EXAMINING THE ROLE OF THE WORLD BANK IN POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION: A CASE OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

BY

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY- AFRICA

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DECLARATION
I, the undersigned, declare that this is my original work achieved through scientific research and personal readings and has not been submitted to any other university or college for academic credit other than United States International University -Africa

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Ambassador Prof. Ruthie C. Rono
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs (DVCASA)
DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to all refugee women and children all over the World who encounter day to day movement due to civil wars in their countries.

To Clement and Christerbel Shangali, Theopister Kisnane and my siblings for being my cheer leaders and reminding me that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
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ABBREVIATIONS

AU – African Union

CAF - Country Assistance Framework

DRC – Democratic Republic of Congo

MDG – Millennium Development Goals

NGO – Non-Governmental Organization

OECD - Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

PER - Public Expenditure

PRSP - Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

UN – United Nations

UNDP – United Nations Development Program

WB – World Bank
ABSTRACT

Democratic Republic of Congo is a country with rich natural resources. However, the continuous civil wars in DRC have made it difficult for any meaningful economic, social, and political development to take place. The underdevelopment in DRC is the reason why the World Bank initiated projects that can help in steering economic development in DRC thus the need for the study. Therefore, it is critical to understand the underlying issues affecting the suitability and effectiveness of economic development in DRC. This thesis explores the role of the World Bank in post-conflict reconstruction from conflict resolution towards sustainable economic development programs in Democratic Republic of Congo. It strives to show the changing role of the World Bank in the reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The study used qualitative research approach as well as the case study research design. Data was collected through secondary sources and the data was qualitatively examined by the use of content analysis. The study is premised on two theories. Conflict theory which states that conflicts arise as a result of presence of two or more disagreeing parties while institutional theory presents the systems or organizational and institutional arrangement that can support sustainable economic development from bodies such as World Bank. The study found out that the World Bank in its efforts to transform from post conflict resolution to economic development programs, has resorted to implementation of various projects that have helped spur economic growth in the DRC. The study concluded that indeed the World Bank has shifted from promoting conflict resolution to initiating and implementing sustainable economic development programs that will have a lasting solution to DRC problems. The study, therefore, recommends that problems such as poverty, marginalization, and repeat civil unrests could be issues of the past as long as the recommendations identified in the study are addressed.
CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

The chapter presents the background to the study; it identifies the gap through the statement of the problem. It also outlines the objectives of the study, research questions, and significance of the study as well as the scope of the study. The chapter also consists of brief discussion on literature review, methodology and organization of the thesis.

1.1 Background of the Study

The World Bank is an international organization dedicated to improve economic development of countries around the world. Set up after the Second World War, the organization allowed economically rich countries to borrow money at very low rates, and in turn lend this money to economically developing states that may have not had the same lending abilities due to high interest. (Hurd, 2014) explains, the World Bank has very good credit and the belief was that by improving economies, and addressing issues such as poverty, this would help prevent conflict from arising within and outside the boundaries. Currently the World Bank has 10000 employees, and a budget of 57 billion dollars. It is also comprised of 189 members within the international organization. The objectives of the World Bank are to deal with development projects, cooperating with state and non-state actors, and are a major entity in the field of international relations arena. (Behar, 2012)

While it was initially focused on Europe, the scope of their activities increased to all parts of the world. Today, it continues to focus on aid for development projects. During its
earlier years, many of the functions of the World Bank included loans for electric power, as well as transportation. In fact, these specific concentrations accounted for two-thirds of all World Bank aid (Driscoll, 1996). However, throughout the years of the World Bank, the functions of the World Bank have increased and expanded to other issues (Driscoll, 1996). This study seeks to examine the changing role of World Bank in post-conflict reconstruction. It goes further to examine the changing role from conflict resolution to sustainable economic development with a focus on the Democratic Republic of Congo as a case study.

The international community has a long-standing involvement in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). During the Cold War, Western countries supported the DRC, despite its poor economic policies and political repression. Following the end of the Cold War, foreign interest declined, reemerging around the turn of the century. Herderschee et al. (2012) argues that in the last 10 years, the international community has invested considerable resources to stabilize the country through international peacekeeping efforts. Rising commodity prices continue to create more interest in the country’s unexploited natural resources.

Post conflict societies face distinctive challenges in their attempt on economic recovery and reduction of the risks of recovery from conflict. Supporting the recovery was the founding objective of the World Bank, both aid and policy reforms that have been found to be highly effective in the post-conflict context in many countries across the globe (Collier and Hoeffler, 2004a)

World Bank’s initial role of conflict resolution and integration mechanisms after the 1998 to 2002 second war in DRC, in partnership with other international organizations, was specifically geared towards promoting stability. Interestingly, the recurrence of civil conflicts
in some countries has not made the role of the World Bank on conflict resolution to be as effective as had been intended. This has consequently prompted the World Bank to make a rapid change in strategy hence the initiation of economic sustainability projects in the affected countries. The strategy to be effective required the World Bank to change its framework of non-lending projects to lending projects making the government of DRC liable for their actions or risk lack of support from the World Bank (Clément, 2004).

Generally, the role of the World Bank is to facilitate and implement economic development and growth of nations through the financing of projects and programs. The World Bank is involved in various programs in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and as result of the continuous conflict that has made it impossible for effective economic development. Therefore, the World Bank aim is to help in the reconstruction and sustainable development projects in DRC. DRC has not enjoyed a lasting peace and the political challenges keep shifting. From this background information, we are able to understand why the World Bank is involved in DRC through various economic development programs.

Civil conflict in the DRC is a major obstacle to development and attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Conflict affects development negatively because when conflict occurs peace and security are undermined. Where development is effective, countries are likely to become progressively safer from violent conflict (Philipsen et al, 2016). Where development fails, countries are at high risk of being caught in a conflict trap in which violence wrecks the economy, exacerbates poverty and social distress, and increases the risk of further conflict, threatening stability, and peace (Chandler, 2009).
The consequences of conflict are mostly borne by civilians (Philipsen et al, 2016). Conflict affects the development of a nation or country negatively and contributes to poverty among civilians as witnessed in most African countries in conflict such as DRC. Since poverty is both a cause and a consequence of conflict, the core mission of the World Bank on poverty alleviation across the globe cannot permit the organization to stay away from conflict due to its impact on poverty and development (Human Rights Watch, 2010).

According to Soubbotina (2004), in 1998 the World Bank Operations Evaluation Department (OED) took a careful look at the institution’s post-conflict performance. Although World Bank Operations Evaluation Department judged that the organization’s performance improved in a number of respects (an example of greater efforts to rebuild human and social capital), it concluded that the institution had a definite comparative advantage in supporting the special needs of countries emerging from conflict (World Bank, 2011).

Amer et al, (2012) indicates that over the past decade or so that the World Bank has increasingly sought to address the conflict-development nexus in line with its overall poverty alleviation mandate. The World Bank has adapted its policies and tools to increase the flexibility and speed with which it responds to the needs of conflict-affected countries. Amer et al, (2012) indicates issues such as strengthened partnerships with the international community, especially the United Nations system; developed analytical and knowledge capacity to gain a better understanding of the causes and impact of conflict; and considerably expanded level and type of resource transfers to support countries emerging from conflict.

Muscat and Michael (2002), notes that the World Bank still has much to learn about rebuilding war-torn societies, but the processes and mindsets to learn from post-conflict
experience and to try to respond rapidly and flexibly are in place and well established within the institution. Reconstruction and development planning and economic policy and public finance management form an important focus for the technical assistance and policy dialogue work of the World Bank in post-conflict environments, but they are not the major cost item: the majority of International Development Assistance post-conflict assistance is devoted to sectorial reconstruction and, where needed, transitional budget support.

The World Bank may provide financing and technical expertise to specific reconstruction sub-sectors within its mandate and institutional capacity. Areas of sectorial emphasis will vary from country to country depending on needs and priorities identified by national counterparts; on financing gaps, and on the availability of support from other donors. In several post-conflict countries, the World Bank’s program has a strong emphasis on the reconstruction of large-scale physical infrastructure as seen in DRC (Moore, 2000).

In the reconstruction of the DRC, Clément, (2004) argues that the World Bank in its earlier efforts towards reconstruction process concentrated on projects that were geared towards conflict resolution and integration in a bid to try and bring stability in the DRC. The eruption of civil conflict has made it difficult for such efforts to create an atmosphere that is effective towards economic growth.

Herderschee et al (2012) argues that the two civil wars in DRC devastated the country’s economy, social fabric, government capacity and infrastructure. The World Bank has committed to helping the people and government of the DRC achieve economic sustainability. Some of these achievements can be seen in the programs and projects the World Bank engages in expanding and promoting economic prosperity.
The role of the World Bank is to facilitate the forging of common positions on various issues among those who control or influence policies in the DRC (Philipsen, et al, 2016). DRC position in terms of size, resources, and location has an effect on the central African states in terms of economic development and stability. The country has unexplored mining resources and massive agricultural potential which if properly utilized and explored can make DRC one of the economic giants in the continent.

The Democratic Republic of Congo borders nine countries and has complex economic, migration, and political relations with each of them. Its development has a significant impact on the economic growth and political stability of the continent due to the movement of refugees into other countries. This often carries with it numerous risks such as drug trafficking, human trafficking, and promote illegal activities (Payne and Raiborn, 2001).

Poverty indicators are high by regional standards. Mortality rates for children under five remain at approximately 15 percent, less than a quarter of the population has access to safe drinking water, and less than a tenth of the population has access to electricity clarifies (Dobbins, 2008). Karim (2017) indicates that maternal deaths from childbirth declined from more than 1 percent of live births in 2001 to well below 1 percent in 2008. Primary school enrollment rates increased from 64 to 71 percent between 2005 and 2007 (Karim, 2017).

The World Bank’s role in the DRC towards economic sustainability after the 1998 – 2002 civil wars was to create an environment for economic development and growth to thrive (Chandy and Kharas, 2015). This role was critical in safeguarding the interests of the civilians from deaths and displacement in a joint collaboration with other organizations such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Lund (2003) point out that in 2004 the World
Bank initiated a national disarmament and demobilization program that was geared towards promoting peace and stability in DRC.

The conflict resolution programs were intended to ensure an all-inclusive approach, taking into account disarmament, protection of vulnerable groups, demobilization, and reintegration mechanisms says Clément, and that these programs includes demobilization and reintegration of 25,000 to 30,000 of mainly adult ex-combatants in three key groups (Clément, 2004).

Schwartz also mentions the demobilization and reintegration of combatants in the Pool region which included up to 1,500 child soldiers. Re-integration of ex-combatants who have access to arms and remain unemployed, as well as support to communities where ex-combatants are present, were some of the program goals and objectives (Schwartz, 2010).

The World Bank’s role in conflict resolution and integration mechanisms was geared towards proceedings that facilitate communal reinsertion of ex-combatants through reconciliation events, encouragement of a culture of peace, and the intensification of traditional and other conflict resolution (Schwartz, 2010). It is against this background that this study seeks to examine the role of the World Bank in post-conflict reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Democratic Republic of Congo is a country with rich natural resources such as diamond, copper, gold, and tantalum which are large sources of export income in the country. The continuous civil wars in DRC have made it difficult for any meaningful economic, social,
and political development to take place. The underdevelopment in DRC is the reason why the World Bank initiated projects that can help in steering economic development in DRC. This thesis examines the role of the World Bank in the post-conflict reconstruction in the DRC. It examines how and what policy initiatives the World Bank has engaged in towards making DRC a better and more developed nation.

This study concentrates on DRC because it is a unique case study with natural and mineral resources but still faces the challenge of not only conflict but also poverty. Therefore it is critical to understand the underlying issues affecting the suitability and effectiveness of economic development in DRC. Greater concern is addressing the changing role of the World Bank from conflict resolution and integration programs to sustainable economic programs highlighting the various projects the World Bank is funding towards achieving their goal and objective in the DRC.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study was to examine the role of the World Bank in post-conflict reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Whereas the specific objectives were;

a) To examine how the role of the World Bank has changed from promoting conflict resolution programs to promoting sustainable economic development programs in DRC.

b) To examine the contributing factors towards the change from promoting conflict resolution to promoting sustainable economic development.

c) To describe the outcomes of programs of World Bank on conflict resolution and sustainable economic development in DRC.
1.4. Research Questions

The research questions for this study include:

a) How has the role of World Bank changed from promoting conflict resolution programs to promoting sustainable economic development programs in DRC?

b) What are the contributing factors towards the change from promoting conflict resolution to promoting sustainable economic development in DRC?

c) What are the outcomes of the change from conflict resolution and sustainable economic development programs in DRC?

1.5. Significance of the Study

To policy makers; the study findings and recommendations will help the policy makers to examine and formulate policies, frameworks and strategies that can be implemented by different stakeholders in conflict resolutions and peace buildings in order to improve the overall economic development status and consequently reduce poverty in the DRC and beyond.

The study findings and conclusions will be used by academicians and future researchers to conduct further research in a relevant field. Therefore, the study will act as a point of reference for both academicians and researchers on the role of World Bank in post-conflict and sustainable economic development issues not only in the DRC but also in other parts of the globe.
1.6 Scope of the Study

The scope of this study is limited to the programs that the World Bank has initiated in the DRC towards changing from post-conflict reconstruction efforts to sustainable economic development in the country. The study addresses and examines these programs into details showcasing their outcome on how best they have been able to aid this process of economic development.

1.7 Literature Review

This section examines literature that exists from different scholars on the role of World Bank in post-conflict reconstruction. The literature review was conducted through comprehensive analysis and objective evaluation of the relevant literature on the topic under consideration. This section created a basis for identifying the literature gap.

1.7.1. The Role of the World Bank in Reconstruction of Conflict Affected Countries

The role of World Bank is to provide assistance to developing and transition countries in the promotion of economic development. In managing its roles and objectives the World Bank incorporates capacity building, infrastructure development, development of financial systems, combating corruption, and engage in research, consultancy, and training (Chandy and Kharas, 2015).

In Daniel Barlow’s book “The Role of the World Bank in Post-Conflict Situations”, the main objective of the World Bank is clearly described as fostering sustainable economic development through reduction of poverty in developing countries by incorporating programs
and projects to champion this course (Daniel, 2002). The implication of the World Bank’s role as witnessed in several countries is, according to Chandy and Kharas (2015), that it promotes economic sustainability, improves lives of citizens, and basically helps reduce poverty among citizens.

According to Montgomery and Rondinelli (2004), post-conflict reconstruction is hardly a new initiative and could be traced back to Marshall Plan which came into existence during World War II. This has seen the involvement of World Bank in the Balkans, Afghanistan and Iraq in order to promote peace building and conflict reconstruction in the affected countries in the world. However, according to Goodhand and David (1999), in the African context, in the recent past, the World Bank has come up with peace building and post-conflict initiatives in the DRC, South Sudan, Somali, Central African Republic and Burundi. Consequently, the African Union (AU) and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) have come up with frameworks and policies that handle post-conflict reconstruction in the affected countries.

