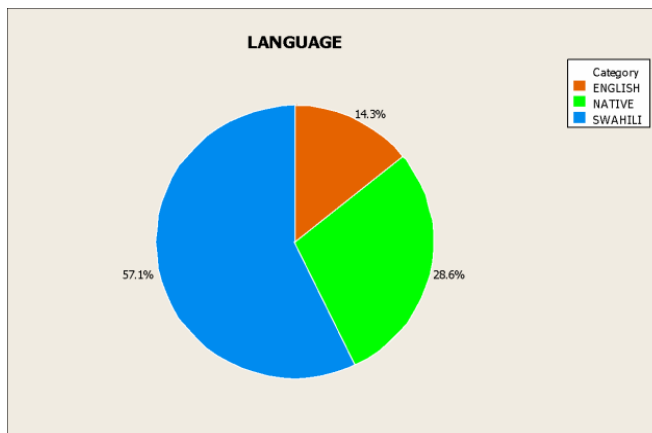


Figure 5 language distribution

3.1.6 Birthrate

The rate of child birth is high as 92.9% of those who were interviewed had children, those who were free to disclose the number of children had six children and seven children at highest and two children at lowest, only 7.1% of the respondents at their reproductive age had no children.

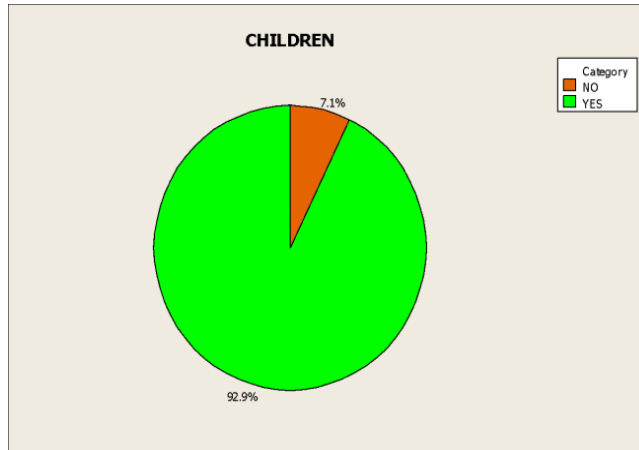


Figure 6 Birthrate in the study area

3.1.7 Occupation

Most of the residence in the area are engaged in various occupations with most being employed in farming, the area is good for agriculture with so many wetlands and rivers in between, residence majorly engage in subsistence farming rather than commercial farming, 28.6% of the respondents were farmers while 21.4% of the 46.4% women respondents were housewives, the research find out clearly that although the right to work and own property is assured by the Kenya constitution Kwale communities still favors men in economic developments, as most of them are house wives left in houses as men go out to farm or look other jobs to feed the family.

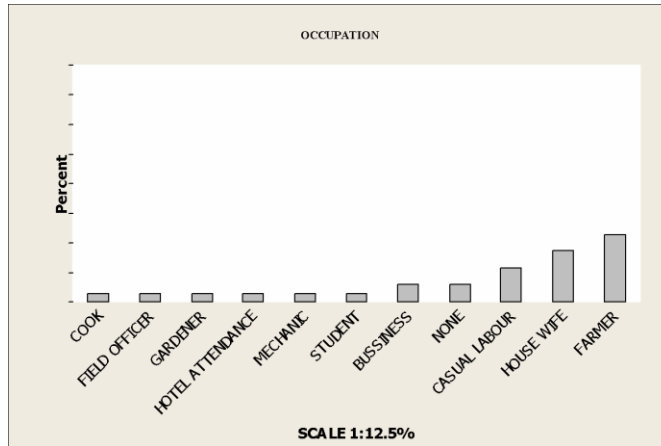


Figure 7 Occupation distribution

3.2 Civil Societies

3.2.1 Civil Society Present

One of the study elements was to investigate whether there are other civil societies working with communities and if they are dealing with environmental issues. 67.9% of the respondents had no idea of any civil society organizations which are working with the community while 32.1% knew there is civil society organizations work with the community. Only 17.9% of the respondents knew of organizations that deal with environmental issues. About 82.1% had no idea of any civil society organization within their community. 85.7% of the respondents agreed that there is need for a greater civic space in their communities while 14.3% saw no need for civic space within the community.

