Intelligence-Led Policing And Drug-Trafficking Prevention In Kenya: Case Of Nyeri County

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Abstract: This study endeavored to gain an understanding of the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug-trafficking in Nyeri County, Kenya. The objectives of the study were: to find out how effective intelligence-led policing is in the prevention of drug-trafficking in Nyeri County; to find out the challenges that affect intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking prevention and lastly, to make suggestions on possible strategies and way forward. The study is qualitative in nature. The respondents comprised of police detectives from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations. Primary data was collected through semi-structured interviews and mixed questionnaires while secondary data was collected through review of relevant content. The data was then analyzed by coding and presented by use of narratives, pie-charts and tables. The results show that whereas intelligence-led policing is more effective in the prevention of drug-trafficking into or through the county from other parts of the country, it is less effective in preventing drug trafficking from within the county. Additionally, the study established that there are various challenges that affect drug-trafficking prevention. Among them is the presence of an international highway traversing the county and limited police capacity to effectively curtail drug-trafficking. Finally, the study established that police commanders at various levels can adopt various strategies that would address these challenges. Accordingly, the implication of the findings is that the police strategic commanders at all levels should be aware of these dynamics and take remedial measures to ensure smoother and more effective intelligence-led policing which will ultimately lead to prevention or reduction of crimes such as drug trafficking. The study also enriches academic and professional knowledge in the fields of intelligence-led policing and drug-trafficking.

I. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

A. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is to understand the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing on drug-trafficking prevention in Nyeri County. This endeavor resulted from realization of increased cases of drug-trafficking that were detected. Police officers continue to use intelligence-led policing as a proactive policing strategy but its success remains wavering. Nonetheless the study is important as it brought out crucial findings that explained the state of affairs with regard to the variables in question. The study also made possible recommendations to the police strategic leadership and security policy makers on the best way forward.

Regarding the thesis structure, the thesis has five chapters additional to the preliminaries: chapters one to five, in that order. Chapter one dealt with the general introduction of the thesis. It specifically addressed the background to the study, statement of the problem, research objectives and research questions. The rational, significance and finally scope of the study were also addressed. Chapter two addressed the literature review where key themes such as overview of drug-trafficking, intelligence sharing, informants' management and undercover operations were discussed. Also discussed are the nexus between intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking and the theoretical framework used in the study. Chapter three discussed the research methodology. Specifically its addresses the following: research design, target population, sampling method, data collection methods, ethical issues as well as limitation of the study. Chapter four addressed the

presentation of empirical results or findings. It also discussed data presentation and analysis. Lastly, chapter five discussed the general conclusion including findings and recommendations.

B. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Drug trafficking remains one of the most serious security challenges affecting the world today. Security agencies the world over have devised several crime prevention and detection methods over time to deal with the emerging security threats. Key among these methods is intelligence-led policing. This chapter will discuss the two variables, that is, intelligence-led policing and how it has been used in the prevention or detection of drug trafficking. This is in line with the purpose or main objective of the study which is to understand the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County, Kenya. In addition to the chapter will also cover the following: the statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, specific objectives, research questions, rationale and significance of the study, the scope and finally the structure of the study.

The importance of intelligence in security management cannot be over emphasized. The twin towers terrorist attack in the United States of America on September 11th, 2001 exposed the country's security agencies' weakness as far as sharing of intelligence is concerned (Bureau of Justice Assistance, 2005). The lesson learnt due to that weakness has transformed the working relationships amongst state's agencies from need to know to need to share. There is now increased urgency by intelligence providers to share actionable intelligence with local law enforcement agencies to help them detect and prevent crimes as well as arrest offenders in their localities (Bureau of Justice Assistance, 2008). As such, officers on patrol or on the beat are in a position to use intelligence as provided or even collect intelligence for the purpose of crime prevention. Intelligence, in the policing context, can be defined as crime-related information that has been collected, processed and analyzed and made available to decision-makers (HMIC, 2002 as cited in Kleiven, 2005). Hence police services rely on such information to prevent and detect crimes.

NCIS (2000 as cited in Ratcliffe 2008, p.2) summarizes the concept of intelligence–led policing as composed of the following four elements:

Targeting of offenders through overt and covert means; management of crime and disorder hotspots; the investigations of linked series of crimes and incidents; and the application of preventive measures including working with local partnerships to reduce crime and disorder.

Intelligence-led policing popularity has continued to control during the last decade (Carter & Carter, 2009). This attention has been more in the West particularly the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Despite the practice of intelligence-led policing in different countries, the understanding of the concept remain context based (Ratcliffe, 2008). Police operations against criminal activities mostly succeed when they are intelligence guided. In other words, police operations should be intelligence-led rather that intelligence being operations guided. Intelligence-led policing (ILP) provides a context for conducting policing as an information-organizing process that allows police agencies to better understand their crime problems and take measures of the resources available to be able to decide on an enforcement tactic or prevention strategy best designed to control crime (Carter & Carter, 2009).

Bureau of Justice Assistance (2005) assesses that Intelligence-led policing is built around the assessment and management of risk. Intelligence has been recognized as being important in policing practice. Most commonly, intelligence is seen as the information gathered from various sources on the activities of known or suspected active criminals. Since the 1990s several security experts have caused the study of intelligence to be viewed as originating from the United Kingdom (Carter & Carter, 2009).

Literature on intelligence-led policing (ILP) remains scanty in the African context (Mabia, et al, 2016). That is to say ILP is and has been mostly Eurocentric. Much of the data on ILP is found in the United States of America and United Kingdom. However, African countries are slowly adopting the so called 'modern' policing methods as a paradigm shift from the reactive 'traditional' approaches to more proactive problem solving methods. Crime patterns and trends keep evolving as trends in technology and globalizations keep emerging (Mabia, et al, 2016). Intelligence-led policing has become a policing paradigm at the time when national security issues have expanded to become domestic priorities. According to Ratcliffe (2008, p. 3), police authorities in various countries adopted ILP as a pre-emptive or preventive approach to crime. Ratcliffe (2008) goes on to argue that the rise of transnational organized crimes (TOCs) such as drug trafficking necessitated the use of intelligence-led policing by police services in order for them to be more effectiveness.

Mabia, et al (2016) argue that due to the scarcity of data on the use of intelligence-led policing and the fact that its applicability has been focused on terrorism, radicalization and other TOCs, Kenyans are likely to miss out on policies that can entrench ILP into the fabric of the security agencies. According to National Authority for the Campaign against Drugs and Alcohol Abuse in Kenya (NACADA, 2017), even where research has been done on drug trafficking, much of the attention has been focused in the so called traditional drug trafficking hotspots of Mombasa and Nairobi, thereby leaving a significant gap on other equally strategic and emerging counties such as Nyeri (NACADA, 2017). Nairobi and Mombasa cities scores higher than other counties due to their city status, meaning more people of diverse backgrounds are able to visit these areas for a myriad of reasons (Kahuthia-Gathu, Okwarah & Thungu, 2013). Even in these cities, most of the efforts have gone to studying drug abuse mostly in informal settlements. There is apparent need for some studies to be directed to Nyeri County which has seen increasing levels of serious crimes of late and is connected with major towns by an international highway. Thus a study to understand the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in preventing trafficking in Nyeri County, given the presence of the highway, would be of significant importance for policy makers in the security sector.

C. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A world without drug trafficking and drug abuse would be a good place for humanity (UN General Assembly, 1998). But that has never been the case as nations continue to battle this scourge. Both the range of drugs and drug markets in the world keep expanding (UNODC WDR, 2017). According to UNODC WDR (2013, p.ix), "it is clear that the African continent is becoming increasingly important and vulnerable in terms of the proliferation of trafficking routes, while the availability of data remains very limited". The above point reaffirms the drug-trafficking situation as it is in Kenya, where cases of drug trafficking gets reported in different parts of the country (NACADA, 2017). NACADA further observes that drug markets and drug trafficking keep expanding especially in areas where least suspected. Despite emphasis on the use of intelligence-led policing, the crime of drug-trafficking has continued to be committed in several urban centres as well as semi-urban ones (NACADA, 2017). In Nyeri County and particularly the sub-counties of Nyeri Central and Mathira – which have the two major cosmopolitan centres (Nyeri town and Karatina respectively), both have been adversely affected by the menace of drug trafficking as several incidents have been reported (NACADA, 2017). The police continue to use intelligence-led policing to detect and prevent drug trafficking in the county.