According to Sharamo and Mesfin (2011), no part of the continent has been exposed to devastation and human fatalities after World War II as compared to Horn of Africa. The World Bank, among other institutions has implemented several initiatives to foster peace and stability. The latter is important in particular since the intra and inter conflict in the region have resulted in human suffering as a result of political instability which has adversely affected overall economic development (Lyman and Morrison, 2004). The study, therefore, draws success or failure of World Bank in post-conflict reconstructions from two countries in the continent of Africa.
For instance, the approach of World Bank in Eritrea took a different dimension. Soon after the country’s independence, the organization increased development related projects in Eritrea. The need for development projects in the country was free from any conditionality. The lack of conditionality, existed due to the fact that the Government of Eritrea had already put in place reforms and mechanisms that would not guarantee any form of conditions due to the country’s policy regarding self-determination, was no longer any foreign power’s jurisdiction.

However, the support of the World Bank to the Eritrean Government came to a halt in the period that the border-war emerged. The development support by the World Bank to the country did not increase even after border-war but rather drastically decreased as a result of political instability. This withdrawal of the World Bank exposed Eritrea to suffering both economically, militarily and politically. This was due to the notion that the Government did not put in mechanisms to stop the war but rather acted as an instigator of the war. Coupled with the fact that the government failed to adhere to international standards practices, the World Bank had no choice but to retreat and retract from its noble economic and peace-building missions (Borchgrevink, 2008). To add salt to injury the Eritrean government further postponed democracy reforms, oppressed and banned opposition leaders and gathering as well as hampering and gagging media. All these led to presence of the worst human rights abuse in Africa (Mulugeta, 2011). Therefore, the World Bank projects in Eritrea stagnated and to certain scenario ceased from operations in the country.

Another living case example is Ethiopia, one of the countries’ in the Horn of Africa. The country is a real example of a case study where the organization thrived well and has very good success stories that motivates the need for the study. As opposed to Eritrea, immediately
after the independence war, the World Bank support both economically, governance and political stability to Ethiopian government only improved. To achieve this, the organization firstly put in place reconstruction policies and a structural adjustment program that could foster immediate and faster growth and development in the country.

Contrary to Eritrea, the organization put conditions in their engagement with the Ethiopian government. These composed of devaluation of the national currency of Ethiopian government known as birr, the World Bank also imposed free exchange rates. The country was also compelled to lower taxes and tariffs as well as removal of price controls, liberalization and privatization of many of public institutions (Gulrajani, 2011). The conditionality was subject to World Bank which after deep evaluation the organization gave the country green bill of health (World Bank, 2000). Interestingly, Ethiopian1996 did not want to continue with the laid down conditions, this they argued hampered their independence. The government instead wants to be in control and charged of all state-governed companies among other barriers put in place by the World Bank (Furtado and Smith, 2009).

Consequently, during the year 1990s, the organization’s support to agricultural sector fell. Only developments in health and education were supported by the World Bank. The organization partial support only took short period of time especially during the border-war. Afterwards the World Bank’s support to Ethiopia improved immensely. This made Ethiopia to be recognized internationally as one of the few countries being ready and willing to conform to best international standards practices (Human Rights Watch, 2010).

Despite the fact that the government of Ethiopia had earlier on indicated that it was not ready to accept conditionality that were against its policies, norms and regulations, the financial
and other development related issues were implemented in Ethiopia (Epstein, 2010). The projects implemented in Ethiopia which ranged from women entrepreneurship development, tourism development as well as capacity building focused mostly on long-term basis rather than short or medium term strategies (World Bank, 2016). In summary the World Bank has failed in stamping their authority in some countries in terms of development while on the other hand, the body has been successful in enhancing economic development with nations that seems to cooperate.

1.7.2. World Bank and Sustainable Economic Development

Collier and Anke (2002) asserts that the recent development witnessed in the continent of Africa has provided a better example of the link between development and growth that is transformative and that is inclined to social goals of different countries in the continent. Most countries in the continent developed faster in 2000s. However, the growth was based on the expansion of the services sector as long term measure rather than creating immediate employment for the citizens. This development geared towards industrialization in the late 1980s and 2000s saw an increase and demonstration of strong economic development. However, some countries like DRC lagged behind despite the overwhelming rich natural resources that were at the country’s disposal.

Conversely, due to lack of structural transformation and the creation of good quality jobs and sustainable incomes coupled with lack of accountability, transparency as well as bad governance made many of the African countries to miss many Sustainable Development Goals (UNCTAD, 2013). In this context, DRC as a country plagued with conflicts year in year out was still grappling with personal and self-inflicted issues and could nowhere be seen to be moving towards stability. This exposed the country to economic instability and also political
instability. The existence of warlords who wanted to be included in all peace initiatives also made sustainable economic development an uphill task. This despite the pressure from international communities and the sanctions imposed on the senior government and warring figures in the country.

In a rejoinder Brennan (2007) states that economic transformation demands for long-term strategies to support the expansion of productivity in all sector of the economy to minimize bottlenecks. In this respect, transformative development also requires an in-depth growth and development mechanisms in order to improve the livelihood of the people and thus reduce poverty (UNCTAD, 2016). Therefore, the financing needs to support the Sustainable Development Goals are necessary as this will illustrate clear road maps to recovery. In DRC, it has been established that the investment in infrastructure development alone, to date still faces financing needs at the global level that partly needs that full participation of the organizations such as the World Bank to be allowed to operate in such countries but this depend on political stability; a country that is free of conflicts in viable for any kind of development by any organization (Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, 2014).

Ingrid (2001) asserts that World Bank assistance has helped many states to realize economic stability and sustainability through various provisions of financial resources. John Tibbetts agrees in his writings that notable successes stories can be seen in India where the World Bank involvement in the financing of the agricultural sector in the 1960s has seen India become a leader the agricultural sector where they were encouraged to plant a variety of crops for domestic consumption and for export as a way of earning important revenue for the country economic sustainability (Ingrid, 2002).
Daniel Bradlow argues that in post-conflict reconstruction activities of the World Bank, it focuses on the comparative advantage and plays a coordinating work (Daniel, 2001). This involves funding of economic reconstruction activities as witnessed in most nations and states including DRC. This is important in addressing the situations that conflict creates which involve the destruction of economic parameters and the role of the World Bank is to engage in creating sustainable economic development parameters for nations to adopt and grow effectively and efficiently.

Daniel Bradlow asserts that the World Bank involvement in the issues of international law compliance have complicated its mandate with most African nations that they operate in creating barriers and challenges towards effectively executing their mandate states (Daniel, 2001). The World Bank mandate does not involve political engagements but the failure of a nation or state to observe and protect international humanitarian law may have a negative effect towards creating a lasting reconstruction mechanism and raising the requires financial assistance for economic reconstruction (Daniel, 2001).

John Tibbetts and Daniel Bradlow have written a lot on the World Bank and its mandate in post-conflict reconstruction both agree that it has so far seen and witnessed numerous successes in its operations and executing of its mandate including hunger and poverty reduction to many states and nations, it has been able to contribute financial and technical assistance in the ‘green revolution’. As indicated by Christopher et al, (2008), this is a major milestone in the overall sustainability mechanisms for the environment. The World Bank has also rapidly embarked on infrastructure development in most developing countries especially in Africa including DRC so as to be able to provide basic development parameters that are effective in spurring development and growth (Christopher et al, 2008).
Pierre and Denis (2008) in their book “Post-conflict Reconstruction in Africa: Flawed Ideas about Failed States” argue that reconstruction of states after the armed conflict is the responsibility of international community through international organizations like the World Bank, United Nations. Christopher et al, (2008) notes that unlike traditional peacekeeping operations, that mainly focus on prevention of possible reoccurrence of hostilities, state reconstruction focuses restoring the state's monopoly over the means of coercion asserts (Pierre and Denis, 2008).

Pierre and Denis (2008) argue for the importance of the World Bank especially in the reconstruction of states and the economies affected by conflicts. He cites why peacekeeping has not been the best practice to eradicate conflict but economic reconstruction and development. For example as indicated by Englebert and Tull, in regards to peacekeeping, the United Nations engaged in the largest peacekeeping mission in DRC with 17,400 peacekeepers and 2,500 European Union troops but was unable to prevent violence in the wake of the 2006 post-conflict elections, and conflict in the eastern region actually increased after the 2003-06 transition (Pierre and Denis, 2008).

Despite all the challenges that the DRC has faced, the World Bank has still demonstrated that there construction is still an integral part of its work in countries such as the DRC which is still afflicted in post-conflict reconstruction. Additionally, the body has expanded its focus to consist of lending projects in the social sectors, poverty reduction strategies, debt relief and good corporate governance that if well-established could lead to economic sustainability (Furtado, 2000). Further, the World Bank has made alleviation of poverty as one of its main goal and objectives since the Millennium Declaration in 2000. The organization delivered its annual World Development Report (WDR) in 2000 and poverty
alleviation as heralded in the Millennium Declaration in 2000. Thus, it was known as “Attacking Poverty”. This was specifically meant to spur growth and consequently attainment of sustainable economic development.

According to the WDR released in the year 2000, the organization has deserted from the view of poverty in regard to income and consumption, lack of employment opportunities, adequate land, and inadequate health facilities. This, therefore, imply that the World Bank resorted to viewing poverty as premised on structural arrangements and economic related factors (World Bank, 1991). The WDR (2000) report, therefore, has been developed on three main themes. These include security, empowerment, development/growth and employment/business opportunities. Basing on these three themes, the report highlights the significance of various institutions in a given country and their urge and need to meet the needs of the poor in the society. The report supports the notion that there is need for developing countries to making government institutions friendly to the poor and also eradicating impediments to poverty alleviation and improvement in economic development mostly in developing and conflict ridden countries like the case of DRC (Bhattacharya and Romani, 2013).

According to the report (WDR, 2000), there is great need for the World Bank as economic development oriented body to align mostly on creating proper governing organizations and institutions in developing countries such as DRC, Somali, South Sudan and Central Africa Republic. This, the report alluded could be implemented by helping the war stricken countries to implement policies that can help in enhancing free trade and investment(Svejnar, 2002).
According to Sampson (2001), the WDR (2000) has in the recent past been seen as responding to criticisms that has been directed against the World Bank. This has been witnessed in the introduction of a robust, comprehensive and balanced understanding of sustainable economic development in the affected nations in order to alleviate poverty. However, in spite of the fact that the organization does elaborate view on the hindrance to poverty reduction, its main objective is still on sustainable economic development. Nevertheless, according to Epstein (2010), there is still no vivid elaboration (2000) as to how market-oriented economic reforms as initiated by the World Bank to stimulate growth can lead to sustainable economic development in war torn countries such as DRC.

In the era of too much liquidity and savings in the global arena, development banks such as the World Bank are by nature the key service providers for long-term finance that fosters economic development (UNCTAD, 2014). A part from the mission of the World Bank to rendering long-term financial support, the organization can provide flexible lending to the weak developing economies thus enhancing their resilience to economic downfalls. Embracing such strategies can then help developing countries seal their productive capacities by promoting economic development.

In DRC for example, sub-regional development commercial banks do have small capital bases which thus limits their lending capacity to development programs in the country. Coupled with unstable political situations that have made financing bodies such as World Bank to keep off from the country, the situation has been moving from bad to worse. This has not made life possible for the citizens as poverty level keeps on surging. The instability of the country has not also been accommodative to many financing institutions thus the overall economic development in the country has been wanting in the last couple of decades.
This has therefore created an avenue for other mechanisms to be implemented in post-conflict reconstruction which basically require development and growth in areas of sustainable economic development including infrastructure, agriculture which have a direct impact in the lives of civilians and as a result helps in eradicating conflict because they would not want to lose gains made in bettering civilians lives which can effectively work better than peacekeeping in a country that has witnessed armed conflict.

1.7.3. Challenges of Post Conflict Reconstruction to the World Bank in Africa

The role of World Bank on post-conflict reconstruction has two major specific objectives. These are; to facilitate the transition to sustainable and real peaceful coexistence and peace-building even after disagreements and conflicts have stopped, secondly; to support sustainable economic development and posterity especially in the conflict stricken countries. The latter relies heavily on the success of economic transition and on rebuilding and restoration of access to external resources to enhance development while the former which is the aim of this subsection is to promote peace building and post conflict reconstruction between differing parties in any state.

As a matter of fact, the nature and depth of post conflicts especially within the borders of the affected country in the current post-cold war era have adversely jeopardize development at the expense of human suffering. In many cases, the interstate conflicts have resulted in some countries threatening both local and neighboring economic and political stability. This to a large extent has diverted the attention of the World Bank from rendering economic development issues in an elaborate manner in the affected countries. Nevertheless, the
operations of the World Bank in these countries that are still healing from post conflict have become an integral proportion of the Bank's agenda and programs. Despite the fact that the price of post conflict reconstruction can be enormous, the World Bank has remained focus in fulfilling its missions and has equally refused to be overshadowed by internal wrangling in many of the African countries at the expense of rendering services to the citizens. In cases where the government inflicted with internal conflicts unwillingness to cooperate, the organization has always resorted to channeling their economic development through NGOs that are found within a given country’s set up.

Daniel (2001), explains that attempts by international organizations such as the World Bank have had few success stories in Africa as the engineering institutional change in Africa reveals shortcomings that impede the success of such efforts acknowledges (Pierre and Denis, 2008). Western countries that have influence in international institutions impose reconstruction efforts and mechanisms in areas that they have interests in and therefore this has made it very hard for adequate success stories especially in DRC with its rich mineral resources taking center stage.

Ainsworth, Kathleen and Andrew (2014) have attributed the myriad of challenges facing post conflict reconstruction to many factors. First, civil conflicts in affected country rarely end in outright victories for the side claiming to be powerful. This, therefore, implies that post-conflict agreements in many instances are always unstable. As a matter of fact, there are winners and losers (Collier and Anke, 2002). In African context, despite the fact that the side that seems to have won assumes the control of all and sundry, however, how the winner handles the losing group will be essential in indicating or rather pointing out whether the overall post-reconciliation agreements coexists or whether the prevailing peace at that point in
time is sustainable. Factually in such circumstances, a new government (the presumed winning team) may be subjected to unstable, uneasy and unrealistic coalition made up of competing parties who have been fighting state in the past. The results can either be positive or negative. The latter always takes precedence over the former in many cases. In cases where the former takes center then the World Bank strategies in line with strategic development are thwarted.

Secondly, the country that is affected with conflict lacks the capacity to effectively use aid provided immediately during post conflict due to fact that it lacks institutional capacities and capable human resources to run the programs. Research by the World Bank (2016) reaffirms this scenario and equivocally indicates that during the initial three years immediately after the conflict in the affected countries, they generally lack the absorptive capacity for any economic assistance for sustainable economic development. However, the report further shows during the next seven years absorptive capacity increases and economic growth is spurred which is an indication of sustainable economic development (Schiavo-Campo, 2003). However, the World Bank has attempted to train, capacitate and equip the stakeholders with skills, expertise and knowhow on the running and implementing of the formulated economic development strategies.