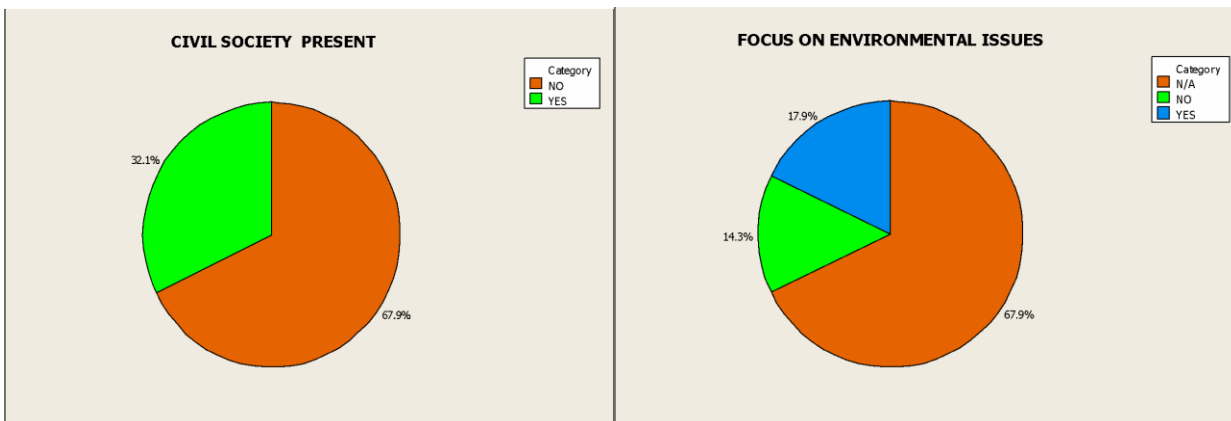


Figure 8 Civil society present in the area

3.2.2 Civic Space

Civic space serves as a stage for public lives. Civic space can be the settings where celebrations are held, where social and economic exchanges take place, where friends run into each other, and where cultures mix. They are the drive to public institutions – post offices, courthouses, and federal office buildings where we can interact with each other and with government. Most of the people in Kwalé to about 85.7% of people interviewed saw the need for a greater civic space within and among the communities; most of them feel abandoned and isolated, only 14.3% were contented with the level of civic space within and among their communities.

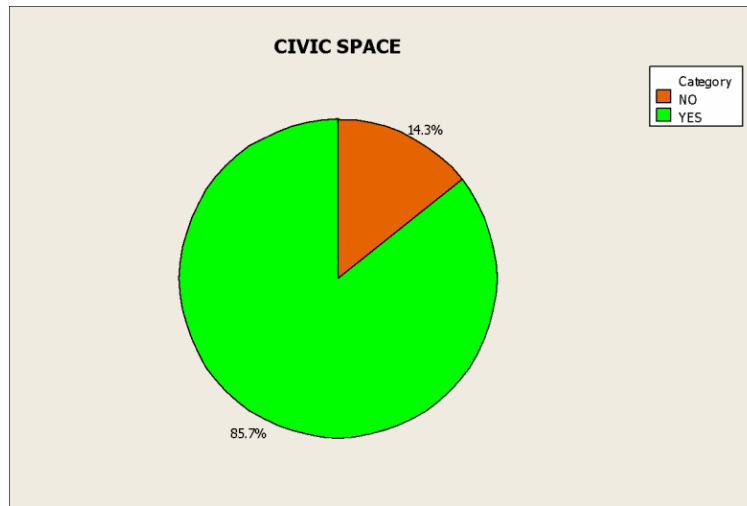


Figure 9 Civic space in the study area

3.2.3. Safety

As more people move out of these area because of relocation by the company or because there is less social amenities facilities due to lack of infrastructure and low development activities. 57.1% of the respondents feel unsafe working within their communities and in the company , there were wild animal and crocodile attacks from Mkurumudzi dam. Crocodiles and wild animals had found home within the abandoned homes and the remaining few people cannot fight back wild animals, farmers can no longer protects their crops against wild animals, the employed class feel unsafe walking to work in early hours and as they return home in late hours. 39.3% felt safe working in the company and within their communities, 3.6% did not feel safe or unsafe.