However, the current situation is that even with the practice of intelligence-led policing as a crime prevention strategy in Kenya, drug trafficking continues to pose serious adverse security, economic and social implications. UNODC (2018) informs that drug traffickers have resorted to using online platforms also known as darknets to do or diversify their illegal trade. Drug trafficking continues to gain momentum especially in countries that have porous borders, weak controls and are prone to corruption (INCSR, 2016). Kenya has not been left out in the drug trafficking networks. Trafficked illicit drugs negatively affect individuals, communities and even the country in which they live. The effects range from "health complications to delinquency, dropping out of school and violence" amongst others (UNODC 2018, P.26). Notable crimes associated with drug trafficking are murders, kidnappings, armed robberies and thefts (White and Gorman, 2000) as referred in (Powell, et al. 2011, p.10). This trend has to be reversed in the affected communities if law and order is to be maintained.

In addition to the above, it has been noted that cases of drug trafficking especially cannabis sativa are on the rise in Nyeri County. Three years data for 2015-2017 indicate increase from nine reported cases in 2015 to sixty-four cases detected in 2017 (Kenya DCI Records, 2018). The presence of an international highway traversing the two sub-counties of Nyeri Central and Mathira exacerbates the situation. The highway connects Ethiopia to Kenya and goes through Tanzania and beyond. Connectivity or accessibility to markets is a key factor for drug traffickers (NACADA, 2017). According to NACADA (2012) and Murumba (2013, August 13), apart from cannabis, other drugs such as heroin or cocaine are likely to be trafficked into or through Nyeri County. Most of the research that has been conducted has targeted the known drug trafficking hubs of Nairobi City and Kenya Coastal counties such as Mombasa, Kwale, Malindi and Lamu where research has been directed to drug abuse and not drug trafficking (NACADA, 2017). All said and done, research data regarding intelligence-led policing and prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County and in the context of an international highway remains scanty.

Notwithstanding the above, the question that begs answers is, is ILP effective enough in preventing drug trafficking in Nyeri County or not? Therefore, this research focused on understanding the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug-trafficking in Nyeri County and will go a long way in providing answers to the security dilemma created by increased cases of drug-trafficking.

D. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of the study is to understand the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County, Kenya.

E. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To find out how effective intelligence-led policing is in the prevention of drug-trafficking in Nyeri County.
To find out the challenges that affect intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking prevention in Nyeri County.
To make suggestions on possible strategies and way forward for improving intelligence-led policing and drug-trafficking prevention.

F. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

How effective is intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County?
What are the challenges that affect intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking prevention in Nyeri County?
What are the possible strategies and way forward for improving intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking prevention?

G. RATIONALE FOR THE STUDY

Intelligence-led policing is considered by security agencies as a modern and successful approach in fighting serious organized crime (OSCE, 2017). Core to Intelligence-led policing is law enforcement officers partnering with the communities in terms of sharing intelligence or information and responding to crimes. According to the National Taskforce on Police Reforms (GoK, 2009) also known as the Ransely report, intelligence-led policing was recommended to equip the police with security or crime focused information that enables them to apply proactive measures in minimizing crimes such as drug trafficking amongst others. Still, data on intelligence-led policing has been and remain Eurocentric.

Whereas one can find enough information on ILP in the UK and USA, there is scanty data from Africa and especially Kenya on the success or failure of intelligence-led policing in addressing transnational crimes such as drug trafficking. Further, where intelligence-led policing has been applied, it

has been focused on specific localities such as Nairobi and Coastal region leaving a significant gap on the upcoming urban centres such as Nyeri Central and Mathira sub-counties. Even in those areas, much attention has been directed on the victims, that is, drug abusers and not assessed from the police officers' perspective regarding the trafficking aspect of drugs. Hence the study is worthy undertaking as it will enrich the knowledge bank regarding intelligence-led policing and drug-trafficking prevention.

H. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Most of the researches conducted in Kenya have been directed to major cities of Nairobi and Mombasa which are the main drug trafficking hubs in the country. Other research has concentrated on drug abuse especially in informal settlement areas such as slums of same cities. This research targeted Nyeri Central and Mathira sub counties due to the existence of a major highway that connects Kenya to Ethiopia, to the north, and Tanzania to the south east. The study assessed, among other things, if the highway contributes to increase in drug trafficking or not.

The findings of this study will be of interest to law enforcement officers, students of criminal justice, and academic researchers, amongst others. Both law enforcement and state intelligence agencies may have an interest in this research because it has implications on the best approaches of applying intelligence-led policing in addressing serious crimes like drug trafficking, hence useful to policymakers. How intelligence is used is directly related to how, or if, it is relayed and within reasonable time. Intelligence value is in its proper and timely use (James, 2017). The research is expected to contribute to current law enforcement practices by examining the efficacy of intelligence in crime prevention. Hence the research findings will be expected to inform policy as far as ILP and its application in drug-trafficking prevention is concerned. Conclusions from this study are expected to add value on the use of Intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County.

I. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study concerned itself with understanding the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing on drug-trafficking prevention in Nyeri Central and Mathira sub-counties, Nyeri County. It mainly confined itself to drug trafficking in the urban and semi-urban settings as well as in the context of highway trafficking, based on the availability of an international highway traversing the county and particularly through the two cosmopolitan, more densely populated sub-counties of Nyeri Central and Mathira. The focus on the highway was to distinguish the research from other researches which have mainly dwelt on urban centres and others on slums and informal settlements. Further, the study restricted itself to the detectives in the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI). This group was chosen because National Police Service Act 2011 bestows upon the DCI the responsibility to collect intelligence and investigate serious crimes such as drug trafficking, among other matters of national interest. It is thus assumed that the DCI possess useful experiences with regard to ILP and drug-trafficking prevention.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter assesses the work of other scholars and researchers in the fields of intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking. The chapter first explains operational definition of terms to make the study more understandable. Secondly, it gives overviews of intelligence-led policing and drug-trafficking respectively. Further, the chapter addresses other researchers understanding on various related concepts such as criminal intelligence analysis, intelligence sharing, police informants' management and undercover operations. Lastly, the chapter concerns itself with the theoretical framework upon which the concepts of intelligence-led policing and drug-trafficking can be well understood and linked.

B. OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

This section gives contextual meaning to the key terms and attempts to explain in greater detail the main variables of the study.

a. INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence refers to the product of information that has been taken from its raw state, processed refined and analyzed for use by the policy makers or implementing agency (HMIC, 2002) as referred in (Kleiven, 2005). Intelligence can be tactical (for specific operations) or strategic (for long term, planning purposes).

b. INTELLIGENCE-LED POLICING

Intelligence-led policing is a crime fighting approach that is guided by effective intelligence gathering and analysis. Intelligence-led policing involves data analysis and crime intelligence which "are pivotal to an objective, decision-making framework that facilitates crime and problem reduction, disruption and prevention through both strategic management and effective enforcement strategies that target prolific and serious offenders" (Ratcliffe, 2008, p.89).

c. DRUG TRAFFICKING PREVENTION

Drug trafficking is a serious illegal business that involves the cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of prohibited drugs (narcotics and psychotropic substances such as cocaine, heroin, hashish, etc) in the black market (UNODC WDR, 2017). Some legally accepted drugs such as tobacco products may also be trafficked primarily for tax evasion. Drug trafficking prevention involves measures undertaken or championed by security agencies such as the police to prevent incidents of drug trafficking from occurring and includes detection and crime reduction efforts through effective investigations and prosecution.

d. PSYCHOACTIVE DRUGS

A psychoactive drug or psychotropic substance is a chemical substance that acts primarily upon the central nervous system where it alters brain function, resulting in temporary changes in perception, mood, consciousness and behavior. Psychoactive and psychotropic terms in reference to drugs are used interchangeably

e. SUB-COUNTY

A sub-county refers to a 'district' as was used in the old Kenyan constitution. It is an administrative unit for the National Government at the district level, with various departmental heads, including police commanders. The 2010 Constitution of Kenya subdivides the country into forty seven devolved units called Counties. Each county is further subdivided into sub-counties, locations, sub-locations and villages (GoK, 2018).

f. POLICE INFORMANTS

Police informants, also known as police informers, are individuals who supply information about other persons (suspected to be engaged in criminal activities) covertly or secretly to the police authorities, usually in expectation of some form of reward and usually at the instigation of the authorities (Harfield, 2012). It is against the law of evidence and the Police Service Standing Orders for the police to breach the confidentiality of informants.

