

## Sacco Services and Member's Household Investments: Case of Makadara Sub-County, Nairobi

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### Abstract

Savings and Credit Cooperative societies, have a key mandate to improve members' lives through offering services that boost their capacity to invest for their households. The study was anchored on life cycle, relative income and permanent income theories. The independent variables of this study were SACCO services while the independent variable was household investments. A sample size of 236 SACCO members across the sub-county of Makadara was employed and a questionnaire was used to collect data. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics to gain insights. Pearson's correlation was employed for statistical inference. The findings indicated a significant relationship between loan facilities and household investments, however the correlation coefficient was low at 0.41. A significant relationship was found between SACCO trainings and household investments and between savings and investments and household investments. SACCO member's capacity are enhanced to invest, access education, shelter, healthcare and insurance. In conclusion, SACCOs give their members a chance to participate in activities that afford them a reasonable capacity to invest for their households. It is recommended, that more focus be placed on enhancing loan facilities to ensure members get maximum benefit, to invest for their households.

Keywords: SACCO services, Loan facilities, SACCO trainings, Savings and investments, Household investments

### Introduction

SACCOs have increasingly gained traction in the recent past providing the unbanked population with access to financial services. In Europe and America, SACCOs are referred to as credit unions. The European network of credit unions (2023) report states that credit unions make an important contribution in more than 7 million European households rendering them affordable financial services. According to the World council of credit union (2022) report, the penetration rate of credit unions stands at 61% in North America, 8.4% in Asia, 14% in Africa and 33.6% in Kenya, representing the individuals who can access SACCO services.

An individual has certain expectations when joining a SACCO and the SACCO creates services to meet the members' expectations. A study carried out by Kibanga (2022), states that 97.6% of the respondents agreed SACCO members have raised share capital with the expectation of accessing financial products and services offered, that can be invested for economic development. The capacity to invest for the household drives financial wellbeing or financial health. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (2019) describes financial health as a state where a person can fully meet current and ongoing financial obligations. Being a member of a SACCO gives one peace of mind, especially

concerning his or her household. In case an emergency occurs; he or she can attend to the emergency and not adversely affect his or her ability to provide for his or her household. According to research done by Enock and Rutaro (2021), SACCOs have improved people's ability to pay for social services such as food, improved shelter, education, domestic assets and health therefore brought about positive changes in the standard living of members. SACCO members not only get an avenue to save but they gain knowledge that empowers them to build their financial muscle.

#### Literature review

For one to appreciate the aspect of household investments one must understand how consumption of money is conceived. This understanding would enable one to see if household investments with a certain mindset of consumption would be achieved or not. Therefore, the theories that have been picked to advance the topic of household investments are centered around consumption.

This study borrowed from the ideologies proposed in three theories. The first is the Life-cycle theory as submitted by Franco Modigliani in 1954 which states that human beings seek to regularize consumption over their lifetime. They borrow when income is low and save when income is high. The life cycle theory proposes that individuals should view financial assets as means of transferring resources through-out an individual's life, and this theory proposes that households plan in a more logical way. Where the lifecycle theory is applied household investments are achievable as it encourages savings as promoted by SACCOs that will then be utilized in future periods where incomes are low.

The Relative income theory was put forward by James Duesenberry in 1948. He argued that a household's expenditure depends on its present income relative to the standard it has set for itself based on past income or other incomes of households around it. These households are those in the subgroup which it identifies itself with (Parker, 2010). This theory speaks of the influence of the spending habits of an individual by those individuals in his or her sub-group. The SACCO, through training tries to influence the spending habits of its members and it ensures that although an individual has access to financing, he or she spends the monies wisely to build their household investments.

The Permanent income theory by Milton Friedman in 1957 proposed that individuals plan their consumption level according to permanent and long-term earnings rather than momentary income. Temporary disposable income is different depending on varied reasons, but people's consumption does not change with it. The SACCO provides access to interest on savings and dividends on shares that boosts a members' permanent income and thereby increasing their ability to cater for emergencies when they occur. This automatically improves the SACCO members' household investments.