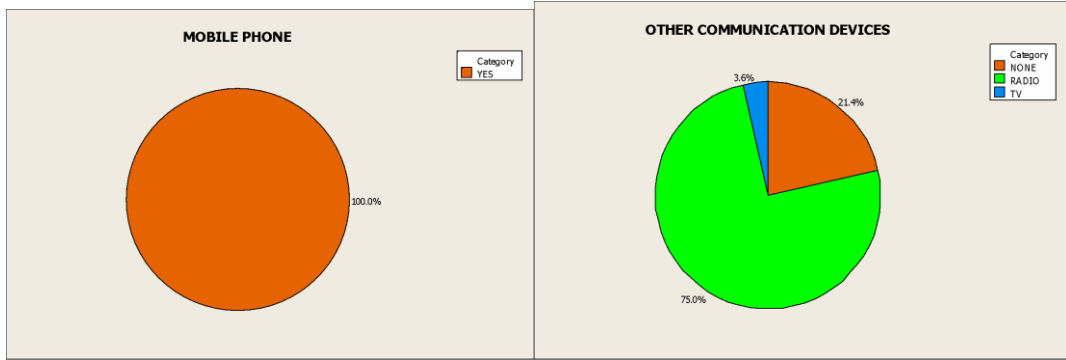
3.2.4 Environmental and human rights defenders attacks

92.9% of the respondents had not witnessed any environmental and human rights defenders attacks within the community while 7.1% had witnessed cases of EHRDs attacks. Most of the attacks happened during Base titanium land acquisition as youths held small streets demonstrations campaigning for fair relocation and compensation process.

3.3 Access to Environmental Information

3.3.1 Mobile Phone access

In this section we were assessing whether the respondents receive environmental information through the available modes of communication ensuring the right to access to information. All of our respondents had access to a mobile Phone. The other modes of communication within the community are ; Television sets were only 3.6% of the respondents had access, while 21.4% did not have radios and TV sets , this factor is much contributed to lack of electricity connection within the community. 75% of the respondents had access to radio devices.



The type of phones mostly used in the community is the “call and messaging phone” with 92.9% of our respondents. Only 7.1% of the respondents had smart phones but with limited internet usage to make battery last many hours as they have to walk distance and pay phone changing fees. With 96.4% of the respondents who have access to radio and TV sets had three radio stations which are frequently listen to, 39.3% listen to Kaya fm, 17.9% listen to Citizen fm, 10.7% listen to KBC. 7.1% of the respondents listen to Pwani fm while the rest of the proponent listen to Baraka fm, Kiss fm, Nation fm, Milele fm and Citizen TV with 3.6% each station.

3.3.2 Access Newspaper

With establishing whether the respondents have access to newspapers only 3.6% of the respondents regularly access newspapers, 25% access newspaper rarely while 71.4% had no access to newspapers, the contributing factor for access to newspaper is the rural and remote setting.

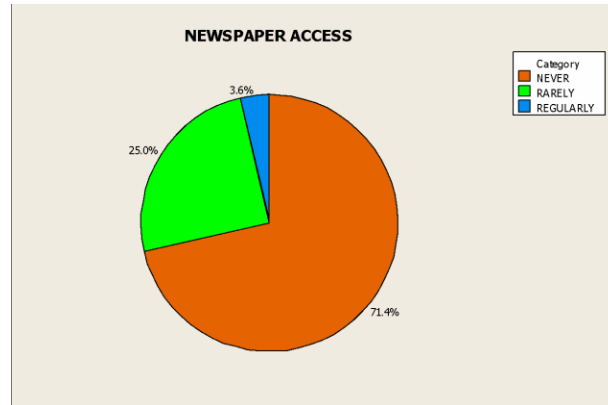


Figure 10 Percentages with access to newspaper.

Among the 28.6% of those who access newspaper only 25% of them admitted to get environmental information through newspapers while 75% of got no environmental information in newspapers. All those who had access to newspaper say there is no adequate environmental information.