C. OVERVIEW OF INTELLIGENCE-LED POLICING

Intelligence-led policing is a crime fighting approach that is guided by effective intelligence gathering and analysis (Bureau of Justice Assistance, 2008). Intelligence-led policing involves data analysis and crime intelligence which "are pivotal to an objective, decision-making framework that facilitates crime and problem reduction, disruption and prevention through both strategic management and effective enforcement strategies that target prolific and serious offenders" (Ratcliffe, 2008, p.89). This view agrees with the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), (2017, p. 6), that ILP focuses on "streamlined gathering and analysis of data or information, through a defined analytical process, turning it into strategic and operational analysis products, which serve as basis for improved, informed and evidence-based decision-making". Ratcliffe (2003, p.3) further asserts that ILP makes use of "criminal intelligence to facilitate crime reduction and prevention through effective policing strategies and external partnerships that are evidence-based".

The concept of ILP is applied differently depending on the uniqueness of challenges facing the affected countries (Budhram, 2015). As a policing strategy, ILP can be traced to Europe and particularly the United Kingdom in the 1980's due to the emerging crimes of the moment (Ratcliffe, 2003; OSCE, 2017; BJA, 2008). The UK's National Drugs Intelligence Unit was formed to address the insecurity posed by drug trafficking (Carter and Carter, 2009). Later in 1992, this Service was

expanded and renamed the National Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS), and adopted a National Intelligence Model (NIM) as a strategy that can coordinate intelligence efforts in fighting crime in a holistic approach (Carter and Carter, 2009).

In addition, the NIM is meant to provide focus to "operational policing and to achieve a disproportionately greater impact from available resources" (OSCE, 2017, p.67). According to PoliceICT (2019), NIM is an established model within the policing domain that managers use for: Setting strategic direction; making prioritized and relevant resourcing decisions; allocating resources reasonably; formulating tactical plans and tasking and coordinating resulting activity; as well as managing the associated risks. Hence, NIM is a results oriented approach to ILP where the problem being investigated is evaluated in terms of what resources are required, how they are allocated, accountability procedures, tasking and re-tasking and the expected outcomes. The process is well coordinated and managed for achievement of better outcomes (OSCE, 2017).

The impetus for full use of ILP in the United States was witnessed after the 9/11 terrorist attacks and consequent realization that intelligence failures contributed to the success of the terrorist attack in the US soil (BJA, 2008). In Africa, this policing strategy is being used for a wide range of reasons such as counterterrorism and Transnational Organized Crimes (TOCs) as well as fight against corruption ((Budhram, 2015). ILP comes handy in helping law enforcement agencies deal with the emerging threats (OSCE, 2017. Kenya has embraced ILP particularly to deal with increasing threats posed by serious or organized crimes such as terrorism and drug trafficking (Kenya National Police Strategic Plan, 2013-2018).

D. OVERVIEW OF DRUG TRAFFICKING

Drug trafficking is one of the most "crucial and most dangerous phase of the illicit drug market" (Jenner, 2011, p. 902). Drug trafficking may be defined as a serious illegal business that involves the cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of prohibited drugs (narcotics and psychoactive substances such as cocaine, heroin, cannabis, hashish, etc) in the black market (UNODC WDR, 2017). Being a secretive business, it requires coordinated efforts of all agencies working in the field of drug-trafficking to share relevant information in order to prevent or detect the crime (UNODC WDR, 2018). Drug-trafficking can be either local or transnational, meaning that the illicit trade may involve drug traffickers operating within one country or it may be a cross-border illegal business involving networked players and transactions in different countries (UNODC WDR, 2018). The rate of drug consumption drives trafficking due to rise in demand, making drug traffickers more motivated to take the risk to do the illegal business (Schuberth, 2014).

According to Schuberth (2014), there has been a decline of drug consumption in the United States and this has made drug traffickers to change their focus to the more profitable regions in Europe. In the American context, drug trafficking thrives due to complicity amongst the players who include the police, politicians, business owners, etc (UK Windsor Police, 2012). This is mainly due to self-interests especially corruption. In addition to the falling consumption in the US,

this change of market was also necessitated by the rising value of the Euro as compared to the dollar (Cockayne and Williams 2009; UNODC WDR, 2013d). Drug trafficking is a transnational crime of big magnitude. UNODC further asserts that drug trafficking occurs across all continents and many countries. Drug trafficking organizations have targeted Africa and particularly West African countries of Nigeria and Ghana as conduits to European market. Mostly African countries serve as favourable transit points or destinations due to their relatively high poverty levels, widespread corruption, weak state-security agencies and poor border control capacities (Schuberth, 2014, p9) as referred in (Cornell, 2007).

According to USAID (2013), drug trafficking is increasingly becoming a serious challenge in Africa. This is because illicit drugs are a threat to good governance, peace and security, economic growth and public health. Africa is a victim of the drug trafficking cartels due to favourable conditions for the illegal trade (USAID, 2013). An overview of drug trafficking in Africa in the mid-2000s saw notable increase of West Africa as a preferred route and South and East Africa also gaining popularity (USAID, 2013). Traffickers of cocaine from South and Central America opted for this route while heroin from Asia found its way into or through Southern and Eastern Africa.

UNODC (2017) report indicates that seizures of heroin, cannabis and cocaine within the East African region are comparatively few and probably do not reflect the extent of drug trafficking, availability and growing abuse in the region. The region is attractive to international drug trafficking syndicates as they are quick to exploit non-existent or ineffective border controls (land, sea and air), limited cross border and regional cooperation as well as serious deficiencies in the criminal justice systems. Kenya has a strategic location that international and local traffickers are keen to exploit. Cannabis is the main problem drug whose origin is in Africa with illicit cultivation "occurring in 43 out of 53 countries between 1995 and 2005" (Ghodse, 2010, p.32). Kenya situation fits this description. Increased volume of heroin from Pakistan and Iran, and cocaine from Latin America are being transited through Kenya, mainly to Europe and North America (Gastrow, 2011). Gastrow goes ahead to point out the existence of at least ten networks headed mainly by West Africans but also involving some Kenyans as being responsible for the trafficking of heroin and cocaine in Kenya.

As explained in the UNODC report referred above, the coastline in Kenya is as porous as the land borders due to many islands unmanned by security agencies due to their remoteness. The country also boasts of busy international airports such as Jomo Kenyatta in Nairobi and Moi International Airport in the coastal tourist and drug-prone city of Mombasa. Drug-trafficking organizations are gaining ground as the country is increasingly being used as a major transit hub for narcotics (Schuberth, 2014). According to (UNODC, 2017) most of the narcotic drugs are trafficked from outside the Country. An example is Heroin which has origin in Asian particularly Afghanistan. However, cannabis sativa (bhang) is grown in Kenya as well as trafficked from neighbouring countries such as Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda through the porous borders into the highways destined for the main consumption hubs. There is currently an emerging disturbing scenario where Kenya is becoming the hotspot for global trafficking in bhang – with a link to Tanzania's cannabis growing fields (The Standard, 2011). Ethiopia's Addis Ababa Bole International Airport as well as other international highways connecting Ethiopia to Kenya and other countries makes drug traffickers have enough options to evade detection and arrest, hence hampering prevention measures.

Besides Nairobi and Mombasa, other upcoming urban centres such as Mathira and Nyeri town in Nyeri County are facing unpreceded cases of drug trafficking. Bhang is the most abused drug, though it is believed that heroin and Huber are also being trafficked to or through the county, according to National Authority for the Campaign against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA). It is believed that the Northern corridor highway that transits Kenya (from Tanzania) through Nyeri County to Moyale and beyond to Ethiopia could be an enabling factor of trafficking of drugs from Nairobi to Ethiopia. Nairobi also has a major international airport (Jomo Kenyatta) where drugs may enter the country then trafficked to other destinations through the road network. This places Nyeri County in the matrix of international drug trafficking networks. There is a possibility that other drugs such as cocaine, heroin, mandrax and hashish may also be trafficked through the highway. This puts into question the extent of the effectiveness of ILP in detecting the crime of drug trafficking along the highways.

E. CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS

Robust data collection is needed by the criminal intelligence agencies as a basis for further data exploitation and analysis. Criminal intelligence analysis herein referred to as 'intelligence analysis' is a process that starts with collection of raw information which should be focused on identifying and understanding criminal threats that emerge within a locality (Carter & Carter, 2009). Hence analysis can be defined as a scientific approach to problem solving that relies on deductive and inductive reasoning to define requirements and forecast threats (Ratcliffe, 2008) as cited in (Carter & Carter, 2009, p.11). The focus for police organizations is on criminal data analysis where the problem is usually crime-related such as drug-trafficking. Moreover, after collecting the raw information, it is subjected to "systematic examination in order to identify significant facts and derive conclusions" (Ramsey, 2007 as cited in Carter & Carter, 2009, p.11). These facts and conclusions are very important for the strategic and operational decision makers as they determine the next cause of action or the response to the detected threat.

Intelligence analysis therefore looks at realistic issues emanating from the criminal environment, where the analysts interact with the collectors of criminal information, tasking them and re-tasking as they attempt to establish the trends (Ratcliffe, 2003). Ratcliffe (2003, pp. 2-3) in his 3 'i' mode of 'impact, influence and interpret', he explores the process of crime reduction through ILP where intelligence as obtained from the criminal environment is analysed and made available to the decision makers for their strategic guidance. ILP therefore relies to a very great extent on the value of the

intelligence which leads to desired outcomes of crime prevention or reduction.

F. INTELLIGENCE SHARING

Cope (2004) argues that intelligence is information developed or processed to direct police action. There are five stages that are necessary for intelligence analysis: Acquisition of information, analyzing the acquired information, reviewing and prioritizing, actioning the intelligence (usually by law enforcement operatives in the field), and evaluation of the impact of action (Cope, 2004). Feedback is crucial in any of these stages so that necessary adjustments are done. NCIC (2000) as referred in Cope (2004, p.191) makes reference to the National Intelligence Model which calls for use of an organizational structure in organizing intelligence for police use. The model recommends for a systematic procedure of collecting, storing and analyzing for further action by responsible police teams. Extensive use of information and communication technology (ICT) comes handy in the process of intelligence analysis and sharing. It is important for intelligence analysts to identify and align the intelligence to specific security needs in a specific locality bearing in mind that intelligence can only be relevant within time and place.

Once intelligence is analyzed it and presented to the decision-makers, it needs to be shared with relevant individuals so that its value can be utilized. Intelligence sharing requires careful application of the principles of "need to know" and "need to share" (Metscher and Gilbride, 2005, p. 12). Whenever a person's duties requires access to certain information without which he/she may be ineffective, then they need to know (Metscher and Gilbride, 2005). Need to share is the cornerstone of intelligence-led policing (Carter and Carter, 2009). All law enforcement agencies work within an information sharing environment that enables them to identify threats, analyze them and proactively deal with them (Carter and Carter, 2009). The need to share intelligence has increased over time. A lot of information is being shared through open sources such as internet web pages or blogs while more sensitive intelligence is shared through prescribed means such as coded messages, confidential correspondences or face to face interaction (Metscher and Gilbride, 2005).

G. POLICE INFORMANTS AND UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS

Police informants also known as informers are individuals who provide crime related information to the police based on certain understanding. Rich (2010) states that most of the times informants have criminal backgrounds, or are reformed criminals who still have contact with the criminal network. Police officers are supposed to identify the character of each informant and be able to gauge the reliability of each depending on how credible the information he/she provides is. Shane (2016) states that it is important to first establish the credibility of an informant before he is deployed. This will enable the police officer handling the informant save time of confirmation of the information. Establishing the motivation behind the informant's willingness to cooperate with the police is crucial. Based on criminal background of some of the informants, it becomes necessary to weigh in on the information given because it can be intentionally misleading especially when the informant is complicit in a particularly crime (Shane, 2016).

Rich (2010) identifies three categories of informants. Firstly, there is a group known as occasional informants. These are used by officers over a long period of time. They bring information to the police at their own discretion. That means there is no strong connection between the informants and the officers. Information provided is usually not very reliable and must therefore be verified by other means. The other category is called regular Informants. These ones offer information which is usually reliable and provides useful leads in police operations. Regular informants work frequently with the officers over a period of time. The last category is that of arrested informants. They usually provide useful information and cooperate mainly to escape prosecution. They are suspects who have been arrested for some reasons and are only available for a specific investigation.

According to Lyman (2007), informants' usefulness as far as exposing drug trafficking rackets cannot be overemphasized. Informants assist law enforcement agencies to gain first-hand information regarding the value and types of drugs being peddled or sold in the market, those involved in drug dealing, and where the drug illicit trade is taking place (Lyman, 2007). Further Lyman asserts that informers provide information which is not easily accessible to the police officers and are able to make discreet reconnaissance in localities where strangers such as police detectives would be suspected and therefore possibly be a danger to the officers. In addition, the informants are able to act as undercover agents for the police and consequently access a lot of useful information for the police. To be able to effectively and efficiently utilize informants, there is need for police training on how to manage this important crime management resource (Maguire & John, 1995).

Investigating drug trafficking, just like other organized crimes, may require use of more innovative and diligent ways in order to uncover the illicit activities. Such techniques include use of undercover operations Undercover operations may include use of cover stories, suspect surveillance, suspect infiltrations and other activities that involve the use of specialized equipment (Lyman, 2007, pp. 21-24). Examples of equipment used for such operations include specialized cameras and gadgets with secret video recording capabilities amongst others. Notwithstanding the equipment, the personnel involved in undercover operations require special skills on how to disguise themselves, how to use cover stories and how to remain calm at all times even when under scrutiny by their targets. Agents on undercover assignments must be well trained in use of firearms, ability to report properly as well as use of common sense during stressful moments (Lyman, 2007). Undercover officers should be able to detect counter surveillance traps hence the need to be sober and cautious all the time. Drug dealers are full of suspicion and to some extent, have developed own systems to identify wrong deals including entrapment by security agencies.

H. INTELLIGENCE-LED POLICING AND DRUG TRAFFICKING PREVENTION

As pointed earlier, drug trafficking is closely associated with other forms of violent crimes such as murders, shootings and violent robberies (US Department of Justice, 2008). 38 out of the 46 state and local law enforcement respondents to the National Drug Intelligence Center (NDIC) during the National Drug Threat Survey (NDTS) 2007 in the Washington/Baltimore region reported that crack cocaine was the drug most associated with violent crime in their jurisdictions (US Department of Justice, 2008, p.11). Drug trafficking, violent crime and drug abuse related crimes have a correlation.

According to UNODC, criminal intelligence remains paramount in the fight against transnational organized crime. This partly because of its proactive nature and also due to its capacity to address different issues or crimes such as corruption, drug trafficking, and terrorism. Since all law enforcement agencies require intelligence, it is crucial to train them on the basic tenets of utilizing and not misusing intelligence. UNODC further informs that in order to operate effectively both nationally and internationally, all nations need to build the capacity to collect, collate, analyze and disseminate information on criminals and the organizations within which they operate. This awareness is critical for all front-line law enforcement as well as policy makers. Therefore it can logically be argued that intelligence-led policing is an important instrument in the prevention and detection of drug trafficking.

I. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical background of this study is drawn from one theory: the Rational Choice Theory. The theory is important because it has relevance in analysing criminal networks who are known to apply intelligence and rational decision making in commission of crimes such as drug-trafficking. Similarly Police intelligence through ILP should focus on drug-traffickers' modus operandi and their motivations in the commission of crime.

a. RATIONAL CHOICE THEORY

Since the early 18th century, rational choice models have been applied extensively to criminological research, theory, and policy in an effort to understand crime and criminality. Rational choice perspective's starting point is the assumption that criminals seek to benefit themselves through acts of crime. Derived from economic models of expected utility, rational choice models of crime propose that individuals choose to engage in criminal activity if the expected utility of crime exceeds that of all other behavioral options (Clarke & Cornish, 1985). An offender's perceptions of the benefits and costs of criminal activity may be affected by social, psychological, and situational factors (Clarke & Cornish, 1985). Crimes such as drug trafficking involve rational decision making and pursuit for the expected wealth that accompanies the illicit trade. Hence it is proper to locate this theory in the context of crime control policy.