Savings and investments are an important aspect in determining the capacity of SACCO members to invest in their households. Gichuhi and Makori (2023) carried out a study on Savings and Co-operative societies services and household investment among Mwalimu SACCO members in Nyandarua county, Kenya. The scope covered was 2023 and the analysis carried out was on a sample of 64 public school teachers who are members of the SACCO. Descriptive statistics, correlation and inferential statistics were used to analyze data. Mpubani, Ismail, and Turyakira (2020), carried out a research on the SACCOs' financial services and growth of members' enterprises in Luweero District in Uganda. The scope of the study was 2020, and descriptive statistics was also employed in the analysis of data as well as Pearson correlation and multiple regression.

Msuya, (2020) employed the use of microfinance poverty assessment tool and propensity score in the study on the role of Savings and Credit co-operative societies' impact on poverty reduction in

rural Tanzania: the case of Mwanza and Tabora Regions. On the other hand, Mhembwe and Dube (2017) employed the use of descriptive statistics in the study on the role of cooperatives in elevating the livelihoods of members in rural areas in Shurugwi District in Zimbabwe.

In their study, Gichuhi and Makori (2023) revealed that capital mobilization has a significant relationship with household investments among SACCO members. Furthermore, Mhembwe and Dube (2017) documented positive findings demonstrating that with the adoption of cooperatives, people in the rural communities were empowered, especially women. The SACCO members were able to generate employment, promote social cohesion and boost food production, thereby enhancing their livelihoods. Members however, were not aware of other services i.e., provision of a safe custody of assets and valuables and standing orders.

Msuya (2020) used a sample size of 500 and the findings revealed that the poverty levels of non-members of SACCOS were higher compared to members and that the differences between the two classes emanated from SACCO interventions. In conclusion, SACCOS' services help to reduce poverty levels among SACCO members. The results did not clearly articulate the aspects that had been improved in the lives of the members. Mpubani, Ismail, and Turyakira (2020), found a significant positive relationship between growth of SACCO members' enterprises and SACCO savings, while the relationship between growth of SACCO members' enterprises and credit services was positive but insignificant. This finding supports the current study that seeks to analyze the relationship between SACCO services and savings and investments.

Loan facilities are important towards advancing household investments of SACCO members. According to research carried out by Kibanga (2020), on access of financial services on member advancement of licensed deposit taking SACCOs in Nairobi County, she found that member advancement had a statistically insignificant positive relationship with financial services. On the other hand, Mrindoko and Pastory (2022) found that 74% of small enterprises did not agree to have recorded improvements in their business activities since using Micro Finance Institutions services, in the study of the contribution of MFIs services to poverty reduction among SMEs. The findings further revealed that small loans were largely used to smooth consumption and development expenditures, whereas their constant income is used to repay loans.

The research carried out by Mwai and Okatch (2017), on the impact of SACCOs in poverty eradication among farmers in Muranga county indicated that there was a significant relationship between loans issued and poverty eradication. Kibanga (2020) picked a sample size of 39 respondents, analyzing the data with descriptive statistics and inferential statistics, while Mrindoko and Pastory (2022) employed a sample size of 333 micro and small entrepreneurs who had access to micro-finance institution services and owned micro and small enterprises. The findings were examined using correlation analysis and the year of interest was 2022. The sample size employed by Mwai and Okatch (2017), was that of 9,495 members of five SACCOs and data was analyzed using regression.

Kibanga (2020) did not provide the specific areas where the members of the SACCO had experienced advancement. Furthermore, the correlation between access to financial services and advancement of members was found to be insignificant. From the study by Mrindoko and Pastory (2022) the findings indicated that the income of the micro and small entrepreneurs did not improve with the services offered by the microfinance institutions, however poverty levels of SACCO members did reduce. Mwai and Okatch (2017) did not indicate clearly, what the financing was being utilized for. There was only mention of SACCO loans having facilitated members in wealth creation.