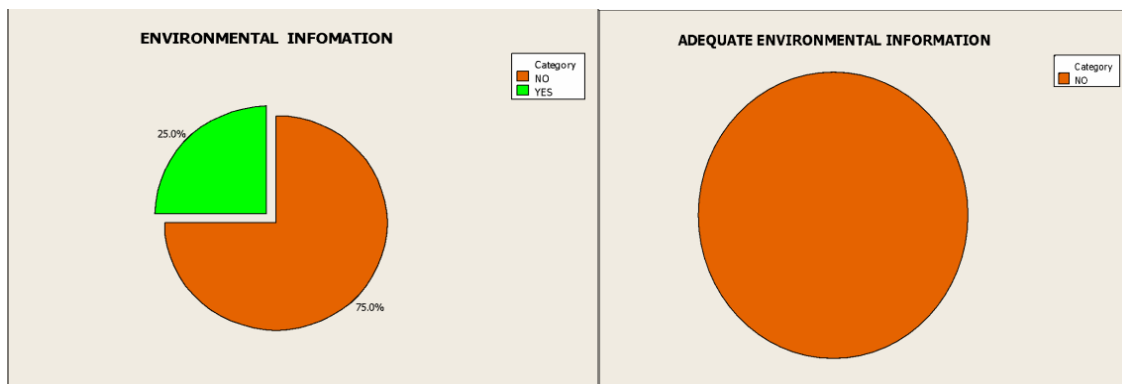


Figure 11 Environmental information in the newspaper.

The survey finds out other sources to access environmental information within the community were 60.7% of the respondents got verbally information, 21.4% get environmental information through radio while 17.9% of the respondents got others ways of getting information which included phone short message services.

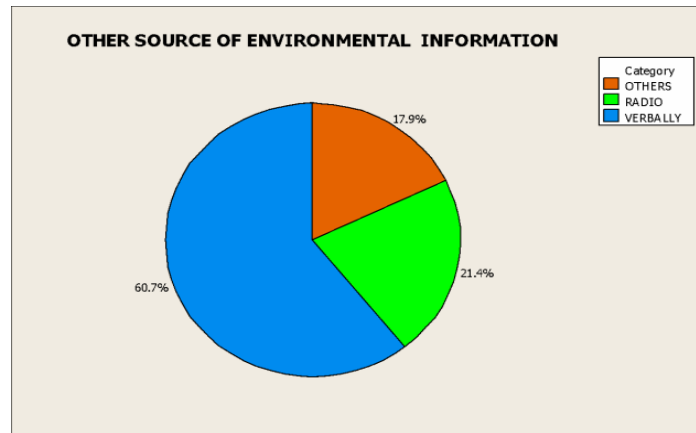
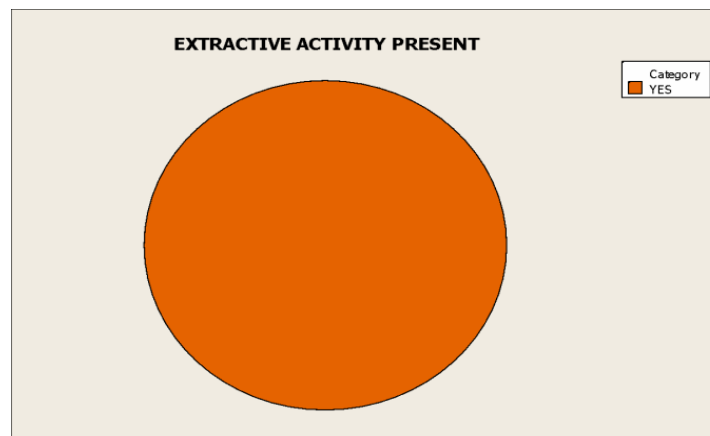


Figure 12 Other sources of environmental information.

3.4 Corporate Accountability

3.4.1 Extractive Activity Present

Section C of the survey questionnaire focuses on the corporate accountability of mining and extractive industries towards their host communities with focus on environment and human rights. All the respondents knew of the extractive activities going on in the community with the company being Base titanium.



3.5 Public Participation

One of the research objections of the field study was to establish whether a meeting was summoned prior to the establishment of any extractive activities in the community. 60.7% of the respondents were not aware of any meeting summoned prior to the establishment of Base titanium, while 39.3% knew that a meeting was called before the establishment of Base titanium.