The Rational Choice Theory (RCT) offers a theoretical framework for explaining the rationality of individual choice, and its theoretical explanatory power has grown substantially over the past few decades (McCarthy, 2002). While early Rational Choice models built around the expected utilities (EU) function have often been criticized as being limited by their simplistic cost-benefit analysis in the criminal decision-making process, these early models were actually designed to neglect some cost and benefit variables in order to simplify the measurement process. Clarke and Cornish (1985) asserts that as criminals continue committing crimes, they tend to gain some professionalism in the illegal trade/acts. They accumulate money and have a lifestyle change that reflects good life. As the illegalities continue, there is likelihood of formation of cartels of like-minded peers in the criminal underworld. This theory of rational choice describes to a large extent, the world of drug dealers or traffickers. Drug traffickers will quite often, willingly and consciously take risks to achieve their illicit trade objectives as motivated by the expected returns in terms of money and power. Drug traffickers rationalize their activities as business ventures (Desroches, 2007).

The reason why the Rational Choice Theory was chosen is due to its relevance in explaining crime and criminality (Clarke & Cornish, 1985). Individuals make prudent and logical decisions having weighed in on the merits and demerits of the kind of venture they are engaging in and having decided that the merits outweigh the demerits (Nagy, 2010). Drug trafficking is a serious crime where the culprits engage in an organized illegal business being aware of its dangers but looking forward to the benefits of wealth and high life. "The principal reason is that the theory is the most complete and coherent account of human decision making in the social sciences" (Ulen, 1999, p. 795). RCT can be applied in evaluating the "professional offenders", who include transnational organized criminals such as drug dealers; hence professional offenders are "ones who often exhibit higher levels of organization, risk management and rationality than what may be seen in the criminal activity of street offenders, thereby offering them greater levels of status and success" (Wholl, 2009, p.3)

This theory is therefore useful in situational crime prevention where offenders take advantage of the lenient laws to perpetuate crime (Wholl, 2009). The government would benefit in crime prevention or reduction if it enacted tougher laws with severe punishments for criminal such as drug traffickers. According to the RCT, tougher sanctions are likely to yield fewer violations (Nagy, 2010). Intelligence-led policing also involves a great deal of planning which involves rational and logical evaluation of issues. The intelligence product must be "actionable" for it to be of use to the decision-makers who decide on the interventions that may be developed to deal with the threats (Carter and Carter, 2009, p.12).

Therefore RCT will help the researcher in coming up with reasonable recommendations pertaining drug-trafficking preventive measures and how this preventive role can be achieved through ILP.

b. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK
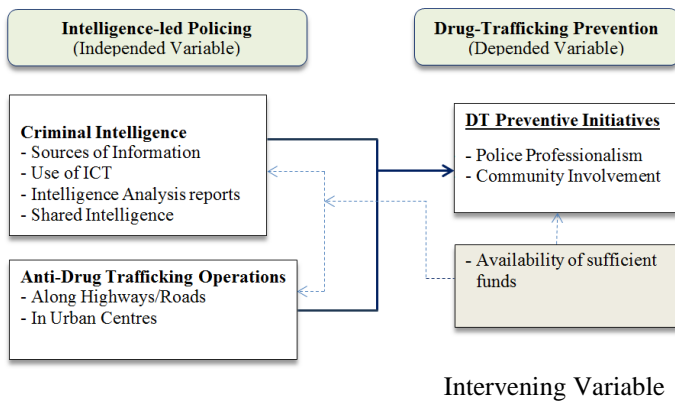
Source: Researcher (April, 2019)

Figure 2.1: conceptual framework

c. EXPLANATION OF THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The above conceptual framework is premised from the two main variables of the study: intelligence-led policing (ILP) being the independent variable and drug-trafficking prevention as the dependent variable. The police rely on criminal intelligence to conduct proactive operations that if successful, prevent commission of crimes such as drug trafficking. Criminal intelligence as a construct is broken down into several indicators, namely sources of information, intelligence analysis reports as well as use of ICT.

In line with the above, anti-drug trafficking operations may take many forms and target various segments of the population. These operations may include patrols and searches, surveillance or targeted raids. The operations may be conducted along roads and highways and in urban centres where drug-trafficking and consumption may be taking place. Operations of this nature are likely to be successful if they are intelligence guided. For this study, effective intelligence-led policing is achievable through timely use of criminal intelligence and conduct of intelligence guided operations and that way drug trafficking becomes controllable and preventable.

III. METHODOLOGY

A. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the study is to understand the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug-trafficking in Nyeri County, Kenya. This chapter outlines the research design chosen and the reasons for the choice. Its aim is to describe the methods and procedures that will be used to ensure that research questions are addressed. The chapter also seeks to identify the sample chosen and the target population that provide data for the study. The research procedures to be used as well as the data collection methods that will be employed will be outlined and justified. The chapter will conclude with data analysis methods to be used to present and explain the results of the study.

B. RESEARCH DESIGN

Research design refers to the conceptual structure within which research is conducted. It constitutes the blueprint for the collection, measurement and analysis of data in a manner that aims to combine relevance to the research objectives with economy in procedure (Kothari, 2004). The study adopted a qualitative research design. Qualitative research studies phenomena in their natural environment and attempts to make sense of, or interpret, them in terms of the meanings people bring to them, that is, it considers the subjective meaning (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005). A qualitative approach was considered more relevant for this research since it allowed greater capacity to gain more depth and meaning based on the expected respondents' experiences in the use of ILP in preventing drug-trafficking (Conroy, 2010).

C. STUDY AREA

The general area of study is Nyeri County. The focus of the study will be two sub-counties of Nyeri Central and Mathira within Nyeri County. The county is among the Kenya's forty seven (47) devolved governments located in Central Kenya, about 150km from the capital city of Nairobi. The regional headquarters of the county is located in the cosmopolitan town of Nyeri in Nyeri Central sub-county. The county is accessible through many roads including "Nairobi-Nyeri-Moyale-Ethiopia" international highway that traverses many urban centres some of which are within Nyeri County (County Government of Nyeri, 2018). Due to the elaborate road network, with upcoming metropolitan centres where drug-trafficking has been detected over time, it is reasonable that a research is conducted in this county for better understanding of the underlying reasons that facilitate the crime. (For the location of Nyeri County see below map as well as Appendix 4).

a. LOCATION OF NYERI COUNTY

Source: Cities Tips (2019) available at http://www.citiestips.com/view/-525873 [Accessed 15 on March 2019]

Figure 3.1: Location of Nyeri County

D. TARGET POPULATION

For this study, the target population comprised of all police officers in the Directorate of Criminal Investigations

(DCI) in Nyeri Central and Mathira sub-counties, Nyeri County. According to DCI Records (December, 2018), there were 33 detective officers in the above sub-counties and Anti-Narcotics Unit. The target group comprised of both male and female officers of various ranks in the Police Service. The ranks ranged from the sub-county commanders (Assistant Superintendents to Senior Superintendents), to Members of Inspectorate (Inspectors and Chief Inspectors), and lower cadres of Sergeants, corporals and constables. The choice of this population was informed by the fact that according to National Police Service Act 2011, the DCI has the mandate to collect and provide criminal intelligence as well as to prevent, detect and investigate drug trafficking in Kenya. The Anti-Narcotics Unit officers and the General Duty detectives were presumed to have valuable experiences that would be of immense contribution to the study.

E. DATA COLLECTION METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Primary data was collected by use of mixed (closed and open-ended) questionnaires as well as semi structured interviews. The questionnaires were used because they are convenient and require little supervision. They can also provide both qualitative and quantitative data. Questionnaires are easy to administer because they are in immediate usable form. They also tend to be more economical in terms of time and money (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003). The open-ended questions allowed the respondents to explain in more detail the reasons behind their responses given in the closed ended section of the questionnaires hence giving a better picture of the issues under study. The main closed ended questions involved use of a standard Likert-scale in the form of 'most effective/significant; moderately effective/significant; less effective/significant, and not effective/significant at all'.

Semi-structured interviews were used for the two sub-unit commanders of Nyeri Central and Mathira as well as the officer in-charge of ANU. The reason for administering semi-structured interviews to the section commanders was due to the fact that this cadre of officers is assumed to possess wealth of information which can come out more clearly through interviews. Semi structured interviews were preferred here because they guided the informants in focusing the discussion on the relevant matters hence helped in saving time and cost. They were also useful due to their ease in analysing due to the guided nature of questions.

Secondary data was gathered through review of existing literature as well as police records. Documents have a wealth of data that may be of value to the researcher. Data in documentary sources may be both quantitative and qualitative. Such data helped the researcher to position the study amongst other previous researches and helped in drawing informed conclusions regarding the phenomena under study.

