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Tiivistelmä-Referat-Abstract The aim of this thesis is to examine how the concept of participation is being used in Finnish development cooperation activities in Kenya and whether the projects were sustainable after Finnish funds were ended. The research uses different relevant literatures related to Finnish Development Cooperation policies, official documentations of projects/programmes from Finnish-Kenyan governments, Finnish non-governmental organization (FNGOs), Kenyan non governmental organizations (KNGOs), archival materials of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland to examine final reports of the projects/programmes, observations at projects sites and informal interviews with some beneficiaries and project personnel in Kenya. The study uses Cohen&Uphoff's questions (who participate, in what kind of activities and stages in the process, reasons they participate and how they participate) and Pretty's seven different ways to analyze different actors' participation in the projects. There were two main different ways people participated the projects and programmes: 1) Passive participation meaning that target groups or intended beneficiaries participate by being told what has already been decided or what has happened. 2) Participation for material incentive: local people participate by contributing resources in return for salary. Almost all the projects studied(both bilateral and NGOs) claimed in their documents that they see participation as a means to achieve project sustainability and their primary beneficiaries will actively share decision-making process. However, in practice target groups were involved mainly in the implementation stage. Sustainability was a major problem in both FNGOs projects as well as bilateral programmes			
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