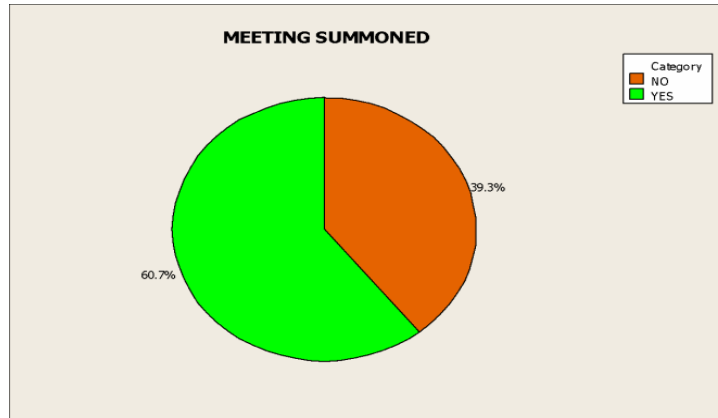


Figure 13 Level of public participation involvement.

63.6% of those who knew about the meeting heard it through the local authorities mainly being the area chief, sub chief and village elders, while 36.4% got the meeting through word of mouth mainly from friends. Out of the total population there was 25% attendance 75% did not attend the meeting. This is as a result of poor circulation of information prior to the meeting.

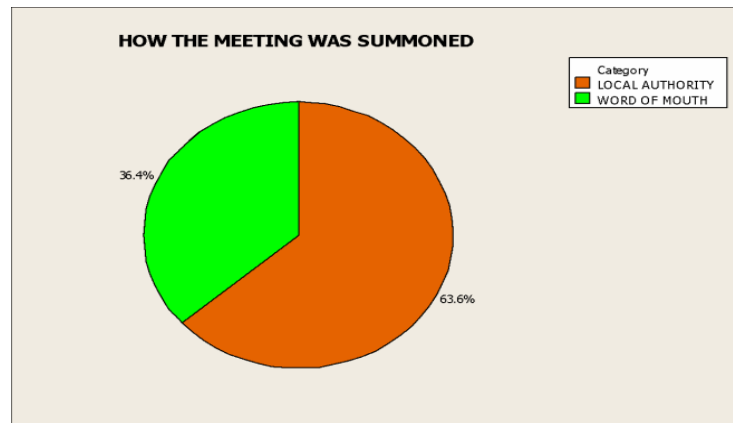


Figure 14 modes of communication

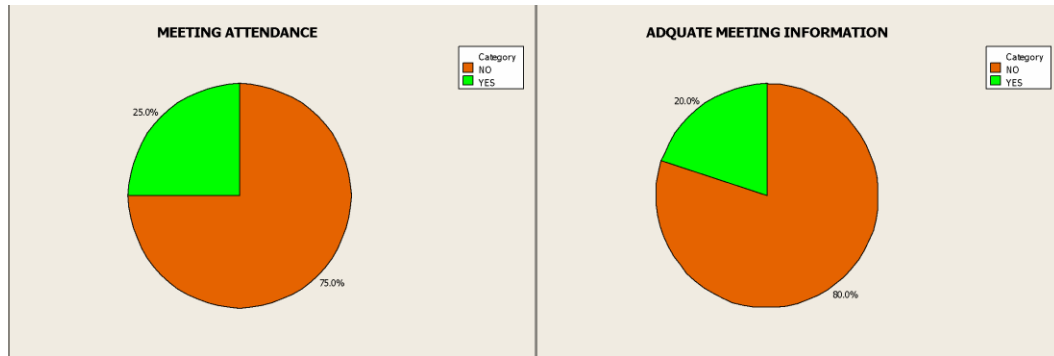


Figure 15 Figure showing meeting attendance and the adequacy in the meeting information.

3.6 Community views

Among the 25% respondents who attended the meeting 85% community members raised their views about the extractive project. 15% of the respondent opined there was no public participation during the development. 57.1% of the respondents who attended the meeting said the community views raised were not considered during the project's operations which included employment to the local communities although the company's 60% of its employees come from Kwale very few come from the villages surrounding Base titanium. On water supply the company has dug only one borehole in each surrounding village and has supplied piped water in villages far from then ear by villages, the same have been done on health centers, schools and development projects but this have been done to communities away from the company while neglecting the adjacent communities. 42.9% of the respondents said community views were considered by the company.