F. DATA ANALYSIS

Once data from the interviews was transcribed, it was themed, interpreted and analysed. The process of transcribing the data helps the researcher to reconnect with the thinking of the respondents and understand what the respondents really

meant. It further helps the researcher to reflect on what could be missing in order to make the findings complete, and therefore the need for follow up interviews for further information. Follow-up information was therefore acquired through phone and email communication with relevant respondents. According to Maguire & Delahunt (2017, p.3356), "a theme is a pattern that captures something significant or interesting about the data and/or research question". A theme is characterized by its importance to the study (Braun & Clarke, 2006 as cited in Maguire & Delahunt, 2017, p.3356).

G. ETHICAL ISSUES

A researcher is bound by ethical considerations to conform to the principle of voluntary consent where the respondents or informants willingly participate in research (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003). Informed consent includes explanations to the respondents about the reasons for the interview, whether there are any benefits to the responded and avoidance of false promises. In the whole process of data collection to conclusion, the researcher should avoid biases as much as possible hence the process should be performed properly so that correct findings are arrived at.

After collection of data, the researcher is also ethically bound to interpret the data as accurately as possible to reflect the respondents' opinion. The misleading presentations of research results can take many forms, such as presenting incomplete research results or failing to provide the whole picture as per the data. Hence objectivity in research counts a lot. Every attempt was therefore made to represent the facts with completeness and clarity (Malhotra, 1999).

H. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The first limitation of the study is the scarcity of empirical literature that focuses on the relationship between intelligence-led policing and prevention of drug-trafficking particularly in Kenya. This study therefore aims to fill this gap in existing literature. The second limitation is the choice the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) and excluding other two sister police services namely the Kenya Police Service (KPS) and Administration Police Service (APS). These two arms of NPS were not part of the study basically because the mandate to investigate drug trafficking falls in the Directorate of Criminal Investigations. In addition, the Criminal Intelligence Unit of the Kenya National Police Service is also domiciled in the DCI. However, this limitation is mitigated by the fact that all other police services and departments channel information on drug trafficking to the Anti-Narcotic Unit of the DCI were such information is consolidated and acted upon. Lastly, out of the targeted 33 officers, 5 were not available to take part in the study. Probably there could have been some useful information that could have been provided by this group.

I. CONCLUSION

The study adopted a qualitative research design where all DCI police officers in two main sub-counties of Nyeri and officers attached to the Anti-Narcotic Unit were targeted. Data

collection was done by means of mixed questionnaires as well as semi-structured interviews to the sub-units and ANU commanders. Despite the identified limitations, the study was able to gather sufficient data for analysis and development of findings by observing research ethics.

IV. EMPIRICAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. INTRODUCTION

As stated in the preceding chapters, the purpose of the study was to understand the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County. This chapter presents the empirical results of the study and analysis of the findings. It covers the demographic characteristics of the respondents and most importantly analyses the data collected from the field leading to the findings of the study. It has been summarized and presented in the form of narratives, tables and charts. The qualitative data which answers the "how and why" in the research questions is herein presented in the form of narratives.

B. RESPONSE RATE (QUESTIONNAIRES)

Out of the 30 mixed questionnaires that were administered, 25 respondents completed and submitted the questionnaires as required. On the interview part, the targeted 3 respondents were available and undertook the interviews accordingly. The summary of the responses is as below.


Target population: 30
Response rate: 25
% Response rate: 83.3%
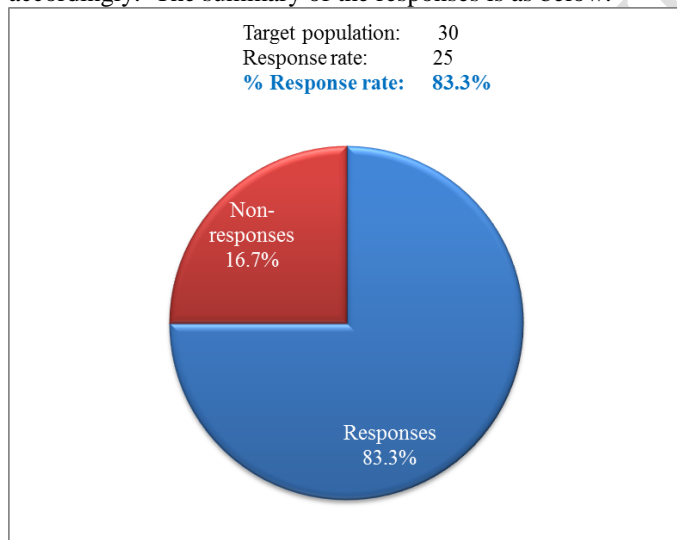
Source: Research data (April, 2019)
Figure 4.1: Response rate (Questionnaires)

a. RESPONSE RATE (INTERVIEWS)

The interviews targeted 3 respondents who are commanders of the two sub-counties of Nyeri Central and Mathira and the officer-in-charge of Anti-Narcotics Unit respectively. All participated in the interviews thus achieving 100% response rate.
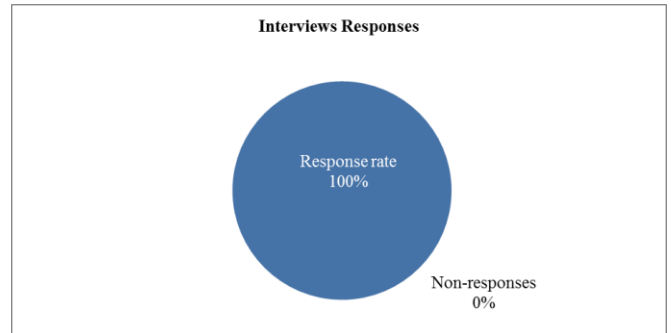
Source: Research data (April, 2019)
Figure 4.2: Response rate (Interviews)

b. SUMMARY OF RESPONSE RATE (INTERVIEWS AND QUESTIONNAIRES)

In total 28 respondents took part in the data collection where response rate was recorded as 100% for interviews and 83.3% for questionnaires. Both the questionnaires and interviews response rates are satisfactory since saturation had been achieved as evidenced by the responses provided. Given (2016) as cited in Saunders, et al., (2017, p.1895) defines saturation as the point at which 'additional data do not lead to any new emergent themes'. As per the data collected, no new information was forthcoming hence it can be concluded that the data was sufficient.

Interviewed Respondents	Response rate	Questionnaires Administered	Responses	Response rate
3	100%	30	25	83.3%

Source: Research data (April, 2019)
Table 4.3: Response rate (Interviews and questionnaires)

C. GENERAL INFORMATION OF RESPONDENTS

The general characteristics of the respondents show that a total of 28 respondents managed to give their views regarding the research study. Out of these, 4 were women officers while the rest were male. In terms of ranks, 2 (two) were Assistant Superintendents (Gazetted rank), 4 were members of inspectorate while 22 were members of other ranks (constables, corporals, sergeants - ranks). In terms of years of service, the study revealed as follows: 3 officers had 5 years and below; 6 officers had 6 - 10 years of service; 12 officers had 11 - 20 years of service while 7 officers had 21 and above years of service. As for the duties, only 3 were deployed in the Anti-Narcotics Unit while the rest (25) were in General Duty Investigations.

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	21	75
	Female	7	25
	Total	**28**	**100**
Rank of Respondent	Gazetted Officers	2	7.1
	Members of Inspectorate	4	14.3
	Other Ranks	22	78.6
	Total	**28**	**100**
Years of Service	5 and below	3	10.7
	6 – 10	6	21.4
	11 – 20	12	42.9
	21 and above	7	25
	Total	**28**	**100**
DCI Unit	General Duty Detectives	25	89.3
	Anti-Narcotics Unit (ANU)	3	10.7
	Total	**28**	**100**

Source: Research data (April, 2019)
Table 4.4: General information of the respondents

D. FINDINGS

This section draws upon the main themes and presents the findings which arose out of the interview process, questionnaires and subsequent data analysis. The key themes that emerged following data analysis were: effectiveness of intelligence-led policing, drug-trafficking prevention strategies, Intelligence sharing, sources of intelligence, reliability and contribution of police informers, highway drug-trafficking, use of ICT in intelligence-led policing, drug-trafficking prevention measures and lastly, challenges in drug-trafficking prevention. The interviewed respondents were coded as Respondent 1, Respondent 2 and Respondent 3. The sub-counties and ANU were coded as Sub-county A, Sub-county B and Sub-county C.

a. EFFECTIVENESS OF INTELLIGENCE-LED POLICING

On the issue of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing (ILP), there were two perspectives of responses: 28 respondents gave their views as they answered to the question: how effective is ILP in preventing drug trafficking in Nyeri County? The results are as follows:

Scale	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Extremely effective	6	21.5
Moderately effective	20	71.4
Less effective	2	7.1
Not effective at all	0	0
TOTALS	28	100

Source: Research data (April, 2019)
Table 4.5: Analysis on effectiveness of ILP

Out of the 28 respondents majority of them (71.4%) believe that ILP is moderately effective in preventing drug trafficking in the County of Nyeri. This is followed from afar by 21.5% who believe that ILP is extremely effective while a distant 7.1% and 0% believe that it is less effective and not effective at all respectively.