Training is important towards enhancing household investments of SACCO members. A research was carried out by Wambua, Gathuru and Mwaura (2023), on the role of investment literacy on household income generation among SACCO members in Narok County, Kenya. It was revealed that investment literacy had a significant positive relationship to household income showing its importance in boosting the SACCO members' household income. According to the study carried out by Eton, Basheka and Mwosi, (2020) the results of the study revealed that, microcredits created long-term indebtedness in the rural households and yet they were not competent to efficiently manage their finances. These households also had inadequate access to affordable credit. On the other hand, Ndegwa (2020) did a study on the role of communication in SACCOS in promoting financial inclusion in Kenya. She found that, customers would prefer SACCOS compared to banks regardless of costs. This is due to their close proximity and accessibility to the poor and illiterates who are intimidated by the marble banking halls.

The study conducted by Wambua, Gathuru and Mwaura (2023) analyzed data from a sample size of 217 SACCO members, using descriptive and inferential statistics. The study found that members benefited from investment training as their household income was seen to improve. Eton, Basheka and Mwosi (2020) conducted study of SACCOS and poverty reduction in Lango and Kigezi sub-regions of Uganda. Data was analyzed from a sample size of 320 members, using correlation and regression analysis. The findings documents the challenges that are faced by members of the SACCO in utilizing the financing received from the SACCO. This outlines the importance of training SACCO members on the use of loans obtained from SACCOS.

In the research carried out by Ndegwa (2020), a sample size of 43 members was employed and data was analyzed using descriptive statics. The findings of the research shows that financial inclusion improves as members prefer to access financial services in the SACCO as opposed to the bank due to their accessibility to the members. This advances the role of communication and training of members on financial services towards enhancing financial inclusion of SACCO members.

The findings of Kibanga (2020) and Mwai and Okatch (2017) did not show a clear relationship between SACCO services and the enhancement of member's capacity to invest for their household. There exists a contextual gap as the findings did not clearly bring out what areas of the members' livelihoods were impacted and improved. The current study sought to do an in-depth analysis of the effect that the SACCO services have had on the household investments of members of the SACCO. The current study also reviewed specific aspects in the members' livelihood that have improved as a result of being a member of a SACCO.

The data analysis procedures employed by Kibanga (2022) and Mhembwe and Dube (2017) were descriptive statistics, which only enables the researcher to provide basic attributes about the data. A methodological gap exists as one is only able to draw conclusions on the data that has been collected and not draw inferences on the population that the sample represents. It also limits one to draw conclusions on the correlation of the various variables of the research and the effects of the change in one variable on another variable. The current study analyzed data using Pearson's correlation coefficient that enabled the researcher determine the significance of relationships between various variables.

Inconsistent findings are observed in the review of previous studies. The study carried out by Kibanga (2020) on access of financial services on member advancement, reveals that financial services had a statistically insignificant relationship to member advancement. On the other hand, Mwai and Okatch (2017), found a significant relationship between loans issued and poverty eradication in the

study of impact of SACCOs in poverty eradication among farmers in Muranga County. We find a conceptual gap in findings of the studies reviewed. The current study sought to break down the indicators of SACCO services and reviewed each against their impact on the ability of SACCO members to invest in their households.

Studies done by Gichuhi and Makori (2023), Wambua, Gathuru and Mwaura (2023), Kibanga (2020), Ndegwa (2020) and Kibanga (2022) were done from Kenya on the subject of SACCO services and household investments of SACCO members between the years 2020 and 2023. There exists a geographical gap as more recent studies need to be done with a focus on Kenya, given the current state of the economy. Kenya continues to face challenges in the economy such as high cost of living, high unemployment rate and very few opportunities for individuals to participate in economic activities. The current study sought to contribute to the knowledge of SACCO services and the household investment of SACCO members.

## Methods

A causal research design was used in the study to determine the relationship between SACCO services and household investment of the members. The SACCO services under review were loan facilities, training, savings and investments while the indicators of household investments under review were access to investments, healthcare, education, insurance and shelter. A causal research design was deemed appropriate for this study as it shows a cause-and-effect relationship between SACCO services and household investments of SACCO members.