The third challenge could be the public expectations of the benefits from post conflict reconstruction. From the public perspective, the expectations could be extremely high in the sense that in the case of any failure to achieve the expectations, then the result is total public outcry which could lead to resurgent of illegal groupings which in some instances resorts to resistance mechanisms. Of course after suffering economic challenges as a result of war, the people expect nothing other than "peace dividend" and expect sooner than later. If peace fails then it simply means that the World Bank as economically governed body will seek other
alternatives of channeling their programs either through locally based institutions or Non-Governmental Organizations.

The fourth challenge could be donor pressures from bodies such as the World Bank to achieve immediate outcomes are also likely to pose challenge to post conflict reconstructions. To be specific any country that has gone through war turmoil is not expected to adjust to the new situation of economic development as fast as it is deemed by many financiers hence there is need to give the affected countries space to acclimatize or rather adjust to the prevailing situations before asserting pressure on them (Rohland and Sarah, 2002).

Moreover, given the risks of possibility of recurrence of conflict coupled with high expectations within and outside the affected country for positive results, the challenge for post conflict nations is basically to lift the capability of the affected country to absorb the available economic development aid efficiently and effectively as long as World Bank resources are at their disposal. Since the major impediments to implementing projects are institutional and human capacity, the financing organization in this case the World Bank should not only provide long-term benefits, but should also put in place mechanisms that can enable the country to use aid properly without compromising their capability. To this end, sustainable economic development could be realized.

In a rejoinder, Schiavo-Campo (2003) says that reconstruction efforts by World Bank in Africa have also not been successful with the continuous political effects and looming conflict that is a threat to its stability. Civil war in most failed states coupled with political challenges has made the role of the World Bank in its reconstruction missions to fail. According to Daniel (2001), weak institutionalization is the main characteristic of African
autocracies; state failure can be thought of as an extension or consequence of such regimes. Internal conflict associated with political infighting due to lack of democracy has become the norm and the problems of DRC cannot go unmentioned with political infighting of power to control the vast natural resources and minerals in the country.

The use of violence to acquire power is the norm in most African states, for example, a look at the political instability in DRC is a clear reflection of the use of violence to acquire power. In DRC many of the militia and guerrilla leaders in the second war (1998 - 2003), were in government during President Mobutu and Kabila regimes (Clément, 2004). These leaders had the resources and knew how to organize violence to force inclusion in government and as a result were not interested in any meaningful change in DRC. This makes the reconstruction efforts of the World Bank a serious challenge because the very leaders who advocate violence cannot in anyway be interested in the reconstruction efforts of the DRC as the effects will render them obsolete and therefore they do not promote the state building agenda the World Bank advocates for (Daniel, 2001).

Further, according to the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (2003), the World Bank’s initial involvement in post conflict reconstruction was geared towards availing financial capital to enhance development. Nevertheless, in a post-Cold War reign witnessed by increase in the depth of intrastate conflicts, the organization established that it have to conform to different and tedious challenges. Additionally, the organization’s role in West, Central, East Africa and Horn of African countries led the World Bank to re-examine their involvement in post conflict reconstruction in the affected countries. Upon establishing that their noble faced cumbersome post-conflict situations and growing expectations from international community, the organization made to decision to come up with a number of expertise’ in post conflict
reconstruction who assisted in examining the World Bank’s operation framework. This made the organization to create the Post-Conflict Unit in 1997 (World Bank, 1997).

Lund (2003) notes further that the Post-Conflict Unit provided effective guidelines for the World Bank’s engagement with the nations that are post conflict environment or state. However, the focus of the organization still remained tightly on post conflict reconstruction. Despite the creation, the World Bank went further from approach focused on rebuilding infrastructure and post conflict unit to an organization that also seeks to comprehend the root causes of conflicts and political instability so as to promote assistance that could reduce the main causes of conflicts in the affected countries. This step was informed by the World Bank’s research findings in 1997 that found that post-conflict nations face high chance of reverting to conflict in the first 5 years after peace building initiative. This report, therefore, made the organization to reinforce the need to embrace a wider strategy to conflict resolutions during and after the post-conflict reconstruction period.

In line with this change in focus by the World Bank, in the month of January 2001, the Bank’s Executive Directors unanimously gave consent to Operational Policy/Bank Procedures 2.30 (OP/BP2.30), Development Cooperation and Conflict (World Bank, 2000) that provided for a strategically placed framework and mechanism that sets forth with the criteria for World Bank involvement in countries that are susceptible to conflicts or that have are post conflict reconstruction (Muscat & Michael, 2002). To achieve the objective uplifting the economic development of developing countries, the Post Conflict Unit was broadly renamed as the Conflict Prevention and Reconstruction (CPR) Unit. The unit thereby set about the task of translating the reality of ‘no development without peace’ into guidance operations for Bank assistance to countries such as DRC. Notably, the World Bank has been faced by myriad which
has derailed its operations in Africa especially in countries that are prone to conflicts such as the Democratic Republic of Congo.

1.7.4. The World Bank’s Changed Role of Economic Sustainability in the Reconstruction of DRC

In the reconstruction of DRC from post-conflict resolutions efforts to economic sustainability mechanisms it is evident the World Bank engaged in financial support mechanisms that incorporated buy-off tactics that forced the elites and political leaders to end their hardline positions and join in the economic reconstruction of DRC (Clément, 2004). It is through peace that economic sustainability can be achieved. Promoting peace therefore requires the involvement of all political leaders which will promote a sense of ownership that will result in agreements on the way forward and on better and effective mechanisms on the reconstruction agenda that involve everyone in the society regardless of being in government or in the opposition. The post conflict initiatives have immensely improved the overall economic initiatives that have been put in place by the World Bank in the country, the DRC.

The World Bank must first realize that short-term stabilization through peace-keeping missions and aid are not sufficient enough in the reconstruction of states. Reconstruction in most African states often requires a delicate balance that requires serious and critical issues and factors to be considered for long-term success in the construction of self-sustainable institutions (Clément, 2004). It is necessary for the World Bank to involve African actors such as different political leaders in creating and charting a way forward in addressing the challenges affecting them nut not imposing solutions and actions that only benefit the international
community and leaving behind serious challenges that might sooner or later explode and have a negative effect on the reconstruction efforts.

Daniel (2001) give various directions that the World Bank ought to take in its reconstruction efforts in most African states. The primary focus is to bring the political leaders together towards identifying and supporting domestic efforts of reconstruction, whether or not these efforts come from political elites (Daniel, 2001). It is important to realize that the essence of state-building in Africa is thus not to construct state structures per se, but to promote state formation, that is, communication and bargaining processes between government and society. State formation imposes a feeling of ownership and involvement which most political elites represent and this is a major milestone in creating a sustainable economic reconstruction in DRC.

1.8 Gaps in Literature

The witnessed high poverty index of most African countries regardless of numerous monetary and financial assistance the World Bank has engaged African nations in particular indicates an increase in poverty index despite the World Bank continuous financial assistance. This is a gap that requires serious analysis and understanding that most of the writers and authors on the role of the World Bank have not adequately examined. This gap is critical in understanding, more importantly, the causes of the inadequacies of World Bank towards eradicating poverty in African nations using the case study of DRC. Thus, the objective of the study was to examine the role of the World Bank in post-conflict reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
The World Bank’s role is not to implement and push nations to comply with international law requirements. Many studies such as the one done by Robert & Neil (1999) revealed that indeed there exists gaps on the role of World Bank on economic development. This has resulted to lack of sufficient information on the transformation of world from post-conflict resolutions to sustainable economic development. This, therefore, is a gap in the literature review that is seen to have a negative effect on the reconstruction processes of nations within which the World Bank operates. It is important to note that sustainable economic development requires states to observe and adhere to international law and regulations and therefore because the World Bank does not have the mandate to enforce this becomes a challenge and gap in the literature review towards effectively executing their mandate and requires further analysis.

Urbanization in DRC is a serious issue that ought to be addressed in a more comprehensive research study which can bridge the existing research study gaps. According to Adoho and Doumbia (2018), DRC is experiencing a speedy and disorganized urbanization process where the large cities are experiencing rapid movement from rural areas in search of employment opportunities while others fear insecurity challenges in the rural areas.

It has a negative effect on the overall sustainable development as a result of the city’s growing at high rates but lacking appropriate planning, inadequate land management mechanisms, and lack of standardization which might generate to more insecurity and threat of diseases and other negative factors that general affects overall sustainable development (Adoho and Doumbia, 2018).
The existence and persistence of the informal economy in the DRC is a major gap in the literature which can be identified as a challenge in the sustainable development process of DRC. As explained by World Bank (2016), the reasons underlying the existence of informal economy include and not limited to stiff labor regulations, high registration costs, bribery, and constraints in the delivery of public goods and services (World Bank, 2016).

Little attention and emphasis have been paid to the informal sector which is the driving force and the economic driver of developing countries like DRC towards sustainable development. The government must and ought to understand that the size of the informal sector is unconstructively connected with the quality of government institutions and certainly connected with proxies for tax burden and labor market restrictions (Adoho and Doumbia, 2018).

1.9 Conclusion

Emerging from the literature review is the various roles of the World Bank in the reconstruction of DRC. The role of the organizations relates with peace building initiatives, conflict resolutions that has been done by bringing warring parties to the table to forge way forward with respect to the unity of the affected nation at the heart of the agreement. Again the literature has explicitly established the World Bank has also been involved in providing financial support as a substitute to post-conflict resolutions. As indicated in the reviewed literature, the programs the World Bank promotes are geared towards promoting capacities of grassroots communities to implement the provincial strategies which can be strengthened by the introduction of viable mechanisms for planning and control by and for the DRC people.
1.10 Theoretical Framework

A theory is a coherent and systematic set of logical proposition that have been well formulated and have specified set of relationship. It can be used to offer explanation to a fact or event (Abend, 2008). There exist various international relation theories that can be used to explain the role of World Bank in conflict resolution and peace building. These are conflict theory, feminist approach, new growth theory and institutional theory. The study is premised on two theories because, conflict theory because it states that conflict arises as a result of two opposing groups who depicts political and ideological differences while institutional theory presents the systems or organizational and institutional arrangement that are available that can support the available economic support from bodies such as World Bank. This study was grounded on the following theories;

1.10.1 Conflict theory

The conflict theory was found by Karl Marx (1976). It argues that the role that a person or people plays has a greater contributing factor to conflict resolution and vice versa. It further postulates that an institution functions so that any of the participating groups or group struggle to achieve optimum benefits which ultimately lead to changes in politics and revolutions. It elucidates the rising of conflict between social classes as a result of difference in ideologies such as capitalism against socialism.

According to the theory, a continuous conflict exists between warring factions in a given society and this could lead unprecedented conflict that could ruin economic status of a country. The theory point to the fact that the ideological or political difference that may occur
does not always involve physical violence but rather can lead to underlying struggle for each group or individual in order to maximize political or economic gain (Rader, 1982).

The assumption of the theory is that, when society is in external conflict, which in some circumstances can explain social change or moderate ones that is a combination where conflict is always mixed or combined. The moderate version of the conflict theory allows functionalism as an equally acceptable theory, since it would accept that even negative social institutions play a part in society's self-perpetuation (Petrocelli, Piquero and Smith, 2003). The essence of conflict theory is best epitomized by the classic 'pyramid structure' in which an elite dictates terms to the larger masses. All major institutions, laws, and traditions in the society are created to support those who have traditionally been in power, or the groups that are perceived to be superior in the society according to this theory. In summary, conflict theory seeks to catalogue the ways in which those in power seek to stay in power. The conflict theory basically states that all problems are caused by different groups and their status and how they compete for the necessities in life as such the theory is relevant to the study in the sense that study is contextualized on conflict resolutions as well.

1.10.2 Institutional Theory

The institutional theory was introduced by Rainer Lepsiusa German sociologist (1993) Institutional theory, according to Kharas, et al, (2011), is a theory on the deeper and more resilient elements of social structure. It considers the processes by which structures, including schemes; system, norms, and routines, turn into established as are liable strategy for social behavior. The role of institutions such as the World Bank and United Nations has become one of the most popular research areas in development economics over the last 10–15 years particularly in the developing countries (Halland, et al, 2014).
The theory assumes or rather argues that organizations are not autonomous agents seeking to maximize economic opportunities but are set within a social web of norms and expectations that constrain and shape managerial choice. These social rules – or logics – provide overarching frameworks for interpreting social situations and prescribe appropriate collective purposes and behaviors. A manager’s choice of strategies is, thus, not an unfettered act but a selection constrained by social prescriptions. The fact that the theory also argues for placement of proper mechanisms, systems and structures that fosters and supports economic development, therefore, make the theory directly applicable to the study due to the fact that the absence of institutional or governance structures could spell doom for the attainment of sustainable economic development even if the World Bank has funding capacity at their disposal while the presence of proper governance structures and systems boosts the need for developing partners to invest hence a replica to sustainable economic development.

One proponent for institutional theory is Kharas, et al (2011). According to the authors, institutional theorists in the 21st century developed an interest in institutions in economics. Kharas, et al, (2011), further addresses that this was represented by the rise of New Institutional Economics in the 1980s. Institutions started gaining status by the early 1990s as an explanation of international differences in economic development even in institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which had been rather hostile to the notion (Kharas, et al, 2011).

Another proponent of the theory is Plaza and Ratha (2011) who suggest that it is from the late 1990s that institutions have moved to the center stage in the debate on financial growth. Since the late 1990s, the view that poor-quality institutions are the root cause of economic problems in developing countries has become widespread. This is why most international
institutions like the World Bank have had to come in to introduce a new criterion or scenario in role institutions play in economic development (Plaza and Ratha, 2011).

In the case of the DRC, it is clear to indicate that the role of World Bank has changed from conflict resolution to economic sustainability because of the issues of poor quality institutions that the World Bank mandated to facilitate their role. The objectives of this study are to address the programs of the World Bank in terms of economic sustainability relating it to the institutional theory together with its functions (Payne and Raiborn, 2001).

In this effect, the third objective of changing the roles of World Bank from conflict resolution to economic sustainability and their outcomes relates to institutional theory implementation in the 21st century (Rodriguez-Clare, 2005) hence the applicability of the theory in the current study. The World Bank in its role in DRC has started to impose many governance related conditionality’s, which required that the borrowing country adopts better institutions that improve governance and sustainable economic development (Rodriguez-Clare, 2005).