The explanations to the above responses reflect that if ILP is implemented well, it could be extremely effective in the prevention of drug trafficking. However, this has not been the case in Nyeri County due to the limitations of having only a few officers trained in anti-narcotics as well as less capacity in terms of logistics, that is, transportation and other undercover equipment. That is why majority of the respondents (71.4%) believe that ILP is moderately effective. There are also limited funds for organizing undercover operations as well as rewarding informers. With the available intelligence, police officers have managed to make several arrests, seizures of drugs and prosecution of suspects but not to their full potential. The proactive operations also help reduce incidents of drug-trafficking. The public are mostly not forthcoming in providing reliable information to the police for action to be taken due to lack of trust caused by some errant officers. All in all, the implication here is that there are other factors that should accompany good intelligence such as dedicated and motivated operatives, reliability of the logistics (transport, operation kits, etc.) and cooperation of the members of public.

The respondents who were interviewed also gave their accounts as to the effectiveness of ILP in preventing drug trafficking. Respondent 1 from Sub-county A explained it as follows:

I think it (ILP) is very effective especially if all intelligence is provided. This is because all gaps are covered and allows operations to be successful, such as arrests, recoveries and prosecution. Good information (intelligence) is the one that leads to arrest of criminals and recovery of items or exhibits. When the police have reliable information from police informers and other sources, it is easy to get effective intelligence that will lead to a successful operation. When criminal see police being proactive especially in arresting drug dealers and peddlers, the crime rate goes down and this is a good prevention measure. However, there seems to be a cartel involving some police officers and local drug dealers particularly bhang growers where such police only arrest drug traffickers from outside the county while sparing those from within the county.

According to the above view, most of the cases detected by the detectives were from outside the county. This is very interesting because respondents were in agreement that a substantial amount of drugs especially cannabis is grown locally in Nyeri, the surrounding Mt. Kenya and Aberdares forests and trafficked within and outside the county. This poses the question as to whether the intelligence at the disposal of the police was one sided or not, and why. In other words, intelligence on drugs trafficked from the county is unreported in most instances, while most detections involve drugs being trafficked through or from outside the county. The implication here is that either the police informants withhold information to protect their 'homegrown' illegal drug trade or the police 'look the other way' or tolerate the illegality and allow the local illegal drug growers continue doing their business. Collusion by corrupt police officers with the local drug traders to conceal crimes of this nature beats the logic of applying intelligence-led policing as a crime prevention strategy.

To support the above position, the dominant view from the questionnaire responses indicated that most of the drug-trafficking detections are those from outside the county although it is known that bhang (cannabis) cultivation and selling is done within the county. Bhang cultivation is prevalent in the outskirts of Nyeri town (adjacent to Mt Kenya forest), in the Nyeri County hinterland and slopes of Aberdares Ranges as well. However, locals do not inform the police about the cultivation areas. It is also suspected that some corrupt officers also know where bhang is cultivated but prefer to keep quiet and instead solicit for bribes. Hence they target drugs being trafficked from outside when detected to show that they are 'working' which can be interpreted as protecting the local bhang traffickers.

Respondent 3 from Sub-county C was of the view that the quality of the intelligence and the character of the police officers at operational and tactical levels who need to act on the intelligence as provided is crucial to effective preventive measures. In addition, the possibility of surveillance detection

by the criminals should be factored in. The views are as follows:

ILP is quite effective in the prevention of drug trafficking but it is affected by the quality of intelligence and its action-ability as well as other factors revolving around the quality of the officers who are to act on the intelligence as well as how well facilitated they are. They should put in mind that even drug traffickers do counter-intelligence and surveillance and things may change depending on who is ahead of the other in terms of intelligence collected. There is a challenge of collusion by some local drug traffickers with a few police officers who protect the locals from arrests by leaking information of planned raids. Most of the arrests involve drug traffickers from other parts of the country and not Nyeri County except a few.

What is clear here is that intelligence, however accurate it may be, it is up to the receiving and actioning officers to apply their skills and operational acumen to assess the situation and be open to changes since even drug traffickers oftentimes do their own counter-intelligence and counter-surveillance.

b. CHALLENGES IN USING ILP TO PREVENT DRUG TRAFFICKING

The main challenges that were identified by the respondents as are follows. Firstly, there is reluctance by the public to provide information. This positioning is partly due to failure on the part of the police to handle information in a confidential manner. Some police officers lack integrity, openness and transparency and therefore have lost the trust of the public. In other instances, the police informers are not well facilitated with some cash incentives to cover their operational expenses and keep them motivated. This also affects the reliability of the information that they give to their police handlers. Secondly, policing the highways which have many connecting networks is a big challenge because the drug dealers are able to use other roads to avoid detection. Thirdly, there is also likelihood of violence during arrests and this can result in injuries or fatalities on the part of the police. Fourthly, a few officers are trained in investigating and preventing drug trafficking. For that matter only a few stations within county have professionally trained anti-narcotics officers. This translates in low impact on the preventive role of the detectives in this Unit.

According To Respondent 1 Of Sub-County A, Also Echoed By Respondent 3:

There are many challenges affecting effective prevention of drug-trafficking. They include: Lack of enough and well trained personnel, insufficient facilitation in terms of transportation and specialized equipment such as drug detectors, laws that favour criminals such as 24-hour rule to produce suspects before court and favourable bail terms, compromised police officers and magistrates/judges. In addition, the highway from Nairobi to Ethiopia through Nyeri acts as an enabler, where drugs are easily moved in concealed consignments. Further, interference on investigations and prosecution by influential individuals and politicians affect the morale of the detectives. Drug analysis laboratories are centralized in Nairobi and this also affects speedy investigations and quality of exhibits.

In addition to the above, it was also stated that there is insufficient support by the police strategic command to provide enough facilitation to the operational officers in order to make their work more effective. It starts with limited intelligence analysis expertise at the county and sub-county command making the detectives to rely on the DCI headquarters' units which are more equipped and professionalized. There is also limitation in terms of specialized equipment, means of transport and number of officers who are well trained in anti-narcotics prevention and investigations. Further, the respondents stated that funds for running anti-drug trafficking operations were barely enough and this contributed to poor performance as far as drug-trafficking prevention is concerned.

Other challenges include interference by politicians and absence of forensic facilities at the county and sub-county levels. Some politicians intimidate the police when investigating certain cases of drug trafficking where they may have interests. This stance demotivates the officers leading to poor performance as far as crime prevention is concerned. Regarding forensic facilities, this resource is only available at DCI headquarters and Kenyatta National Hospital, both located in the City of Nairobi. Packages and transporting recovered drug exhibits may compromise and alter the state of the drug substances resulting to misleading analysis and conclusions. Lastly and equally pertinent is corruption in the criminal justice system that involves some police officers, magistrates and judges as well as correction services. The weak links in the criminal justice system aid drug cartels evade justice hence the inability to stem the vice.

c. DRUG-TRAFFICKING PREVENTION STRATEGIES

To begin with, much of the credit of preventing drug trafficking within Nyeri County goes to intelligence-led policing. Use of ILP is not just unique to the crime of drug trafficking. Investigating other Trans-national Organized Crimes (TOCs) such as human smuggling, human trafficking, arms smuggling also rely to a great extent on the use of intelligence. The outcome of an effective use of ILP is usually seen in the reduction of cases of drug trafficking reported. On the contrary, there was notable increase of cases of drug trafficking in the county even when intelligence was still being used. This situation was a result of several factors that were deemed as challenges to the police and this reduced their effectiveness.