The target population was 580 representatives of SACCO members in Makadara Subcounty. The population adopted was similar to Gichuhi and Makori (2023) who picked the accessible population as the target population. According to the Ministry of co-operatives (2023), the number of SACCO members in Makadara sub - county are 58,141, from 580 SACCOs. The SACCO representatives were available from the whatsapp group of KUSCCO and the Ministry of Cooperatives that provided adequate representation of SACCO members in the county. The sampling procedure employed was random sampling. The research adopted a sample size of 236 SACCO members. This sample was drawn from the accessible population of 580 representatives of SACCO members in Makadara sub-county. The formula used to derive the sample was adopted from Saunders, Lewis and Thornhill (2016) and is based on a margin of error of 5%, a confidence level of 95% assuming a response rate of 100%.

This research employed the use of structured questionnaires (see appendix 1). The questions were arranged in sections (A – F). Section A focused on collecting background information from the respondent. Section (B- F) focused on collecting information on the dependent and independent variables of the study. The questions in this section were of type Likert scale. The use of questionnaires ensured maximum information was obtained from the sampled members to satisfactorily analyze the impact of the SACCO services on the household investments of SACCO members in Makadara Sub County.

The study used the inter-rater reliability to test the reliability of different answers obtained for different questions on the questionnaire. Inter-rater reliability was measured using the Cronbach's alpha score. On the other hand, to test the validity of the instrument the researcher employed the use of content validity. This enabled the researcher to determine the extent to which the measure accurately assesses what it is supposed to. Content validity was measured using the validity coefficient of the various variables. Data cleaning was done before analysis was carried out on the data. The collected



data was analyzed using inferential statistics and descriptive statistics using python and Jamovi analysis software.

The independent variable was SACCO services where the indicators were loan facilities. The researcher was interested to find out if the variety of loans and interest rates levied on loans have been instrumental towards enhancing household investments. On SACCO trainings, the area of focus was to find out if the frequency of SACCO trainings and the content of the trainings have been relevant towards enhancing each aspect of household investments. Finally, on savings and investment, attention was on the interest rate earned on savings and dividend earned on shares and how they have contributed to the enhancement of household investments for the SACCO members. These have been outlined in Table 1.

Household investment was measured by the extent to which the respondents agree that the class of needs (i.e. improved health care, access to education, participation in investment activities, access to shelter and access to insurance), have been met. A Likert scale model of questions was employed where the level of agreement was denoted by the highest number being 5 (strongly agree) and the lowest number being 1 (strongly disagree). The symbols for the indicators of SACCO services were ST (SACCO trainings), SI (savings and investment), LF (Loan facilities) and HI (household investments). The diagnostic tests were carried out to ensure the reliability of the findings of the study. This was important to ascertain the appropriateness of the statistical technique picked for this study and the reliability of the findings. The diagnostic tests carried out were normality tests and linearity tests, these also aided the researcher to identify the strengths and the weakness in the data collected for this study. Hypothesis tests were carried out using the Pearson's correlation coefficient and obtaining their P values. These tests were done to assess the presence of a relationship and to analyze the significance of the relationship between the dependent variable (household investments) and independent variable (SACCO services i.e. loan facilities, SACCO trainings and SACCO savings and investments).

## Results

From the data collected, a response rate of 55% was achieved. This makes up 129 responses out of a sample of 236 respondents. The researcher employed extensive efforts to achieve this response rate including sending follow-up messages and contacting the participants individually to encourage them to participate. According to research carried out by Manfreda, Berzelak and Vehovar (2014) on non-response of web surveys, on average online surveys yield an 11% lower response rate than other survey modes. Moreover, the results of web surveys shows response rates ranging from less than 20% to close to 100%. The reliability of the instrument was measured by the Cronbach's alpha that achieved an overall measure of 70% on the data collected from the pilot study. The ideal measure is 100%. The score implied that the questionnaire was sufficient and acceptable for the intended use as the measure was close to 100%. This provided the basis for the questionnaires' use in data collection.