1.11 Methodology

According to Creswell, (2014, p.4) “qualitative research approach involves emerging questions and procedure, data analysis inductively building from particulars to general themes and the researcher making interpretations of the meaning of the data”. This study employed qualitative research approach to address the change in World Bank programs from promoting conflict resolution programs to promoting economic sustainable development programs. This approach was deemed suitable because it allowed the researcher to conduct an in-depth
investigation on various economic programs that the World Bank has employed in striving to understand the overall development growth in DRC especially emerging from civil conflict which has made it difficult to enhance economic progress. Therefore, qualitative research can be defined as social science research method that utilizes non-numerical data to interpret and examine peoples' experiences and understanding of a phenomenon. The research helped in conducting in-depth research since the researcher had to retrieve second hand information from books, articles or journals while adhering to plagiarisms.

Research design as mentioned by Kothari, (2014), refers to the overall strategy used to incorporate the diverse mechanisms of the study in a rational and articulate manner that promotes and ensures effective presentation and analysis of the research problem. This research employed case study design whereby the changing role of World Bank in DRC was the main subject of analysis. This design was important because it was able to determine the impact of the change from promoting conflict resolution to promoting sustainable development. Further, the design was chosen because it was responsible for conducting in-depth research in this study and also helped in investigating the topic extensively. Besides, the method did not require sampling whereas materials were gathered from all possible and relevant sites, books and journals to enhance the objective of the study.

Data collection, as explained by Levy and Leeshow, (2011), is a process that entails the collection of gathering information that is guided towards answering questions on various issues and situations in regards to various events or actions as they occur. Data can be collected using a number of strategies such as interviews, filling of questionnaires by various respondents in a study, getting information through observation and also through the use of understanding various theories and models that explain and examine such events and
circumstances (Levy and Leeshow, 2011). In this study, data was collected through secondary sources which included academic journal articles, books, reports, World Bank reviews and policy papers that critically explain the economic programs that World Bank explores in promoting sustainable economic development. Most importantly, the secondary data was used to showcase the outcome of both failures and successes in the programs implemented by the World Bank towards from conflict resolution and economic sustainability.

Data collected was then examined qualitatively and by content analysis. This was achieved by grouping secondary data into homogenous themes in the format of paragraphs and subsections or sub themes in order to enhance the flow of the analysis process which then could then be used to arrive at summary, conclusions, and recommendations as per findings of the study. Regarding ethical considerations, the researcher exercised high level of professionalism, reliability, confidentiality and honesty to ensure that the information given was only used for its purposes. The researcher also made sure that all sources of information were cited to avoid plagiary.

1.12 Organization of the Thesis

This thesis is structured into five chapters. Chapter one gives background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives, research questions, scope, and significance of the study, literature review, theoretical framework and research methodology. Chapters two strives to contextualize the role of World Bank from conflict resolution to economic sustainable development programs. Chapter three addresses the contributing factors that have led to the changing role of World Bank from conflict resolution programs to sustainable economic development programs. Chapter four critically examines the World Bank program outcomes
and how they have contributed towards sustainable economic development in DRC. Chapter five offers the general conclusion and recommendations on the changing role of World Bank from conflict resolution to sustainable economic development programs and identifies areas of future research.
CHAPTER TWO: CONTEXTUALISING THE ROLE OF WORLD BANK: FROM CONFlict RESOLUTION TO SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

2.0 Introduction

The aim of this chapter is to address and contextualize the role of the World Bank: from conflict resolution to economic sustainable development programs. It starts with the historical perspective of the World Bank followed by addressing the various economic programs initiated and implemented by the World Bank and what they are intended to achieve towards economic sustainability in DRC.

2.1 Historical Perspective

The presence of civil wars in the African continent that has lasted in many countries for a couple of decades have resulted to demise of both social and economic progress that was ones demonstrated by some of the affected countries. The existence of warring nations has also led to generation and reoccurrence of political tensions in those countries (Moore, 2000). The presence of the civil war have resulted to existence of infrastructural development that are irreparable damaged, education sector as well as health sectors have also in the recent past irreparably suffered in the African continent.

The aforementioned issues have made the World Bank to scale its activities in the African continent specifically to the affected countries. This initiative has been arrived at in the quest of promoting of sustainable economic development programs. It is true that without
economic assistance from the World Bank to the countries that have faced or are facing conflicts and wars, these countries will remain affected for quite a long period not unless there exists proper intervention mechanisms from organizations such as the World Bank. These situations, therefore, need full support of the World Bank in order to be able to control if not to eliminate post-conflict related issues. These sad experiences being witnessed in the conflict ridden nations, therefore, urge for the need for proper and effective post-conflict reconstruction as well as sustainable economic development and the World Bank is in the best position to fully support them.

While focusing on peace and economic development in the continent of Africa in 1980s, Emmanuel Hansen and Gilpin (2014) found that the powdered perception that peace existed in the affected countries were not serving Africa as a continent since in real sense it was calmness rather than the intended peace. Hansen noted that organizations that initiated peace related issues only addresses the issues emanating for instruments of violence and thought the view was sufficient for creating real peace (Gilpin, 2014). The author asserted that post conflict reconstruction and sustainable economic development go hand in hand. Thus, it is the concept of peace that enables a country responds positively to economic developmental programs in the affected countries.

According to Brennan (2007), the views of Hansen have since found acceptance among the international organizations that render economic assistance to the affected countries. Brennan (2007) noted that there is indeed a relationship between post-conflict reconstruction and sustainable economic development. In affirmation, the former secretary-general for United Nations Boutros Boutros-Ghali’s ones said, ‘’there can be no peace without economic and social development, just as development is not possible in the absence of peace’’. This confirms
there was and still is strong indication of early recognition of the World Bank initiatives. As a matter of fact, co-opting post-conflict resolutions and sustainable economic development needs greater attention than could exist as far as implementation procedures and legal frameworks are concerned. Therefore, it is prudent to recognize that conflict and sustainable economic development are inter-connected (Barton, 2010).

With specific attention, the World Bank has been paying keen attention in Eritrea, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Burundi, Central Republic of Africa, Ivory Coast just to mention a few states affected by conflict in Africa. These countries’ economic status has adversely been affected due to internal and external conflicts, the latter being initiated by the neighboring nations. Most of the affected countries have been unable to adhere to peace initiatives that have been put in place so as to bring normalcy. A good case example is Eritrea, Ethiopia, Burundi, and South Sudan who have suffered from the image of being the instigator of the war, and being less willing to adhere to international standards which has made them to be grouped as countries that has abused human rights due to the wanton massacre of opposing voices by the various opposing groupings (Mulugeta, 2011). Therefore, the World Bank projects in these countries have stagnated leading to need for emergency reconstruction.

Further, the worsening situation in DRC which is the focus of the current study has prompted the World Bank to go back to the drawing board and come up with various strategies such attempting to instigate peace building among the warring parties and insisting on signing long term treaties that consist of sharing of government positions, equal resource distribution, and releasing all political prisoners. This the World Bank has done with aim of establishing conflict free environment where the economic development they have started and also intend to initiate can thrive without interference from a particular group so as to improve the economic
growth of the country and consequently poverty reduction vis-à-vis improved livelihood among the citizens.

Since the independence of Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in 1960, the country’s leadership has been lacking three attributes of the utmost importance to the country’s welfare: a real vision for the DRC’s future, the competence and ability to execute the vision and the character needed to ensure the realization of the vision with sound judgment, integrity, and equity (N’Gambwa, 2011). The existence of this political context has created protracted social and economic sabotage manifested by conflicts and violence in the country.

This has prompted the World Bank to be fully being involved in the building of DRC. In order to achieve their role of transforming the economy of the DRC, the organization laid down strategies upon which sustainable economic development plans could be examined, formulated and implemented. The fact that the country is endowed with massive natural resources equally prompted the World Bank to be part and parcel of transformation of the country’s economy and consequently lend a hand in tapping the natural resources such as gold in order to reduce the poverty level witnessed in the country due to post-conflict related effects.

The natural resources captured the attention of international organizations courtesy of rich minerals that have helped to sustain several African conflicts since the end of the Cold War such as the conflict diamond in DRC. In order to address the threats, World Bank sought to engage in peace keeping and military interventions to complement the nation’s building. Recognizing the importance of natural resources in the political economy of various African countries, World Bank sought to formulate an action program that integrates the country’s
The overall economic development. The rationale for intervention in DRC was therefore precipitated by the need to reduce poverty and improve living standards.

In order to prevent fragility and conflict and to reinforce pathways to sustainable development the promotion of economic sustainability programs became a central strategy aimed at poverty alleviation and achieving shared prosperity because social and economic development have important roles to play in this effort (United Nations, 2017).

### 2.2 Sustainable Economic Programs Implemented

In the recent past, the World Bank has continued to lend a hand to the DRC in their quest in implementing crucial sustainable economic development reforms in order to create conducive environment proper and sustainable economic growth that can ultimately improve public living standards (Gilpin, 2014). Ahmadou Moustapha Ndiaye, the World Bank Country Director for the Democratic Republic of Congo also joined the debate and said “Successful implementation of this project will expand the Government statistical capacity and generate data needed to design policies critical to addressing poverty and inequality.”

To date, the economic financing support on the DRC-Statistics Development Project has addressed prime data necessities and has created stage for the production of quality products in DRC. The aim of Statistics Development Project is to enhance the efforts to develop and consequently deliver key economic development goals in DRC. The main activities that the project was directed at were; conducting frequent household surveys, conducting agricultural related research and annual agricultural production and animal reproduction surveys. All these were meant to cushion the country against economic downturn that may hamper human livelihood in the country.
The project was also meant to pay keen attention to inadequacy of staffing that has been witnessed in the country as well as offering training that sharpened the skills and know-how the human who could then be entrusted with running of the World Bank’s activities (Barton, 2010). In a rejoinder, Franck M. Adoho, the World Bank Task Team Leader for the project said “Increasing private investment, creating jobs and achieving better outcomes in health and education in DRC all depend on how well policies are designed, monitored and updated,”

In 1987 with the backing of the World Bank, the government introduced a structural adjustment program directed at instituting the basis for long-standing economic growth and a sustainable external financial position. The program also derived benefit from improved terms of trade, mostly indicating a strong rise in copper prices at the onset of early 1987 a factor that Lukas et al, (2016), agrees with. In spite of that, failed attempts at political liberalization, control over economic policies was lost during the 1990s, and as a result, the country fell into the grip of a vicious cycle of economic recession and further debt crisis (Barton, 2010).

This worrying economic and social situation was also affected by the full-fledged war that broke out in 1998 (Kai-Alexander & Daniel, 2012). The major outcomes of the President Mobutu’s regime from 1965 to 1997 that institutionalized stealing and dishonesty has been the ruin of the country’s economy and social fabric, accompanied by state worsening and collapse of DRC. In the DRC, the inexorable economic and state crisis has brought about a mounting understanding that a close association does exist between the incapability of the state machinery to promise a decent livelihood for its citizens and the lack of democracy (Herderschee, et al, 2012).
Due to the escalating challenges of conflict in DRC, the World Bank suspended its financial assistance. However, it maintained dialogue with the government, enabling the World Bank to re-engage in economic assistance in early 2001, as indicated by Lukas et al, (2016), after the reconciliation process in a bid to foster economic reforms.

2.2.1 Country Assistance Strategy Implemented by the World Bank and Its Outcomes towards Sustainable Economic Development in DRC

The World Bank has always performed key role in rendering help to various sustainable economic developmental programs (Lagrange, 2013). The World Bank’s objective in engaging with economic development in the DRC has always focused on sustainable economic development strategies like continual economic development planning as well as human resource capacity-building especially those who handles finance related issues. To achieve this, the organization has also partnered with other institutions having expertise in the field of sustainable economic development as well as financial aspects (Herderschee, Kai-Alexander & Daniel, 2012).

Sustainable economic development is of course a vital objective to apply in DRC’s economic assistance strategies. However, this can only be achieved by promoting peace, reducing spread of conflict and violence related factors that may jeopardize already initiated economic development opportunities in the country. Therefore, all sustainable economic development related activities such as infrastructural development, human resource development, management of economy and agricultural recovery as well as health sector go hand in hand when it comes to achievement of sustainable economic goals in the DRC (Lombardo, Fodié, Luisa & Isabelle, 2012).
Chandy and Kharas, (2015), acknowledge that the World Bank formulated the previous CAS (FY2008–FY2011) as DRC was gradually returning to peace, and a new, democratically elected government was installed. Formed in March 2007, as explained by Chandy and Kharas, (2015), the government launched a social and economic rehabilitation program, presented in the first Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP). It was against this background that the World Bank, in collaboration with other partners under the Country Assistance Framework (CAF), elaborated the FY08–FY11 CAS (Lukas et al, 2016).

The strategy of CAS program as envisioned by the World Bank was to sharpen the focus of the Bank’s support to DRC, Chandy and Kharas, mentions that the CAS program was regrouped under three themes: rebuild state capacity to increase access to, and improve the quality of basic services, create conditions for growth and economic diversification; and increase access to health and education asserts Chandy and Kharas, (2015).

2.2.2 Overview of the New World Bank Group DRC Country Assistance Strategy

The overall goals of the World Bank Group’s proposed program as noted by Barume, (2000), are to support the consolidation and expansion of DRC’s gains in macroeconomic stability, infrastructure, and human development through improved governance (Sampson, 2001). The growth and enabling environment for continued and comprehensive growth, the country’s change out of feebleness, with a focal point on addressing the developmental shortfall that help to bring about aggression and conflicts in the eastern provinces (Kai-Alexander & Daniel, 2012).

Many scholars such as Gilpin (2014) allude to the fact that achieving this elevated level of economic growth and ensuring that essential services are provided to the population needs
an efficient state that generates the circumstances for the private sector to struggle and a grave improvement of authority. This will promote more jobs and basic services delivery, thus increasing the integrity of the institutions and serving the country change away from weakness (Barume, 2000).

According to Svejnar (2002), the World Bank Board of Executive Directors came up with new Country Assistance Strategy (CAS). The CAS was meant to render support to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)’s effort towards enhancing the country’s grip on sustainable economic development. The strategy was geared towards promoting access to basic social services such as education and health services. The strategy also helped in strengthening corporate governance mechanisms and also creating opportunities for women and youth in order to improve economic development in the country. In support, Eustache Ouayoro, the World Bank Country Director for the DRC said,

“Through this new Country Assistance Strategy, the World Bank is committed to the DRC’s progress to share its prosperity and reduce poverty to reach the Sustainable Development Goals,” ..... “Expanded production in the mining sector (copper, cobalt, zinc, and gold) revitalization of the agricultural sector, transparency and competition in the forestry and oil sectors, and steps taken to address fragility and conflict in the Eastern provinces are essential to reach the SDGs.”

As indicated in the World Bank report (World Bank, 2000), the strategy is in line with the DRC’s Government Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP). The strategy majorly focuses on four strategic goals. These are; improving the overall effectiveness and efficiency
of the government at decentralized levels vis-à-vis enhancing good governance and management while at the same time promoting the economic development aim of World Bank in order to improve economic competition both in the public and privately owned organizations. This strategy created jobs, promoted social service delivery, and also took care of the economic development loopholes that have in the recent past contributed to conflicts in DRC’s especially the Eastern provinces of the country.