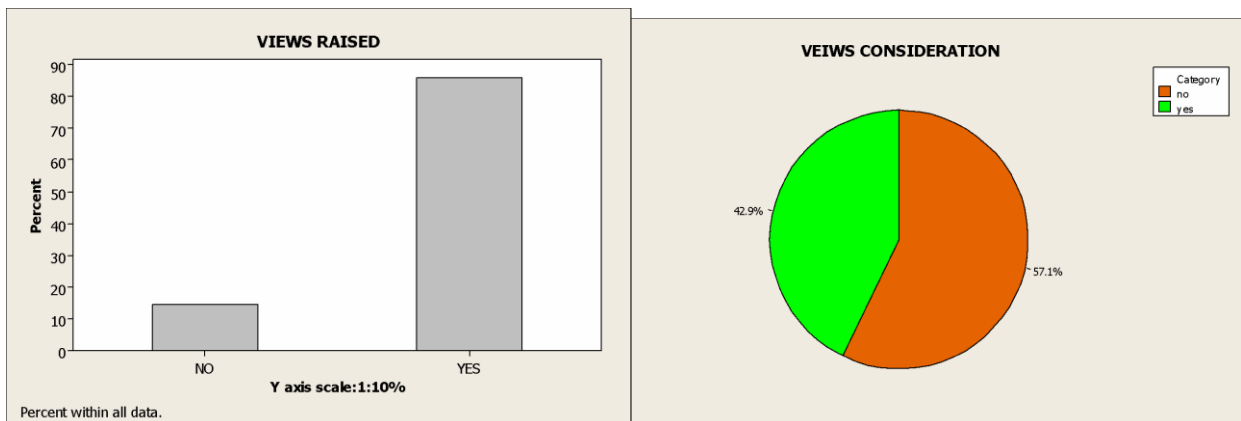


Figure 16 views raised and views considered

78.6% of the respondents had never worked in the company and 21.4% had worked with the company, the study revealed factors influencing these percentages are that, the company employs people from Kwale County but not within the communities hosting it. Those who get employment like Mr. Kaswafi's son a resident of Nguluku village said he got a 3 months casual contract job after a long time push for employment.

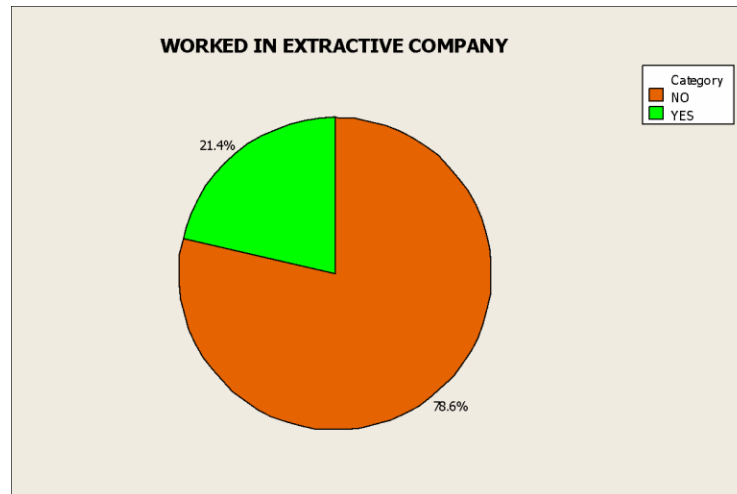


Figure 17 Percentages of people who had worked in the extractive industry.

3.7 Environment and human right

The company being an opencast mining, there is need to find out if it imposes any environmental degradation or infringe any human rights. 85.7 % of the respondent's confer that the industry has environmental degradation and infringe human rights. Environmental degradation consisted of noise pollution, water pollution, mainly being high water turbidity, change of water taste and low crop production, while human rights violation consisted of health problems mainly eye irritations during dry seasons, residence had denied access roads that's join communities, unfair land acquisition procedures, unjust compensations and relocations, the people of Mumba and Nguluku suffered isolation as many of their community members were relocated or migrated to other places for better livelihoods. 14.3% of the respondents saw no environmental degradation or infringement of human rights associated with the company.

For the past years media has been publishing reports of small demonstration held by the Nguluku community demanding fair compensation and proper relocation procedures, our study was found out whether there had been environmental and human rights defenders present in the community and 75% of the respondents did not know any existing EHRD present in the community while 25% of the respondents knew of EHRD present in the community.