Reliability of the instrument used to collect data was found to be 70% with the breakdown being as follows. All items

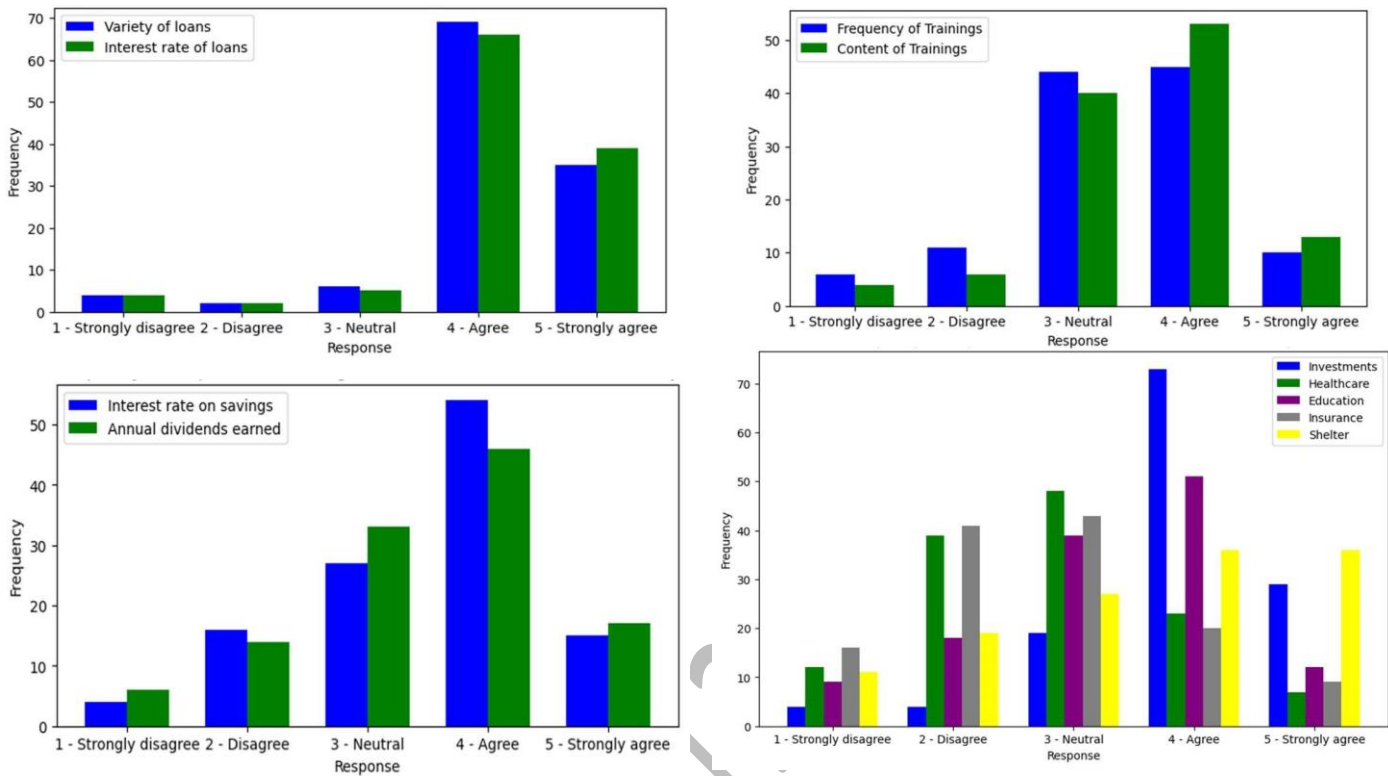
Table 1. Reliability Analysis

	<u>If item dropped</u> Cronbach's $\alpha$
Loan Facilities	0.751
SACCO_Trainings	0.688
Savings and Investments	0.727
Household_Investments	0.730

Descriptive statistics showed females were slightly more than males in the SACCOs making up 52.1% compared to males that made up 47.9% of the total respondents. This implies that the membership of SACCOs in Makadara Sub County consists of slightly more females than males. Further, the data showed that 61.5% of the respondents belonged to 31-40 years age group, while 23.1% of the respondents belonged to the age group of 41-50 years. Further, 12% of the respondents belonged to the 18-30 years age group. The age group above 50 years was only 3.4% of the total respondents. The results on the number of dependants showed that majority of SACCO members, 56% of them have 2-4 dependants. Those that have no dependants are 12% of the respondents whereas those with one dependant are 11% of respondents. Further, those with 5 to 6 dependants are 17% of the respondents. The rest of the respondents, below 1% have above six dependants and above. The findings of the age group showed that, 36.1% of the respondents had been SACCO members between 6-10 years. Furthermore, 29.4% of the respondents had been SACCO members between 0-5 years and 27.7% of the respondents had been SACCO members between 11-20 years. Only 6.7% of the respondents had been SACCO members for more than 20 years.