In their desire to improving livelihood of the DRC people through CAS, the World Bank dished a whopping $US66.95 million that was meant for the Governance Capacity Enhancement Project that contributed to the CAS objective of promoting good governance by lending a hand to overall economic development in the country. This noble project was meant to promote and enhance development, financial and tendering management and also in improving capacity in Bandundu, Katanga, Kasai Occidental, and South Kivu provinces of the DRC.

As indicated by Mulumba (2013), the DRC has measurable capacity to grow much quicker, alleviate poverty, and also enhance human development. But this can only be achieved by laying down mechanisms for addressing governance related such as accountability, transparency and quality financial reporting. These governance mechanisms are essential especially in the part of World Bank whose main objective is adherence to transparency and accountability. Presence of these mechanisms boosts their confidence of offering financial assistance that fosters economic development. Therefore, governance issues are significant to the country’ success in these areas thus could enhance the attainment of Sustainability Development Goals.
To cushion vulnerable countries such as DRC from economic calamities, the World Bank established the International Development Association (IDA) in 1960. The association was to assist the poor developing countries by providing loans and grants for various projects with specific attention to boosting economic development eradicating poverty, and improving the people’s lives. Being one of the largest organs formed the World Bank, the association is one of has so far offered assistance for over eighty one poorest nations in the world. Out of which 39 are of which are in are found in the African continent, DRC not exceptional (World Bank, 2016 and Englebert, 2003). The formation of the association has brought at the door economic assistance for many of the African countries a case in the example is DRC which has recently witnessed some notable development though the evidenced inter conflict is still hampering economic assistance into the country.

2.3 Conclusion

The position of Moore (2000); Svejnar (2002) and Lombardo, Fodié, Luisa & Isabelle, (2012) on the role of World Bank in transforming from post conflict reconstruction to sustainable economic development in the DRC that can improve the livelihood of the citizens. However, the study revealed that despite this paradigm shift the World Bank still remain focused on post conflict reconstruction in the country as supported by Chandy and Kharas (2015) and Kai-Alexander & Daniel (2012).

The study, therefore conclude that the World Bank in its reconstruction efforts in DRC in most cases has been struggling in how to help DRC from the consequences of civil wars that continuously affected its development agenda. Most of its mandate and initiatives were geared towards promoting peace and not necessarily addressing the economic difficulties that were present in DRC. On the realization that conflict resolution was not effectively addressing the
pertinent issues in DRC, the WB was forced to change strategy to economic sustainable development with a bid to empower the citizens and during the process eliminate the ranging causes of war which are mainly issues of poor governance, marginalization, and poverty.
CHAPTER THREE: CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TOWARDS THE CHANGING ROLE OF THE WORLD BANK

3.0 Introduction

This chapter addresses the various factors that have contributed towards the changing role of World Bank from conflict resolution programs to economic sustainability programs. The contributing factors are numerous and cut across various sectors and industries that promote economic sustainability.

The type of reforms needed in DRC for economic sustainability to thrive include, land reforms, political governance reforms, issues of unemployment and poverty eradication, addressing issues of marginalization and inequality etc. These are issues that must be addressed amicably in DRC in order to realize the economic sustainability and eliminate continuous civil unrest and wars.

3.1 Urbanization and Land Sector Review Strengthened by the World Bank

In order to help the DRC come out of its economic downturn, the World Bank has come up with a new Urban Development Project which has costs the organization US$100 million. This project is started with the aim of according cities in the country facelift that will help spur economic growth. The organization believes that a modern city with modern outlook is attractive for investment and consequently economic development (Englebert, 2003). In the last couple of years the project has built up many infrastructures in the urban centers mostly in major cities located in Western DRC namely; Matadi, Kikwit, and Mbandaka as well as in the
East and North of Katanga which includes Bukavu, Kindu and Kalemie. The urbanization project has since focused on adoption of better mechanisms that utilizes local materials to reduce cost as well as promoting private sector programs.

In agreement, MahineDiop (2010) argues that with average population of about two million for the surveyed cities (World Bank, 2016), the project could, therefore, support the DRC Government’s efforts in promoting the public reach to basic services like roads, water and electricity as well as improving the ability and capability of authorities in the DRC to properly run the targeted cities, and also strengthening the transparency and accountability link between central government and the public. In MahineDiop’s words,

“The DRC is undergoing a rapid and unplanned urbanization as people move into cities seeking jobs,” said MahineDiop, Task Team Leader for the project. "This project’s focus on shoring up the legal framework and capacity building at all levels of government will bring basic services and livelihood improvements to the country’s burgeoning city populations.”

Being a project that is directed towards economic development, the project has helped in the improvement of urban governance and management in order to enhance utilization of allocated resources for initiated project, improve revenue collection and also strengthening of financial management systems in the country. The World Bank believes that strengthening and improving the conditions of the urban cities will accord the ability to deliver services to public thereby improving their livelihood. So far that project as initiated by the World Bank has assisted in creating job opportunities in building and construction industries in the country.
The urban project initiated by World Bank has, therefore, boosted the reconstruction program in the DRC and has also been supported by China (Barton, 2010).

The additional funds in this initiative will help increase access to basic services and infrastructure under the project (for example, roads and drainage, markets, schools, health centers) and decrease some of the substantial investment deficits in provincial capitals (Bannon and Collier, 2003). It also strengthens the programmatic aspect of the project’s performance-based approach for access to investment funds by providing urban management tools developed under the project to additional cities (Bhargava, 2006).

Banno and Collier, (2003), claim that the activities have been developed at the government’s request, based on the recommendations of the DRC Urbanization Review and Land Sector Review, and to further pilot the performance-based approach with a view to mainstreaming it into the government’s decentralization policies (Bannon & Collier, 2003). This process is critical to building the institutions of urban management and support the emergence of cities in the DRC as engines of economic growth and development concurs Ohiorhenuan, (2008). Subsequently, this process will be instrumental in unlocking the economic potential of cities as they focus on investment in infrastructure, telecommunication, and services delivery institutions such as hospitals and schools that will benefit the residents.

3.2 Government and World Bank Cooperation to build a strategy to link both Peace Programs and Economic Sustainability Programs

As a matter of fact, there is increasing acceptance that sustainable economic development in the country can be only be attained if the Democratic Republic Congolese leaders and the citizens exhibits key interest in their ability to take up front seat in the
leadership role in order to help in the advancement of overall public good rather the self-gain. Since the witnessed engagement by the World Bank in the country, many good minded reformers have come into play and have in the recent past helped in promoting the governance of the country (Gilpin, 2014). By lending a hand in these noble reformation initiatives, the World Bank is in a position to accord more strength to the institutions which have in the recent had weak governing and management mechanisms that has enhanced the country’s instability consequently leading to abject poverty in the DRC. Therefore, World Bank has heavily invested in the mechanisms that have strengthened DRC public and private institutions in all levels of the government. Suffice to say, this has improved the overall economic development of the country despite the existence instances of violence in many parts of the country.

The fact that the World Bank is very much aware that for any reasonable development to be felt by the public there must be peace, the organization has, therefore, resorted promoting long lasting solutions to the peace that has evaded the naturally resourcefully gifted county. The World Bank has equivocally supported the public and private institutions and organizations in coming up with economic development impediments such as conflicts. In order to achieve this, the World Bank has equally tackled the identified impediments by helping the DRC organizations and institutions by creating frameworks and procedural mechanisms, formulating and implementing solutions as well as sourcing of funding.

So as to trickle their programs to the villages, the World Bank has conducted similar work by engaging provincial and local administrations at the same time emphasizing the relationship between the public and the government. This has of course ensured quality and timely delivery and dissemination of services to the public and also increasing public to knowhow, accessibility and affordability the services (Haugerubraaten, 1998).
Further, under the cooperation of the World Bank and the Government of DRC, the organization has made it mandatory to build the foundation for peaceful coexistence in the Eastern DRC. This has been achieved by determining the main causes of conflicts and coming up with long lasting strategies that could address the root causes of conflict but also making sure that basic needs for the people are fully met (Goodhand and David, 1999).

Bhargava, (2006), agrees that linking sustainable development and peace-building and further integrating them into a national strategy and planning processes is capable of creating synergies and more effective policies capable of preventing degeneration of conflict in DRC (Bhargava, 2006). There are elements critical for the process of linking peace programs and economic sustainable development which must not be neglected or overlooked when engaging to link the two processes.

### 3.3 Public Administration and Good Governance Reform

The truth is that the DRC is a country endowed with immense and rich natural resources but governance has denied the people the benefit of the vast wealth in the country. Based on this, the World Bank has made brave attempt in increasing transparency in how the country manages her natural resources (Svejnar, 2002). This has been achieved by assisting in the full implementation of the Economic Governance Matrix. The World Bank has continued to keenly monitor DRC government’s formalization of the consented approaches towards good governance in the country by continuously extending and upgrading the governance mechanisms, and also lending a hand to governance improvements.

The World Bank has further supported the commissioning of Inter-ministerial Council. The body was created with the aim of overseeing contract related issues as well as the mineral
assets that are naturally found in the country (Moore, 2000). To enhance and successfully implement its plans, the World Bank has engaged the civil society group who are more close to the public to deliver these services and also oversee effective implementation of governance mechanisms. Additionally,

According to Mulugeta (2011), arguably the continent of Africa has faced serious challenges when it comes to public administration and demonstration of corporate governance. According to him, ensuring that politicians and civil servants do what they say has been a hard nut to crack. Therefore, a presence of weak accountability and transparency has been the highest level of corruption in most of the developing African countries, DRC being part of this culture. Notably, the current poor governance and lack of proper administration witnessed in many of the in Africa nations solely demonstrates negative consequences. However, the growing civil society’s voice in many of the affected countries as well as the high number of countries’ formalizing Freedom of Information Acts has shown positive trends. Equally negative is the increase in coups d’état in Mauritania, Guinea, Niger, and Madagascar over the past years which can be attributed to poor governance and bad administration.

Therefore, the strategy for enhancing governance and public administration generally rotate around accountability at all levels of the nation. Additionally, the strategy embraced by the World Bank in the DRC has brought with it models of social accountability, that revolves around the urge to increasing public access to information. This can accord them the platform in which they can voice their issues or rather concerns through public report cards, tracking surveys, and NGO and civil society’s monitoring and evaluation of both public and private projects (Schiavo-Campo, 2003). As a matter of fact, control and monitoring generally leads to better results that not only guide policy related issues, but can also give information in which
the public can hold those in leadership positions accountable. Despite the fact that the media in the DRC has been subjected to gagging, they are still important for disseminating governance and administrative information to the public. Given the sensitive nature of such interventions, this is an area where DRC learning could be extremely powerful and thus enhances holding decision-makers accountable for their actions.

As reported by Svejnar (2002), strengthening the civil service contribution, especially in service delivery can help in enhancing the economic development in DRC. He argues further that the World Bank’s experience with civil-service reform has been in building capacity of civil society in order to enhance their accountability. In addition to this focus on accountability, the World Bank strategy will consider another approach of governance such as good leadership. This will help in exploring which institutions are conducive to developing good leaders thus they can be used as good examples to others so as to promote good governance and administration.

Ohiorhenuan et al, (2008), asserts that the DRC Government recognizes that a comprehensive reform of public administration is necessary in order to improve its quality and the capacity of ministries and public institution towards provision of critical services for the betterment of its citizens through enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in their performance. According to the World Development Report of 2016, Ohiorhenuan et al (2008), clarifies that public administration and governance reform must be pursued with an aim of controlling the wage bill, improving and monitoring the staffing or human resource levels and competencies and gradually making critical improvements on the quality of the services given by public administration (Ohiorhenuan et al 2008).
Jāhāna and United Nations Development Programme, (2016), also observes that in fighting corruption in the DRC, requires the government to implement a strategy that is built on the following premises namely: strengthening the independence of the judiciary system; creating and implementing reforms on the laws and regulations on tax and customs benefits or incentives to promote their generalization, transparency, and systematization as a poverty eradication mechanisms: the introduction of incentive mechanisms favorable to fighting corruption, highlighting on those which reward the integrity and improve the working conditions of public employees while making them subject to controls and penalties (Jāhāna and UNDP, 2016); development of a clear private sector development policy and promoting a favorable environment for the private sector to engage in business: finally to engage in tax reform agenda that will promote growth and equity, including information and education mechanisms encouraging citizens (taxpayers) with their rights and duties in regards to tax collection (Jāhāna, and UNDP, 2016).

Jāhāna, and United Nations Development Programme, (2016), further agree to ensure that the tax system is perceived as a neutral and effective tool for income redistribution and equitable development as it is considered a national resource (cake) that must be shared equally among all sections and areas in the country. (Jāhāna, and UNDP, 2016), also advocates for strengthening of the audit and control mechanisms applicable to state revenue and expenditure which is important is creating accountability and transparency mechanisms (Jāhāna and UNDP, 2016).

### 3.4 Human and Institutional Capacity-Building

As part of the World Bank initiatives towards sustainable economic development, the organization came up with the Public Service Reform and Rejuvenation Project which costs
up to about US$100 million. This project focused on mechanisms that could enhance human and institutional capacities in public and private institutions (World Bank, 2000). The project had two main objectives. Firstly, it was meant to promoting human resources development in all levels of the government as well as the public and private organizations. This first objective was able to help in addressing the human resource especially those in retirement age bracket but still under employment. The exercise was simply meant to expand the employment opportunities for younger generations who are qualified and could deliver economic development services to the public on timely and effective manner.

The second aim of the Public Service Reform and Rejuvenation Project was to lend a hand in the creation of functional public service pension programs together with institutional restructuring of targeted government departments and public institutions while at the same time bringing on performance based systems that could be embraced to enhance human and institutional capacities for a better performance achievement vis-à-vis sustained economic development programs (Muscat and Michael, 2002).

As argued by Lund (2003), the new Public Service Reform and Rejuvenation Project did not only target the State Owned Enterprises but it also emboldened the institutional capacity of the institutions both at the public and private level. In order to attain its objective, the World Bank made sure that there was adequate and sufficient supervision and monitoring of the performances and contribution of the public institutions by ensuring that proper human and institutional structures are in place so as to enhance transparency, effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability in these institutions and in the entire governing systems of the DRC (Lund, 2003).
Successful implementation of human and institutional capacity building will foster management of public affairs at all levels including macroeconomic, sectorial, and decentralized. This also encompasses administrative capacities states UNDP, (2016), and the capacities of the grassroots communities, civil society, and local NGOs so that the various stakeholders and beneficiaries can contribute well to the execution, management, and monitoring of development activities in the DRC (United Nations, 2013).