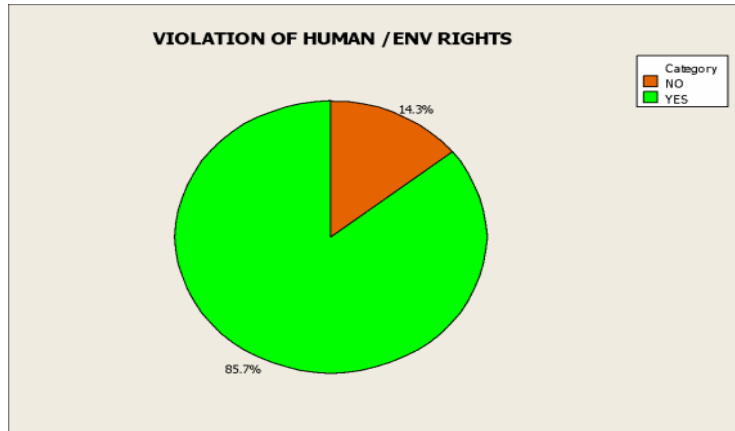


Figure 18 Documentation of violation of human rights

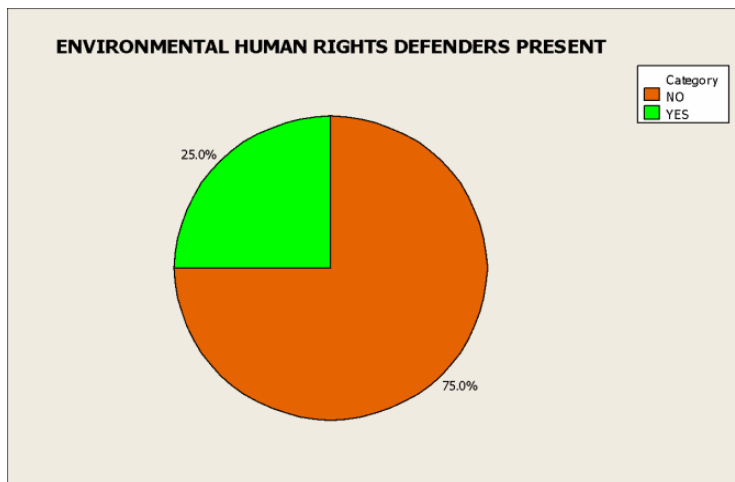


Figure 19 Representation of EHRDs

3.8. Corporate social responsibilities

Corporate social responsibilities improves the livelihoods of the adjacent communities and increases the project acceptance by the local communities, during our research 75% of the respondents knew of project that the company has implemented within the community for social economic developments, these projects included drilling of boreholes, greenhouses for agriculture, piped water, hospital and schools.

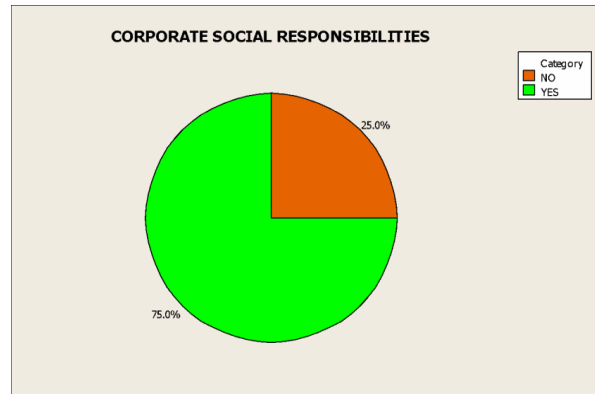


Figure 20 Respondents aware of corporate social responsibility.

3.9. Soil and water samples

For further soil and water analysis samples were taken from River Mukurumudzi, borehole water and community soil as illustrated below:

Table 2. Soil and water samples taken at different points.

item	Place	GPS coordinates
Soil sample	Maumba ,	S04 ⁰ 23.10 7' E039 ⁰ 27.6 27'
River water	Nguluku	S04 ⁰ 22.396' E038 ⁰ 27.183
Borehole water	Bumamani	S04 ⁰ 23.271' E39 ⁰ 24.992'

Recommendation and conclusion

Recommendations

- The study recommends that environmental and human rights awareness sessions be held among the communities to bring social cultural change in the community.
- Land acquisition, relocation and fair compensations of communities hosting extractive industries should be done fairly and in an equitable manner.



Conclusion

Government of Kenya should put more policies that strengthen corporate social responsibilities in the extractive sector.

There are environment and human rights defenders within these communities but they are unidentified and work at low profiles as they are aware of the potential threats from the company and government.