The frequency of responses received on various variables is as shown in Figure 1. The results show that majority of respondents agree that loan facilities enhances their capacity to invest for their households. We also see that majority of the respondents agree that the savings and investments of SACCOs enhances the earnings of the members in interest and dividends thereby enhancing their capacity to invest for their households. We find that majority of the respondents are spread between neutral and agree on training against members household investments. Finally we find that majority of the respondents agree that SACCO services enhances members capacity to invest for their household to improve their livelihood.

Figure 1. Frequency of responses



The mean and standard deviation have been displayed in Table 2. The highest mean was found on Loan facilities at 4.13 while the lowest standard deviation was also found on loan facilities at 0.85.

Table 2. Mean and Standard Deviation

Details	Mean	Std	min	max
LF	4.13	0.85	1	5
ST	3.46	0.92	1	5
SI	3.5	1.03	1	5
HI	3.14	1.25	1	5
Average	3.56	1.01		

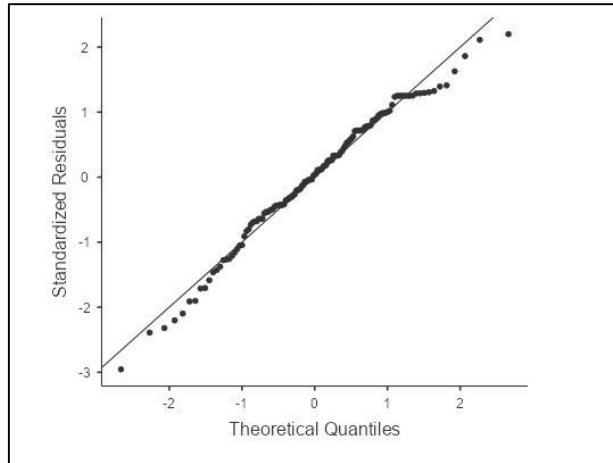
LF – Loan facilities, ST-SACCO Trainings, SI-Savings and Investments, HI-Household Investments

The lowest mean was found on household investments at 3.14 while the highest standard deviation was also found on household investments at 1.25.

Diagnostics findings on the normality tests are displayed in figure 2. We see that dots form a straight line showing that the data collected is normally distributed.



Figure 2. Q-Q plot



The hypothesis test carried out was the calculation and analysis of the correlation coefficients with the Pearson's  $r$ . These are displayed in Table 3. The correlation coefficients were important to assess the significance of the relationship between the dependent variable and the independent variables. The highest correlation coefficient is found between SACCO trainings and household investments while the lowest correlation coefficient is found between loan facilities and household investments.

Table 3. Pearson's Correlation results

	LF	ST	SI	HI
LF	1.00	0.48**	0.46**	0.41**
ST	0.48**	1.00	0.53**	0.54**
SI	0.46**	0.53**	1.00	0.48**
HI	0.41**	0.54**	0.48**	1.00

LF – Loan facilities, ST-SACCO Trainings, SI-Savings and Investments, HI-Household Investments

## Discussion

A number of insights are drawn from the examination of the data on SACCO services and household investments of SACCO members. This section discusses the findings in light of the objectives of the study. Furthermore, the results of previous studies done on this area of study are compared and contrasted in this section.

The first objective of this study was to examine the effect of loan facilities on the household investments of the SACCO members in Makadara sub-county. The indicators of loan facilities were variety of loans and interest rate on loans. From Table 6 the responses obtained from the participants of the study indicate a mean of 4.11 on variety of loans and a mean of 4.16 on interest on loans, resulting

in an grand mean of 4.13 which is agree, as the general feeling of the impact of loan facilities on their household investments. Figure 1 also mirrors the same where the agree category tends to have fetched more responses compared to all other categories in the Likert scale questionnaire followed by strongly agree. This goes to show that the SACCO members of Makadara sub-county agree that the variety of loans are adequate to enhance their household investments. On the other hand, the interest rate on loans is competitive enough to enable them access financing for various projects at an affordable cost, thereby enhancing the household investments.