Conversely, the World Bank intervention mechanisms that were put in place majorly targeted a limited number of ministries that were directly linked to implementation of the World Bank programs. Given the hurdles of the undertaking such human resource and institutional building capacity in areas such as large stock of social debts, overstaffing, in-depth political economic issues, and the extreme dilapidation of DRC’s public sector, the organization had to make sure that all the objectives that were put in place as per each project had been accomplished (World Bank, 2016). This was demonstrated by the creation of Governance Capacity Project (US$50 million) and the Capacity for Core Public Management Project (US$29.9 million). The two bodies aimed at promoting transparency, timely delivery of services in public finance and human resources’ capacity (UNCTA (Goodhand and David, 1999). In addition, the approval of US$67 million (planned for FY2013) by the World Bank enhanced the DRC Government’s capability to enhance financial and procurement management as well as strengthen capacity in Bandundu, Katanga, Kasai Occidental, and South Kivu, the provinces which had earlier on benefited from these operations.

Goodhand and David (1999) argues that of course human development and capacity building is very significant for conducive and effective building of post-conflict and to controlling and minimizing future conflicts and ultimately achievement of sustainable
economic development in the DRC. The ‘National Human Development Report, 2006: DRC’ basically highlighted the significant differences between sustained economic development and the human development model that has immense similarity the post-conflict reconstruction.

As highlighted in the report by the World Bank in 1997, human development and capacity entails growth, nurturing of skills and knowledge as well as the equal distribution of the output of growth and human development. The human development report as per the World Bank significantly reviewed the institutional debates and the mechanisms that have evolved to support their applicability. For instance the creation of the Human Development Index (HDI) assisted in sharpening the human skills without compromising the institutional capacity in order to help in post conflict healing as well as fostering of sustainable economic development (UNCTAD, 2013).

The civil war in DRC contributed to a devastating impact on human resources which is critical for economic development of any nation. Bhargava, (2006), agrees that DRC lost a sizable number of skilled citizens who may have been killed during the violence, displaced out of the country because of the war, or just went to stay and settle in other countries because of fear for their physical safety, or simplify have fled the poverty and lack of future prospects that characterized the country (Bannon and Collier, 2003).

Similarly, Bhargava, (2006), asserts that the institutional capacities of the different structures are to be strengthened to achieve sizable and remarkable outcome. Bhargava, (2006), notes that every institution involved in the economic management of the country must build their capacities and that the planning and management tools, as well as the databases, must be improved for efficiency and effectiveness. Operating measures and systems must be enhanced
and tailored to new situations, making use of new information and communications technologies to this end (Bhargava, 2006).

3.5 Political Governance Reforms

In order to reduce the monopolization of power that has bedeviled the DRC for decades, the people ushered in a new constitution in 2006. The constitution then defined DRC as a unitary but decentralized state comprising of eleven provincial capitals. The 2006 Constitution explicitly assigned key functions to the eleven provinces. This made the decentralization of economy and political issues to the designated eleven provinces in the DRC. As a result of the herald new constitution, health services, ‘O’ level and ‘A’ level education as well as agriculture was devolved to the provinces (Montgomery and Rondinelli, 2004).

In return, each of the eleven provinces was to get 40 percent of revenues from the central government (Amer, 2012). Despite the good intention of making services and development close to the people, the truth of the matter is that each of the eleven provinces had inadequate institutional capacity thus effective discharge of responsibilities and functions were compromised. Again the huge cost associated with creating fifteen additional provinces on top of the eleven made the economic reforms unattainable. Despite the involvement of the World in all these issues, the revenues from these provinces have continuously been below the constitutionally mandated goals and missions. To make matters worse, the situation rather escalated the friction between the two tier governments (Kai-Alexander and Daniel, 2012). In fact despite the reforms as envisaged in the 2006 constitution, the weak institutional capacity and limited accountability of the provincial authorities as well as other political appointees have hampered the delivery of public services to the people and have decreased the proceeds expected as a result of decentralization.
In September 2004, Jāhāna and UNDP, (2016), acknowledge that a seminar on decentralization in the DRC organized by the Political, Administrative, and Legal Committee of the National Assembly in partnership with the World Bank, occurred where various objectives were set for the devolution process to take place. This devolution process according to Jāhāna and UNDP, (2016), was aimed at one enabling the people to participate in public life and in the design of development policies in the areas of concern to them, two mitigating the Central Government of implementation responsibilities, so that it focuses on the definition of major orientations, three bringing management nearer to its citizens and for making it easy for administrative processes towards promoting a culture of inclusivity and participation in order to strengthen the development of the decentralized administrative entities (United Nations, 2013).

In the political governance reforms, the government will be able to give resources to various provinces through set out structures so that they can engage in building of these provinces by forming their development agenda and programs in various areas and sectors especially towards social development and growth in areas such as building schools, hospitals, provision of water and better sanitation and housing for the poor, and building basic infrastructure such as transport and telecommunication.

Participation and inclusion helps in avoiding conflict or relapse in conflict especially from a country that has witnessed numerous civil wars. The implementation mechanisms by the provision leadership will require those strategies that made possible through one the introduction of viable mechanisms for planning and control by and for the people, the promotion of local leadership; and enhanced accountability through training and information (Ohiorhenuan et al 2008). The civil society and various NGOs will also be allowed in playing
a watchdog role in the implementation of these policies and actions set by the national
government in the provinces as a way of encouraging accountability

3.6. Conclusion

A look at the contributing factors towards the change from conflict resolution to
economic sustainable development programs gives an indication that causes of the civil war in
DRC are issues that can be addressed adequately if the root causes are properly addressed and
managed. To this effect it is appropriate to first understand these factors and adequately address
them with the partnership of both the World Bank and the DRC government to promote smooth
implementation and evaluation.

In conclusion, Goodhand and David (1999) states that political governance reforms,
human and institutional capacity-building, public administration and good governance reform,
and urbanization and land sector review strengthened by the World Bank are key factors that
have made the World Bank to shift focus from post conflict reconstruction to sustainable
economic development. This position is also supported by Montgomery and Rondinelli (2004)
and many other scholars as demonstrated in the reviewed literature.
CHAPTER FOUR: THE WORLD BANK PROGRAMME
OUTCOMES

4.0 Introduction

Since the change from conflict resolution to sustainable economic development programs in the DRC, the outcome of this change can be said to be effective and has provided the needed change in the lives of many DRC citizens. Issues of eliminating conflict through dialogue, promoting good governance, eradicating poverty, have contributed positively in the development agenda of DRC.

Most of these outcomes in collaboration with the DRC government will strive to achieve economic sustainability if they are continuously welcomed and managed well through partnership and collaboration that gears towards an agenda that is to develop and promote economic change in DRC.

4.1 The World Bank Efforts towards Economic Sustainability in DRC

The World Bank enjoys quite a number of successes in its engagement in the African continent. Chandy and Kharas, (2015), point out that Africa’s economies are enjoying a period of unprecedented growth and development. Where many nations which were experiencing numerous challenges economically now performing better and improving in regards to the economic change in the region sue to the change in the institutional arrangement as suggested by the institutional theorists.
Delivery of services to people is a key pillar of the African economy and the extractive industries and agriculture continue to be one of the strongest drivers of the World Bank successes in Africa. The World Bank has been instrumental in creating and promoting service delivery through institutions proper governance mechanisms in Africa such as the Economic Governance Matrix Urban Development Project and Public Service Reform and Rejuvenation Project. Some of the challenges the World Bank faces include corruption within various sectors of the economy which leads to loss of finances and resources for overall development and politically instigated conflicts that arise as a result of elections and other civil disagreements among the citizens’ slow growth uptake which in the long or short run contradicts the arrangement opined by the New Growth Theory.

The DRC is one of the most challenged countries in the world in terms of infrastructure as a result of the continuous civil war. Ground transportation has always been difficult and the country’s vast geography, extensive forests, and crisscrossing rivers further complicate the development of infrastructure communication network. As a result of the conflict, networks have been seriously damaged or left to deteriorate. Road and rail infrastructure is dilapidated and the rail network has fallen into disuse (Soubbotina, 2004).

According to the World Bank, as indicated by Philipsen et al, (2016), the infrastructure investment needed in the DRC is among the highest in Africa. Unless spending is increased and efficiency improved, it will take more than a century to readdress the country’s infrastructure deficit. But in the last few years, there have been promising signs of economic growth due to the existence of good development initiatives by the World Bank. This position is anchored in the New Growth Theory which desires for placement of proper mechanisms to enhance economic growth.
According to Daniel (2002), the World Bank engages in the provision of credit to scale up the existing projects, broaden its scope to include additional cities, increase outcomes, and strengthen the results of the Urban Development Project in the six current project cities. It expands the geographic reach of the project by adding three more project cities for a total of nine and revising the results framework to incorporate results from the proposed additional financing with more expected beneficiaries and more cities implementing improved urban management practices (Daniel, 2001). But this can only be achieved by having proper reforms in the various institutions in order to promote of services. This is well within the institutional theory as adopted by the current study.

Women remain disadvantaged relative to men in DRC, but the inequity is gradually declining according to Schwartz (2010). Rapid growth in agricultural production during recent years may have contributed to these favorable outcomes; agriculture creates income-generating opportunities for the poor and reduces food prices, which dominate the low-income consumption basket. Health and education indicators may also have benefited from the involvement of religious and nongovernmental organizations in the health and education sectors (Schwartz, 2010).

Employment in formal, fully registered companies is rare; the data do not allow precise estimates, but small and medium-sized companies likely employ only 1.2 percent of the workforce (Young, 2016). Assuming the total workforce is some 24 million people, these amounts to 300,000 jobs only. Employment in established firms appears to have grown only at some 2 to 3 percent a year; given the growth in the workforce, this is insufficient to reduce unemployment (Young, 2016). During the same period, some large mining and telecommunications companies have expanded their operations. However, there are few such
companies, so this growth has had no significant impact on employment opportunities consequently delineating the adoption of the New Growth Theory in the present thesis (Payne and Raiborn, 2001).

The absence of a dynamic small and medium-sized enterprise sector deprives the DRC of an important engine of growth and young skilled workers of job opportunities. The analysis suggests that poor governance stifles the performance of small and medium-sized enterprises in the formal sector. Poor governance enables public agencies and officials to impose myriad taxes and levies, both formal and informal, on the private sector (Schwartz, 2010).

A limited number of large privately owned companies may have managed to insulate themselves from these risks and continue to prosper despite the many operational challenges. Small and medium-size companies have not been able to overcome these obstacles for lack of means and political influence as well institutional problems which again contradicts that assumption of the institutional theory embraced by the study. State-owned enterprises maintain monopoly positions even though they are unable to deliver reliable services. Social liabilities that is, wage arrears and indemnities prevent these state-owned enterprises from developing into viable commercial companies (Schwartz, 2010).

Despite the institutional challenges as envisioned in the institutional theory adopted by the study, decentralization is likely to improve the accountability of provincial governments to their populations. The new arrangements have lengthened the average tenure of provincial governors, but removed by provincial assemblies as well as by the central government governors who can deliver economic improvements or public services are less vulnerable to political removal. The population expects there to be a functioning public service that delivers
services and creates jobs; there is an urgent need to resolve the challenges hindering the implementation of decentralization (Philipsen et al, 2016).

The government needs to deliver services and create an environment for growth, and this will require efficient internal organization as supported by New Growth Theory and institutional theories that urges conducive environment for growth as well as building institutional capacity to enhance economic development in the DRC. Today, serious issues are hindering the ability of the administration to provide adequate services. In addition to the limited monitoring and follow-up of the central government on policy implementation, the legal status of the public service is outdated. The number of staff employed is not known, the wage system is opaque, and the bulk of the public service workforce is nearing retirement; these are the main systemic constraints to organizational efficiency (Cissé et al, 2012).

Public service reform is a necessary step toward making government more effective and generating political will and trust among governing elites. A complex civil service structure has been fueled by decades of crisis. The huge civil service networks throughout the country were built under the autocratic regime and have been largely dysfunctional since 1991. Cissé et al, (2012), asserts that during and after the period of conflict, jobs offered to people in unstable situations were subsequently recognized which made the civil service even more bloated and complex and added little towards the economic stability of DRC.
4.2. The outcome of Economic Sustainability Programs by the World Bank in DRC through Strategic Objectives and Results of Country Assistance Strategy

4.2.1. Increase State Effectiveness and Improve Good Governance

Chandy (2015) argues that the World Bank Group supported actions aims to boost transparency and effective management of public funds at the central point and in the provinces of Bandundu, Katanga, Kasai Occidental, and South Kivu (Chandy, 2015).

The World Bank will increase transparency and effectiveness in the management of financial capital from the extractive industries (Barume, 2000) by ensuring adequate and just allocation from the administration of its accepted endowments, strengthening governance of the mining sector, expanding the operational presentation including the water utility, the power utility, and the state airport authority (Barume, 2000).

According to Herderschee, et al, (2012), poor governance such as poor management of public finances and human capital contributes majorly to the negative DRC’s economic development. Economic development in DRC requires addressing governance issues which are responsible for management, distribution, and allocation of critical resources responsible for economic development purposes argues (Chandy 2015). Also issues of creating jobs, poverty reduction, public sector effectiveness, will be appropriately addressed centering on two existing operations such as a new investment lending project and close coordination with other development partners.

The process of decentralization gives an important range for enhancing transparency and accountability at the local level with the World Bank supporting and helping in the
implementation of an effective public sector and financial management systems including personnel and payroll management in the same four provinces as envisioned in the institutional theory that argues for modernizing institutions and organizations in order to improve operating systems (Chandy, 2015).

When collection and processing of data are effectively managed and proper systems put in place then optimizing the use of the limited data provided as indicated by Halland, et al, (2014), are important in enhancing governance and promoting decision making purposes. For better service deliver to the local citizens through the provinces and local leader’s requires accountable leaders that are transparent and effective and, therefore, the World Bank, is to implement strategies that will promote these accountability mechanisms. Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, (2013) argues that the demand and supply sides of good governance, as well as capacity building, are essential for DRC which is a very big country with a large number of populations as argued by the institutional theorists. (OECD, 2013)

Vulnerability of local communities to poverty, poor healthcare, proper education sector will be aided by competent and accountable leader at the local level supported by the national government. Effective local governance mechanisms will help in eradication corruption and other poor governance issues that might derail the economic development of DRC.

4.2.2. Improved Connectivity and Access to Transport Infrastructure

As accurately put by Borchgrevink (2008), the Democratic Republic of Congo’s power infrastructure generally is insufficient and ineffective. Additionally, the country has lagged behind other countries which had same economic status as the DRC several years ago. The
sectors that are affected mostly are road networks as well as Air transport. This is evidenced by the many parts of the country that are not accessible to proper road. Additionally, there areas that are accessible to feeder roads but are also facing the task of paying the ever soaring levy bills that have made many businesses to close down. The government of DRC has responded to these issues with a seemingly good looking investment planning. Nevertheless, if new assets in the infrastructural sector are to function efficiently, the major discrepancy and shortfall in the transport sector also need to be readjusted.

According to the World Bank statistics in 2000, the infrastructures and transport distribution losses are 47 percent, more than double best-practice benchmarks across the globe while the cost of overstaffing is 30 percent of utility revenue which calls for immediate action. This is again complicated by the fact that tariffs recovery is rarely half the cost of service provision, even though full cost recovery would be affordable to the population. This scenario has made the life most unbearable to many business people and other public.