The significance of the impact of loan facilities on the household investments of SACCO members as shown in Table 3, is well below 0.05. Indicating that a change in loan facilities does cause a change in the household investments of SACCO members in Makadara sub-county. The correlation coefficient is notably low implying that a considerable variance in this variable is explained by factors that are not covered in this study. These findings of loan facilities and household investments of SACCO members goes hand in hand with the ideologies of the lifecycle theory discussed in chapter 2. Where in the early years when income is low, one prefers to borrow in order to build wealth in the high-income years for use in the years of retirement. This enhances the household investments of the SACCO members and ensures a secure life in the retirement years.

The findings of the current study are similar to those of Mwai and Okatch (2017), where small loans were largely used to smooth consumption and for development expenditure. They further mentioned that loans facilitated members' wealth creation, in the study of impact of SACCOs in poverty eradication among farmers in Muranga County. However, the findings of Kibanga (2020) differ with the results of the current study. The relationship of member advancement to access of financial services was found to be positive but insignificant. However, the findings of the current study was a significant relationship between loan facilities and household investments of SACCO members

The second objective was to assess the effect of SACCO trainings on the household investments of SACCO members in Makadara sub-county. The indicators of SACCO trainings picked for this study were frequency of trainings and content of trainings. Looking at Table 2, the question, 'do you agree that SACCO trainings have had an impact on your household investments?' garnered a mean 3.46. This means that majority of the respondents have a neutral feeling edging towards agreement towards the statement. Figure 1 shows almost similar number of responses for both indicators in the neutral category and the agree category of the Likert scale. The findings also reveal a statistically significant relationship of SACCO trainings and household investments of SACCO members as the significant levels are below 0.05. Therefore, the frequency of trainings and content of trainings are adequate to enhance the household investments of SACCO members.

These findings are in line with the relative income theory, that states that the expenditure of a household depends on a households' present earnings relative to a set standard or the income of other households it identifies itself with. The results show that SACCO trainings influence the individuals in making steps towards household investments. The SACCO trainings drive likeminded behavior of SACCO members towards enhancing their household investments. The frequency of trainings and content of trainings as packaged by SACCOs are observed to be adequate to enhance the household investments of SACCO members.

The findings of the current study are similar to those of Wambua, Gathuru and Mwaura (2023), who did a study on investment literacy and household income generation among SACCO members in Narok County. The results revealed a positive significant relation of investment literacy to household income. The results of this study also compare to those of Ndegwa (2020), in her study of the role of

communication in SACCOs in promoting financial inclusion in Kenya. She found that customers prefer SACCOs compared to banks regardless of cost due their accessibility to members. The SACCO role of communication and training of members on financial services was found to enhance financial inclusion of SACCO members.

The final objective of the study was to investigate the effect of savings and investments of members funds on the household investments of SACCO members in Makadara sub-county. The indicators of the independent variable savings and investment are interest rate earned on savings and the dividend earned on shares. The descriptive statistics in Table 2 shows an average response of 3.50 on both indicators interest rate earned and dividend earned against the impact on household investments of SACCO members. Meaning that majority of participants have an agree response followed by a neutral response towards savings and investment and its impact on their household investments. The p-values obtained in Table 3 to test the hypothesis of the study show a significant relationship between savings and investments and household investments of SACCO members as they all register a value below 0.05.

The ideologies of the permanent income theory that the expenditure of an individual increases with increase in his permanent income, aligns with the findings of this study. A SACCO member's permanent income increases by the savings and the investment activities of the SACCO and the results show that these funds are utilized to access investments, healthcare, education, insurance and shelter thereby increasing their household investments. The findings in this study are similar to those of Gichuhi and Makori (2023) who revealed that capital mobilization had a significant relationship to household investment among SACCO members, in their study of SACCO services and household investment among Mwalimu SACCO members in Nyandarua. Furthermore Mpubani, Ismail and Turyakira (2020), found a significant positive relationship between growth of SACCO members enterprises and SACCO savings. These results also are similar to the findings of the current study.

## Conclusion

The problem statement sought to find out whether the uptake of the SACCO services caused the household investments of a SACCO member to improve. The study also sought find out, which financial aspects of the members' lives had been enhanced. In summary the current study sought to find out where SACCOs can celebrate wins in how SACCO services have been packaged and on the other hand where more effort needs to be placed to package the services better. This is to ensure the ability of SACCO members to invest for their households is enhanced.

The findings on loan facilities and their impact on the household investments of SACCO members shows a number of insights. The SACCO has done well in curating variety of loan products and optimizing the interest rate levied on loans to encourage members to take up credit facilities. It is clear that loan facilities have enabled the SACCO members access investments, education and shelter. They have also been able to access healthcare and insurance. SACCO members have been able to make investments and build their wealth in the process, go to school to upskill and secure a place to live for themselves and their families. This plays a role in changing the narrative on the financial status of the SACCO members. Though there is room for improvement as the correlation coefficient arrived at was quite low for loan facilities.

The findings on the impact of SACCO trainings on the household investments of SACCO members draws attention to the positive effect SACCOs have had on the households of SACCO members. Access to investments, healthcare, education, shelter and insurance are enhanced with SACCO trainings. The frequency and content of trainings have been adequately curated by the

SACCOs to address the household investments of SACCO members. SACCO members feel empowered to make decisions that will bring a positive impact to their household investments.

The results of the analysis carried out on the impact of savings and investments on the household investments of SACCO members are similar to those of SACCO trainings and household investments of SACCO members. The findings indicate the savings that are made by members and investments made by the SACCOs positively impacts the household investments of the SACCO members. Members are enabled to access investments opportunities, healthcare, education, shelter and insurance, all in a bid to enhance their financial status. SACCOs have done due diligence in ensuring the earnings made on the SACCO savings in form of dividends on shares and interest on savings are favorable and positively impact the household investments of SACCO members.

The beneficiaries and stakeholders of this study are the SACCO leaders, SACCO policy makers and the SACCO members. A review of this research will direct the interested parties towards the specific areas of focus to enhance SACCO services for the benefit of the members. This research can be utilized to review the services of the SACCO and policies that govern the administration of the services. Frequent reviews on the impact of SACCO services on the household investments of SACCO members is also important to ensure the services remain relevant.

The conclusion shows that the loan facilities offered by the SACCOs needs more focus as its correlation coefficient was 41%. The study recommends that the SACCO board reviews the variety of loans and the interest rate levied on loans to package them in a way to enhance the accessibility of healthcare for their members. This can be done by collaborating with health care givers to come up with such packages. The study also recommends that the SACCO leaders review the loans to enable SACCO members' access insurance services that will shelter them from unexpected adversities. The study also recommends that loan facilities are enhanced and packaged well to enable the SACCO members access shelter. This can be done by working with various real estate agents to curate favorable terms for members to buy property. The researcher finally recommends that loan facilities are reviewed to enhance members access to investments by giving a larger variety of loan packages and favorable interest rates to encourage members to take education loans towards being empowered.

SACCO trainings have been found to be adequate in enhancing the household investments of the SACCO members. However, this does not mean that the trainings continue to be done the same way in terms of frequency and content. The SACCO board is encouraged to continue researching and developing their training schedules to be in line with the changing economy. SACCO members are also urged to recommend to the board areas where they feel they need to be trained on. The economic state of the environment is inevitably prone to change due to various reasons. Therefore, if one does not adapt to change the effects of the change could negatively affect his or her ability to invest for their household. Hence, continuously improving trainings is important.

The SACCO board members are urged to continue looking for ways of maximizing the member's returns. The results do show that the savings and investments made by SACCOs have enabled SACCO members access healthcare, education, investments, insurance and shelter. So far, SACCOs in Makadara sub-county are on the right path and good decisions are being made in the utilization of members funds. However continuously maximizing the returns on the savings of the members, will ensure continuity of the SACCO. As a result members will remain in the SACCOs and other individuals will join SACCOs. A win for the SACCO is also a win for the member, as their household investments will continue to be enhanced.

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