Herderschee, et al, (2012), asserts that the World Bank supports the preparation of a trade facilitation study between the ports of Kinshasa and Brazzaville in Western DRC. The program is useful in promoting infrastructure development in DRC as it helps in implementing events to ease the flow of goods and services between the two capital cities (Halland, et al, 2014). The World Bank is determined to help DRC in designing and integrating a development strategy to benefit its border countries in the West with particular attention to the interests of Bas Congo Province.

Ezrow et al, (2016), asserts that competition among various infrastructure options will be one of the principles used in the study which Herderschee, et al, (2012) agrees for the
simultaneous development of transport, energy, and telecommunications corridors, thus guaranteeing continuity of service if one supply route is disconnected. A similar study is envisaged for Eastern DRC to review trade opportunities and competitions with countries including Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zambia (Herderschee, et al, 2012).

According to Ainsworth, Kathleen and Andrew (2014), restoring the transport network in the DRC will require major investment and careful policy decisions in the port, road, rail, and river transport industry. Following the approval of the National Transport Plan, major road sector investments are underway to restore connections between, eastern and the north of the country of DRC all the way to Kinshasa.

To enhance infrastructural development and networking, the World Bank has set up fund that provide for maintenance across the country, nevertheless, so far financial and human resources have not been adequately addressed (Gilpin, 2014). Constructing a modern bridge linking Brazzaville to Kinshasa would help to increase traffic through Pointe-Noire and improve overall route viability. Improving navigability on the Congo-Oubangui-Sangha Rivers would also help to restore a highly cost-effective transport mode of strategic significance to the north of the DRC.

4.2.3. Improved Access to Quality Broadband Network and Services at Reduced Cost

According to OECD (2013), the World Bank mentions a policy dialogue that has been started to review the legal and regulatory framework according to best practice such as (no exclusive rights on fiber optic assets, financial autonomy of the regulatory authority). It was later enacted in 2013 states Ezrow, et al (2016). Its approval made DRC eligible for the Central
African Backbone (CAB) Program that is meant to help in connecting the population through cheap and accessible telecommunication network.

Chandy, et al, (2015), says the DRC government already participating in the public-private partnership (PPP) approach for international connectivity via the West Africa Cable System (WACS) consortium and has installed a submarine landing station in Moanda and a fiber optic cable between Moanda and Kinshasa. The World Bank is seen to engage in the development of key economic cluster (Kinshasa, Lubumbashi, Goma) linked to submarine wire facility with the quickest route, which is linked together in a second phase via national fiber links (Chandy, et al, 2015).

It helps advance admission as pointed by Lukas et al, (2016) and to provide telecommunications for populations in remote or poorly covered areas by building on the victorious pilot stage with a mobile operator to commence the broad Village Phone Program offering accessibility to telecommunication and connectivity states Chandy, et al, (2015). The World Bank overall aim in this project is to generate employment to over 4,500 village phone operators and improved access for approximately 900,000 citizens (Lukas et al, 2016) but this depend with the growth mechanisms put in place stated by New Growth Theorists across the globe.

4.2.4. Increased Generation of and Improved Access to Energy

According to the World Bank Report of 2013, the DRC was part of its many targeted countries for the expansion of the World Bank’s Lighting Africa behavior in the region and a pilot country for the Africa Clean Cooking Energy Solutions (ACCES) initiative notes Chandy, et al, (2015). Lighting Africa is a World Bank program to go faster the acceptance of clean,
off-grid lighting technologies by households and businesses throughout Southern Sudan that at present depend for their lighting requirements on candles, kerosene, and other inferior and harmful fuels (Lukas et al, 2016).

In DRC, the program will target providing output-based subsidies for the dissemination of modern off-grid lighting to increase its affordability for the poor (Chandy, et al, 2015). The objective is to accelerate the development of the clean cooking sector in DRC through increasing access to modern technologies and cooking fuels that will alleviate the adverse health, environmental, and socioeconomic impacts of traditional cooking practices (Chandy, et al, 2015).

Whitman, (2008), asserts that in the mining sector important progress was made. In 2008, for example, the World Bank carried a series of analytical works to: examine the mining sectors possible to contribute to economic expansion and propose measures to strengthen institutions and good governance in the mining (Whitman, 2008).

Lukas cites key reforms supported under the growth with governance in mining sector project. Following news of non-transparent handling of mining acknowledgments in the spring and summer of 2010, the World Bank settled with the government on various economic governance procedures that would guide at improving transparency in the extractive industries (Lukas et al, 2016).

Mining sector project in DRC supported by the World Bank will help strengthen the capacity of key institutions to manage the minerals sector and improve the conditions for increased investments in and revenues from mining which has been a serious challenge in DRC
because of poor management and marginalization in regards to distribution and sharing of the mineral revenue (Whitman, 2008).

4.2.5. Boost Agriculture Production and Increase Access to Markets

Nowhere has the poor productivity of economies in the DRC been poorly demonstrated than in the agricultural sector. Agricultural output has continued towards a downfall. Again the drought of the last couple of years has not made things any better (Borchgrevink, 2008). Originally confined to small areas it has now spread to many areas in Eastern, Western, Central and Southern part of the DRC. The human dimensions of this are incalculable.

The drought has aggravated and already bad food and agricultural situation in the country. Certain regions are worse off than others it terms of access to market and poor agricultural production. Not only has agricultural production been declining, there is even a danger of a crisis of the entire agrarian system. To make matters worse there has been a virtual collapse of commodity prices coupled with poor market accessibility. In addition to declining exports the terms of trade have not been in favor of the primary producer. These have adversely affected the overall sustainable economic development as envisioned in the World Bank economic strategy.

Some of the projects the World Bank have initiated and continue to support various agricultural sector projects as explained by Herderschee, et al (2012). Support to Agriculture Project at a cost of ($120 million), which focuses on support to farmers’ organizations and linking farmers to market. The project’s objective is to double yields for maize, cassava, and rice. To achieve its objectives, the project will enhance the capacity of 400,000 beneficiaries and rehabilitate 2,500 km of feeder roads to connect farmers with Central Africa Republic
(CAR) and the Congo River (Halland, et al, 2014). In addition to the Support to Agriculture Project another project named the Agriculture-based Growth Pole Project is proposed that will focus on agriculture and agribusiness.

This project complements road and rehabilitation efforts under two ongoing projects in the Southeast (from Katanga to South Kivu). Kai-Alexander and Daniel (2012) say it complement port rehabilitation activities on Lake Tanganyika financed by the European Union, and agriculture programs financed by Belgium. If these initiatives are successful in creating much-needed jobs, the government, with the support of other development partners, will extend these programs to other areas. These agriculture operations will significantly contribute to supporting Government’s efforts at alleviating extreme poverty and malnutrition in DRC.

### 4.2.6. Increased Access to Clean Water and Sanitation

Plaza and Ratha, (2011), asserts that the World Bank through the CAS programs is aimed at supporting the water sector through the Water Sector Rehabilitation Project. The project will support the government’s efforts to improve access to potable water, which contributes to the achievement of MDG 7. It aims to increase access to drinking water in three major urban centers of DRC: Kinshasa, Lubumbashi, and Matadi (Plaza and Ratha, 2011).

The benefits of this program are the assessment rate that it will propel, as the targeted cities will increase from 43 percent at end-2011 to 53 percent by end-2015 says (Ezrow, et al, 2016). This increase will result in approximately 1.2 million urban residents’ gaining access to safe water (Plaza and Ratha, 2011).
4.2.7. Improved Access to Health Services in Targeted Areas

The Democratic Republic of Congo performs relatively well on service coverage in the health and sanitation sector (Ainsworth, 2014). The country’s access statistics are substantially ahead of those in its peer group, particularly with regard to improved latrines. However, access to services is much greater in urban areas than in rural areas.

Oshionebo, (2009), believes the World Bank continues to support analytical work in the social sectors carried out by the government and other partners. The Bank will focus its support to the preparation of a higher education strategy, social protection strategy, skills development, social sector public expenditures review including health finances, and the development of systems to identify and target the most vulnerable populations.

Jointly with interested international Partners (IPs), the World Bank will as indicated by Plaza and Ratha, (2011), update the 2008 public expenditure review (PER) in the social sectors. Building on ongoing engagement on budget issues in these sectors, the PER will cover the health, education, and social protection sectors. Building on the existing sector strategy in health, the PER will inform the policy dialogue with the government, says Plaza and Ratha (2011), the decentralized authorities, and the donors to increase the effectiveness of spending in the sector and ensure that the government allocates adequate funding to the health sector.

Chandy, et al, (2015), indicates that in 2012 the government allocated more funding to the health sector and, for the first time, provided financing to procure vaccines. The PER will build on this encouraging development. In addition to improvements in budget preparation and execution, there is a need for DRC to track expenditures from the Central and provincial levels to service delivery points at the community level.
4.2.8. Improved Access to Basic Education in Targeted Areas

According to Kai-Alexander and Daniel (2012), the number of out-of-school children, increase completion rates, and expand access to all, including minorities and those in the conflict areas in the East. Progress made in basic education calls for expansion of secondary education opportunities, particularly for girls, who are grossly under-represented. In addition, reforms to technical and vocational education (TVE) to better align it with the needs of the economy are urgent. The World Bank is supporting a skills development study that should help define training priorities for the needs of the Western DRC Agriculture-based Growth Poles operation and for the Kinshasa area.

Halland, et al, (2014), agrees that major access and quality challenges remain at the basic education level, a holistic and integrated approach to education development in the DRC is necessary. To support inclusive growth, the country needs adequate human resources. Ensuring a minimum level of education for all citizens is a way to strengthen their participation in development, increase the potential for peace, and reduce vulnerability to conflict.

According to World Bank, (2016), in improving this sector, the World Bank’s ongoing US$150 million Education project (PASE) is the current major operation targeting primary education. Further, World Bank, (2016), report the highlights that at the tertiary education level, a robust regulatory regime to ensure a level playing field, quality of education and value for money is urgently needed (Sampson, 2001).

The government would achieve this by reforming the financing system to improve equity in access of the services (for example, the introduction of a student loan system plus a scholarship system for disadvantaged students). Given the low funding of the subsector, special
effort is needed to mobilize other sources of funding, including from the private sector and development partners active in the DRC a role that cannot be achieved by the World Bank alone. (World Bank, 2016)

Significant results achieved by the World Bank include construction of 396 schools as part of the Emergency Social Actions Fund project and 522 classrooms as part of the Education project. Schiavo-Campo (2003) also illustrates that gross enrollment rates of primary education increased from 64 percent in 2007 to 93 percent in 2011 compared to the expected 72 percent. A total of 43,355 teachers were integrated to the public payroll compared to a target of 30,000 teachers and completion rate increased from 29 percent in 2007 to 59 percent in 2011 compared to a target of 34 percent all efforts geared towards the improvement of education as a pillar in the sustainable economic development mechanisms (Ezrow, et al, 2016).

Sarfaty, 2012 supported by Ezrow, et al, (2016), asserts that in fact, 125,208 teachers benefited from teacher guides compared to a target of 125,000 teachers. In partnership with other sector donors, the World Bank assisted the government in developing its basic education strategy, which was adopted in March 2010 and implemented thereafter notes Ezrow, et al, (2016). In order to have an integrated strategy covering the whole sector by 2013, the World Bank has been instrumental in providing support to the Government in the development of a strategy for higher education, and for non-formal education and literacy.

The World Bank support as indicated by Ohiorhenuan has also contributed to a progressive development of the sector, including an improved access and equity to basic education, strengthening of the learning environment and more effective management of the
system to achieve the desired outcome and help foster sustainable economic development in DRC as supported by institutional theory (Ohiorhenuan, 2008).

4.3 Conclusion

The chapter has clearly critical examined and indicated the factors that have assisted and contributed to the change from promoting conflict resolution to economic sustainable development programs in DRC as supported by Muscat and Michael (2002). However, according to Ezrow, et al, (2016), these factors varies and applied to various sectors within the review of urbanization and land sector with the World Bank calling for strengthening policies that addresses them. Then the conclusion is that there is a desire to examine, formulate, implement and evaluate stipulated policies in order to enhance economic growth on the DRC.

In the view of Schiavo-Campo (2003), the other sectors the World Bank has identified as critical in promoting sustainable economic development and requires review and reforms include; public administration and good governance reforms, human and institutional capacity building and political governance reforms. The study, therefore, concludes that these are critical areas that not only require reforms but needs to be reviewed as discussed in this chapter to make them more comprehensive and create an outcome that will foster economic sustainable development in DRC as envisioned in New Growth theory.

According to Rohland and Sarah (2002), the analysis on the role played by World Bank in sustainable economic development is through implementation of programs and projects such as the Country Assistance Strategy and its outcomes. This strategy has incorporated numerous projects and programs from various sectors and areas that when implemented contributes widely and comprehensively towards sustainable economic development. The study, therefore,
concludes that there is need to fully implement Country Assistance Strategy as it is geared towards achieving sustainable economic development.

From the analysis lesson learnt that the Country Assistance Strategy has resulted to increase in state effectiveness and improve good governance, improved connectivity and access to transport infrastructure, improved access to quality broadband network and services at reduced, increased generation of and improved access to energy, boost agriculture production and increase access to markets, increased access to clean water and sanitation, improved access to health services in targeted areas, and improved access to basic education in targeted areas.

Svejnar (2002) argument leads to the conclusion that the World Bank in its mandate towards DRC reconstruction to economic sustainable development is very elaborate and it can be learnt from its implementation of various projects and programs in various sectors that it has been able to achieve its desired objectives. What is required from the DRC government is support for these programs which are critical for the growth and development of the people of DRC who have suffered from numerous conflict that have left many dead and millions displaced.

From the analysis we can also see that the World Bank recognizes the importance of corporation in implementing its programs with the DRC government and this has also helped tremendously in achieving the outcome and objective of these strategies which will eventually bring DRC towards an economic giant in Africa with its vast and rich mineral resources. This can also be witnessed in the reformation of public institutions and human resources as premised in the institutional theory that guides this study.
CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0. Conclusion

Democratic Republic of Congo has witnessed a series of conflicts with seriously negative effects on its economic development and growth. The post conflict periods of the DRC which would have been dedicated to reconstruction and reconciliation efforts towards development of the country have not been achieved as the government continuously engages in violation of human rights resulting from continuity of fighting and poor leadership from different regimes.

The international organizations including the United Nations, IMF, the World Bank in their response to the activities towards the reconstruction of the DRC concentrated more on conflict resolution projects and programs and did not incorporate sustainable economic development programs. According to Karim (2017), the international organizations approached the situation on post conflict reconstruction in DRC with reference to three different aspects namely observation, intervention and assistance.

Additionally, Collier and Anke (2002) says that due to the failure in helping change the lives of the DRC people through conflict resolution mechanisms the World Bank changed from conflict resolution programs to economic sustainable development programs to change the lives of DRC people and make them economically viable towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDG’s) and promoting better living.
On the other hand, Muscat and Michael (2002) says that the continuous poverty witnessed in DRC is as a result of the fighting and civil wars that make economic development programs difficult to achieve. The World Bank and other international organizations are confronted with difficult situations that they do not fully understand their cause and how to stop or solve the impasse in DRC. Their support to end conflict require critical thinking and analysis of the causes of the war in DRC and creating programs and projects that can be able to stop these wars and also implement economic strategies to eradicate poverty and other economic obstacles affecting the DRC people. The study, therefore, concludes that there still exists extreme poverty in many parts of the DRC due to conflict related issues.

The Congolese economy has improved since 2003, large companies and recently agriculture have grown rapidly, but small and medium-size companies have grown modestly. World Bank (2016), asserts that during 2006–10, aggregate economic growth in the provinces, led by agriculture, was double the rate reported in the national statistics compiled by the central bank (Young, 2016). Despite the numerous development projects initiated by the World Bank in DRC, World Bank (2016), claims the Congolese population still suffers from poverty and experience regional inequalities at a high rate. Young, (2016), agrees that the Democratic Republic of Congo’s positive economic growth starts from a very low level, as the poverty rate remains one of the highest in the world, affecting Congolese people regardless of whether living in the rural or urban areas (World Bank, 2016).

Economic reconstruction of DRC experiences various challenges that ought to be addressed to achieve the positive outcome. Challenges such as government effectiveness are linked to security and public safety, but also more broadly to macroeconomic outcomes and governance indicators states Young, (2016). Infrastructure development is identified as major
challenges that require inclusive participation to generate success. The World Bank and other financial institutions have put a lot of emphasizes on building of roads and critical infrastructure programs that will help propel the development agenda in DRC.

As stipulated by Borchgrevink (2008), DRC has an immense and rich in natural resources but the problem is the incompatibility with the infrastructure of the DRC to be able to create avenues where these resources can be managed well towards transforming the lives of the DRC people. The challenge of increased corruption in management of the mineral resources has contributed to different factions and created militias that engage the government in fighting towards the control of these mineral resources with the civilians being caught in these cross fires.

The first objective of analyzing how the role of World Bank has changed from promoting conflict resolution programs to promoting economic sustainable development programs in DRC is addressed by understanding the role of the World Bank through the United Nations to foster dialogue and negotiations. Initially the World Bank through the United Nations engaged in peace keeping missions in DRC towards containing the conflict and helping in humanitarian intervention where civilians were caught in the fighting which resulted to human rights violations. A critical analysis showed that this would not be effective in promoting economic sustainable development but only make it worse by hindering and interfering with economic developments made such as destruction of critical infrastructure.

This objective has been answered in the thesis as it prompted the World Bank to change from conflict resolution mechanisms to economic sustainable development mechanisms approaches. This is why it engages with the differing factions through dialogue and peaceful
negotiations and created an agenda for economic development through initiation of projects and programs that promote economic development such as infrastructure development, good governance, promotion of education and urbanization policies and reviews.

The sustainable economic development initiatives such as establishment of International Development Association (IDA) in 1960 were introduced by World Bank. The association was to assist DRC by providing loans and grants for various projects with specific attention to boosting economic development eradicating poverty, and improving the people’s lives. Out of which 39 are of which are in are found in the African continent, DRC not exceptional (World Bank, 2016 and Englebert, 2003). The formation of the association has brought at the door economic assistance for many of the African countries a case in the example is DRC which has recently witnessed some notable development though the evidenced inter conflict is still hampering economic assistance into the country.

Again in answering the first objective, the World Bank dished a whopping $US66.95 million that was meant for the Governance Capacity Enhancement Project that contributed to the CAS objective of promoting good governance by lending a hand to overall economic development in the country. This noble project was meant to promote and enhance development, financial and tendering management and also in improving capacity in Bandundu, Katanga, Kasai Occidental, and South Kivu provinces of the DRC.

Further as part of answer to objective one, the introduction of the economic financing support on the DRC-Statistics Development Project by World Bank has addressed prime data necessities and has created stage for the production of quality products in DRC. The aim of
Statistics Development Project is to enhance the efforts to develop and consequently deliver key economic development goals in DRC.

The second objective of examining the contributing factors towards the change from promoting conflict resolution to promoting economic sustainable development in DRC by the World Bank has been successful as a result of the WB monitoring and assisting in the reconstruction and reconciliation process by adopting strategies that addresses the issues in the post-conflict period in the DRC have been significant to the extent that they brought belligerents to the same table to discuss the problem (Herderschee, et al, 2012). This remained the biggest achievement throughout the reconciliation process which will create a roadmap for economic sustainable development programs to thrive.

The second objective has been answered as a result of various factors that has been initiated and implemented by the World Bank. The contributing factors established by the study are: The adoption of Country assistance strategy which is in line with the DRC’s Government Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper that is meant to improving the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the government at decentralized levels vis-à-vis enhancing good governance. The World Bank through CAS also helps in Governance Capacity Enhancement Projects in the country. The body also strengthens DRC public and private institutions by creating frameworks and procedural mechanisms, formulating and implementing solutions as well as sourcing of funding. Mechanisms have also been put in place by the World Bank that increases transparency and accountability in how the country manages her natural resources.

Again in answering second objective, the World Bank has come up with the Public Service Reform and Rejuvenation Project that focuses on mechanisms that could enhance
human and institutional capacities in public and private institutions. Another point that answers research objective two is the fact that The WB has initiated programs such as Urban Development Project that has been according cities in the country facelift as such many infrastructures in the urban centers has been built mostly in major cities located in Western DRC namely; Matadi, Kikwit, and Mbandaka as well as in the East and North of Katanga which includes Bukavu, Kindu and Kalemie.

Another contribution of the World Bank through international organization such as United Nations in addressing the second objective of this thesis is that it is striving towards assisting the national government of DRC to accomplish its duties of establishing the rule of law on the entire territory as well as civilians’ victims of rapes and crimes of any kind occurred during the conflict and beyond (Karim, 2017). Regardless of these critical aspects and attempts there are still outbreaks of conflict and currently it is getting out of hand again and will eventually wash away all the attempts and efforts that have put in place.

The outcome of programs of World Bank on conflict resolution and economic sustainability is the third objective in this thesis which has been extensively answered. For example, the DRC government with the support of the World Bank through financing introduced a structural adjustment program directed at instituting the basis for long-standing economic growth and a sustainable external financial position (Lukas et al, 2016).

In order to answer the third objective, the study found that the body has laid down measures that have boosted transparency and effective management of public funds at the central point and in the provinces of Bandundu, Katanga, Kasai Occidental, and South Kivu. The organization has been supporting the preparation of a trade facilitation study between the
ports of Kinshasa and Brazzaville in Western DRC. World Bank has enhanced infrastructural development and networking by setting up fund that provide for maintenance of road networks across the country.

Further, the World Bank has started the review of the legal and regulatory framework which has made DRC eligible for the Central African Backbone (CAB) Program that is meant to help in connecting the population through cheap and accessible telecommunication network. World Bank through program titled ‘Lighting Africa’ has also exposed DRC to the Africa Clean Cooking Energy Solutions (ACCES) initiative as noted Chandy et al, (2015). The body also supports various agricultural sector projects which focus on support to farmers’ organizations and linking farmers to market in areas of maize, cassava, and rice production.

World Bank through the CAS programs is also aimed at supporting the water sector through the Water Sector Rehabilitation Project in order to improve access to potable water, which contributes to the achievement of MDG. Bank has allocated more funding to the health sector and, for the first time, provided financing to procure vaccines in DRC.

The World Bank also financed talks on the preparation of a trade facilitation study between the ports of Kinshasa and Brazzaville in Western. This is important in creating critical infrastructure such as roads and telecommunication that will result in the realization of the fruits and benefits of the rich minerals that have not been fully been utilized due to transport and logistics difficulties and challenges.

To enhance and support education in DRC, the World Bank has founded and constructed various schools and employed additional teachers to run these schools a process that will eventually support inclusive growth and DRC is in need of adequate human resources.
Ensuring a minimum level of education for all citizens is a way to strengthen their participation in development, increase the potential for peace, and reduce vulnerability to conflict (Karim, 2017). A good example is the World Bank’s ongoing Education project (PASE) targeting primary education.

The study again concludes that it is critical for the World Bank to envisage the social aspects of DRC during the reconstruction process. The social fabric constitute the most important aspect of a new beginning for the civilians in DRC who are suffering because of the issues arising that causes the conflicts. Conflict resolution ought to be accompanied with economic sustainable solutions to not only create a lasting solution to the challenges but to also provide the DRC with an economic roadmap that is critical for creating a more fundamental mission in addressing advocacy in terms of transparency and accountability towards eradicating poverty and creating adherence to the rule of law to eliminate conflict situations.

State building and reconstruction especially after armed conflict can suffer a great deal if important and critical causal issues and elements are not comprehensively addressed and examined. International organization’s involvement in the reconstruction of states after conflict as seen in the DRC is vital and therefore they assert that engagements must be in line with the aspirations and wants of the people they are about to help reconstruct their country (Borchgrevink, 2008). Lack of cohesion on the way forward generates to negative outcome and increased intolerance that will only initiate more conflicts and war.

In the discussion above, the study concludes that the promotion of local leadership and enhanced accountability through training and information are critical components for creating sustainable economic development in DRC. Again, despite the change of strategy to
sustainable economic development, the organization has still faces myriad of challenges regarding recurrence of conflicts, political dishonesty, economic sabotage among the seemingly peaceful groups, and lack of transparency in sharing of economic gains and political seats as per the signed treaty or treaties. This evidently indicates existence of gaps on the shift from post-conflict resolution to economic sustainable development will be examined in the subsequent chapters.

Further, the participation of civil societies, NGOs must be appreciated and provided with appropriate room to engage as this is not adequately addressed in the literature review. Most economic activities are made possible through accountability and transparency spearheaded by civil society and independent groups in the country

5.1 Recommendation

This research offers the following recommendations which must be addressed adequately and appropriately in addressing the research topic. These recommendations ought to be taken seriously so that the people of DRC will be able to enjoy the peace and economic stability that will be effective in improving the lives of all DRC citizens.

5.1.1 Understanding the Conflict

In a post conflict country, chances of relapse into conflict is often very easy without addressing the challenges and causes of the initial conflicts such as the social, economic, and political is very easy. DRC witnessed numerous challenges of marginalization, poverty, insecurity, unsustainable exploitation of natural and mineral resources, corruption, poor governance which have always ruined the gains made in addressing post conflict and implementing reconstruction mechanisms and efforts for sustainable economic development.
It is therefore important for international organizations such as the World Bank to understand and examine these challenges towards promoting a peace and sustainable economic development programs. Many international organizations have fall short of their expectations because they do not have or set their priorities right in terms of post conflict reconstruction efforts therefore experiencing challenges in their mandate.

Neethling, and Hudson, (2013), asserts that disruption of peace and prolonging conflict is an element used by militias to gain their insurgency because they understand that there can be no meaningful economic development without peace and when peace prevail their revolution or militia activities will not thrive. The many challenges DRC has faced can be addressed and effectively brought to control if the World Bank engages in economic sustainable development programs which will evidently reduce poverty, marginalization, encourage good governance all geared towards promoting lasting peace.

The following are some of the recommendations from this study that can be implemented by the World Bank in their mandate of reconstruction efforts in DRC towards economic sustainable development.

5.1.2 Linking Sustainable Development and Peace Building

It is clear that there cannot be sustainable development without peace in any country. Baregu, (2005), defines sustainable development as the principle of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development contains three important dimensions as indicated by the a World Bank report first its embraces economy which requires economic sustainability of maximizing society’s well-being, economic equity, and eradicating poverty through the creation of wealth
and livelihoods, equal access to resources, and the optimal and efficient use of natural resources (Baregu, 2005).

Social sustainability requires promotion of social equity and justice, improving and uplifting the lives of citizens through improvement in terms of access to health, education, shelter, providing security and promoting diversity among citizens (Baregu, 2005).

Naidoo and Institute for Global Dialogue, (2003), notes that the key to harmonizing the three dimensions of sustainable development is to comprehend their linkages. For sustainable economic development, helping to prevent the relapse into conflict means minimizing negative impacts and risks arising from trade-offs among the dimensions and maximizing the positive potentials or synergies among the different dimensions (Naidoo and Institute for Global Dialogue, 2003).

Therefore in linking sustainable development and peace building approaches it is fundamental to link the pro-poor economic development and the environment, because their focal point is on livelihoods and poverty which are social dimension parameters which have a relation with the economic and environmental sustainability programs (Naidoo and Institute for Global Dialogue, 2003). In the DRC context, approaches linking the natural resources and conflict require the missing link to encouraging and promoting peace and peace building efforts.

5.1.3 Managing Sustainable Development Processes in Post-Conflict Countries (DRC)

World Bank, (2013), report states that there is no formula for achieving sustainable development but the most fundamental approach is to balance the different approaches and
negotiations of trade-offs is what every nation especially those from a post conflict background will require and determine how to approach it best (World Bank, 2013). There are also management principles that can be able to help in managing sustainable development processes and peace building in post conflict country which will be pegged on integrity, accountability, and transparency for a positive and better outcome.

In a post conflict country, to gain sustainable development, it is critical to promote participation and inclusion. Participation and inclusion are important elements to peace building became they create an element of rebuilding the broken social fabric between a divided nation and their government either through discrimination, marginalization and nepotism. This process of participation as indicated by World Bank, (2013), will effective in promoting sustainable development strategies.

Participation and inclusion if not taken into consideration can create a serious rebellion and uprising and this is what has contributed in many civil wars in Africa including DRC. Participation also has its challenges because it is not used appropriately and the outcome does not satisfy the needs of the other stakeholders will eventually contribute to more conflicts and wars and further affect the peace building mechanisms in place.

5.1.4 Sequencing and Prioritizing Policy Reforms in Post-Conflict Countries

Policy reforms are critical in post conflict reconstruction of countries that have witnessed civil wars. Successful reforms help in strengthening and reforming institutions that are seen to promote negatively towards peace and stability. In DRC it is important for the government in collaboration with the World Bank to engage in a policy reform especially on
how to address the issue of inclusion and sharing of the natural resources in DRC which has contributed immensely towards conflict.

For successful implementation of sequencing and prioritizing policy reforms in DRC, the World Bank with the inclusion of the government of DRC must play a critical role in evaluation of the policies that contributes negatively towards promoting peace and only strives to encourage conflict through corruption, lack of accountability and transparency in government institutions and programs and also help in creating structures that promote the rule of law, and encourages democracy to thrive in DRC.

5.2 Areas of Future Research

One of the areas of future research that must be addressed is the role of the DRC government in sustaining the economic programs initiated by the World Bank and being able to adequately manage and control the programs that will have a lasting impact on the people of DRC.
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