Respondent 1 From Sub-County A Explained:

Intelligence-led policing has helped law enforcement officers prevent and detect a lot of crimes especially drug trafficking. Police informers have continued to supply the police with good information that has led to arrests and prosecution of suspects. In addition, based on the intelligence, the police are able to identify suspects and their associates and plan operations that will lead to the arrest and prosecution of drug dealers and abusers. If the operation fails, the criminals

will desist from using Nyeri County as a preferred market or transit route due to vigilance by the officers. The police detectives success in preventing drug trafficking is also depended on the level of support in terms of logistics and funding that they receive from the police commanders at the top (Inspector General and the Director of Criminal Investigation)and how well that support is utilized.

Drug trafficking preventive strategies or measures can vary depending on the situation at hand. Unlike other main urban centres which have international airports and, or, sea-ports (such as Nairobi and Mombasa), accessibility to Nyeri County is mainly by roads and the highway. Key preventives strategies employed by Anti-Narcotic detectives include reliance on informers and other intelligence to make targeted operations along the highway and other roads. As explained by the respondent above, sustained efforts and commitment to duty by the police are crucial factors to determine if or not their drug-trafficking prevention efforts will be successful. In other words, the officers must not only work but also be seen to be working.

The drug-trafficking prevention efforts by the operational police detectives need support from the strategic leadership in the police command, that is, the Inspector General of the Kenya National Police Service and the Director of Criminal Investigations. This support should be in the form of logistic support (transportation, specialized equipment like surveillance cameras, voice recorders, etc.) and operational and training funds.

Drug trafficking prevention requires dedication and commitment, both by the detectives performing daily operations as well as the strategic police commanders and political good will. The operational and tactical officers can perform a good job in the prevention of drug trafficking if they can get a good measure of support from their strategic commanders. The overarching sentiments echoed by the interview and questionnaire respondents clearly points to the need by the leaders to consider empowering the Anti-Narcotic Unit as well as the Criminal Intelligence Unit.

Respondent 3 Articulated This Line Of Thought Which Echoed The Views Of Other Respondents As Follows:

Many of the challenges in the anti-drug trafficking campaign can be addressed by training more police officers on emerging trends on drug trafficking prevention. The prevention and investigative capacity of the Anti-Narcotics Unit (ANU) should be improved by allocating more funds for operations (including surveillance and informers) and investigations. Same case applies to the Criminal Intelligence Unit which require more personnel and intelligence analysis and state-of-the-art communication equipment. Better tooling will also help the unit become more effective at their work. More screening of motor vehicles and motor cycles should be enhanced along the roads/highways. In addition, having a dedicated section from ANU for patrolling and conducting regular checks on the highway and roads will help a lot.

In addition, the respondents were of the view that a sustained campaign of creating awareness on the dangers of drug trafficking and drug abuse by all responsible citizens could go a long way in preventing drug trafficking in the county. The County Government of Nyeri should partner with the police and local administration through community policing forums and speak out against drug trafficking. The public should police their own area in partnership with police officers so that they can arrest suspects dealing in prohibited drugs and make the neighbourhoods safe of drug trafficking.

The respondents in questionnaires were of the strong view that the government must sustain its anti-corruption war within the criminal justice system and any corrupt officer, judicial official or even members of public to be dealt with firmly in accordance with the law. A representative view is expressed below.

Some drug traffickers use their ill-gotten wealth to compromise some corrupt officers or even magistrates and judges in the courts and therefore evade justice. Even those in prison custody get favours or good treatment due to corrupt practices there. When citizens see drug dealers getting such treatment by government officials they lose trust with the system. That explains why they may not be willing to provide information to authorities. Consequently, the vice spreads with knowledge of some corrupt officials. That practice must be stopped.

A criminal justice system that has integrity and is uncorrupted will enhance public trust within the police and judiciary circles. This will translate to more sharing of intelligence, increase of reliable police informers, effective policing and possible arrests and ultimately better security in the neighbourhoods. As a result, public confidence in the police will improve. The end result is likely to be less and less drug trafficking and enhanced security in the county.

d. SHARING OF INTELLIGENCE

Respondents were required to respond on the issue of intelligence sharing as far as drug trafficking prevention is concerned. In other words, they were to give an account of how they use and share intelligence so that the crime of drug trafficking can be prevented or detected. The question of sharing of intelligence is relevant because it helps in understanding working relationships between agencies and the need to follow up on missing information gaps for operational purposes. According to the responses made, intelligence has to be actionable in the first instance. For this to happen there is need for information and data analysis. Several pieces of information are collected, collated and analysed. Once an intelligence product is produced, it has to be shared accordingly. For the Anti-Narcotic Unit, intelligence concerning drug trafficking is received from several agencies as well as one collected through police informants. The Criminal Intelligence Unit is quite helpful when it comes to provision of intelligence for police action. This is what Respondent 1 had to say during the interview:

Intelligence is first analysed by receivers and also communicated to the Criminal Intelligence Unit where it is further processed and shared by confidential means, through 'secure' emails from headquarters, information from informers as well as one-on-one during briefings. All information is consolidated in the Anti-Narcotics Unit if it is drug-trafficking related where the Unit keep such data. The Intelligence Unit

officers also share relevant information with the concerned DCI commanders for further action.

In other words, intelligence that is not shared is not useful. Intelligence-led policing has helped officers have a change of mindset, from 'need to know' principle to 'need to share'. That way, it has been possible to prevent certain transnational organized crimes such as drug trafficking.

Responding to the same question, Respondent 2 from Sub-county B introduced a new aspect of other means of communication, adding that besides the normal channels of communication like telephones (mobile or fixed), face-to-face briefs, or correspondences, intelligence may also be shared on social media such as WhatsApp. This is what he stated:

Information about drug trafficking is analysed and processed by several agencies who receive it. After analysing, the intelligence is forwarded to the Director of DCI for decision-making. It is also shared without delay to relevant authorities for their action. The DCI CIU is in charge of overall intelligence collection and analysis. When intelligence is received – either from CIU/ Police Intelligence Unit, or informers or from other sources, if it is on drugs the information is shared or communicated with Anti-Narcotics unit through confidential correspondences, sometimes on WhatsApp and also by telephone. Anti-narcotics unit main concern is with intelligence that assists in arresting drug traffickers or detecting their modus operandi (their strategies or tactics of operations).

It is evident from respondent 2 that intelligence-led policing depends much on sharing of intelligence amongst the concerned agencies. Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) is mandated to collect, analyse and share such intelligence. Intelligence is task-related and should serve a particular purpose. For instance, Anti-Narcotic officers collect information or intelligence that will help them prevent, detect or arrest drug-traffickers and possibly recover psychoactive or psychotropic drugs. Intelligence Units within the Kenya National Police Service have a responsibility to ensure that they pass on reliable intelligence to the tactical and operational teams for their action, which includes using the intelligence for preventive and detection purposes.

Respondent 3 reiterated the fact that intelligence is one of the most important tools that Law Enforcement Agencies can use for the purpose of crime prevention. In addition, the respondent also asserted that intelligence sharing is not just a top-down affair but can also take the down-up approach. Once intelligence is collected by the officers during patrols or brought in by members of the public, again the analysts work on it and form a 'picture' of what it is all about. Once a substantive matter is identified, it is forwarded upwards for strategic direction by the senior commanders of the Police Service. Equally, some intelligence may come from the National Police or Directorate Headquarters and is cascaded down confidentially to the relevant offices for action. What is important in this communication is the speed with which it should reach the targeted office. Any undue delay may result in missing the suspects and making the intelligence invalid or time barred. Below is an extract from Respondent 3 views:

Intelligence is a very important tool for modern policing. It should be shared by the intelligence unit and dispatched confidentially to the Anti-Narcotic Unit (ANU) officer-in-charge. Also ANU officers have informers whom they manage. Also officers make patrols and collect of intelligence which is shared within the Unit. Intelligence is also shared from the DCI Headquarters or other security agencies. Intelligence is also shared one-on-one whenever necessary. Information can be emailed, shared on hard copies confidentially, or through word of mouth. The shared intelligence must be actioned otherwise this will demotivate the officers collecting it and those sharing it. Unless intelligence is shared then it will be of no use. Good intelligence is the one that can lead to arrests or recoveries. Intelligence can come from the ground and move upwards to the Director or from the Director and Intelligence Unit downwards to the operating units.

Intelligence sharing is a crucial component of the intelligence-led policing practice since it links the decision makers (strategic police commanders) with the operational teams on the ground. It also connects the various intelligence actors such as those charged with information gathering, analysts, commanders of various units, amongst others, as they piece together and collate different pieces of information to identify the specific threats that must be addressed. One respondent in the questionnaires had the following to say with respect to sharing of intelligence, sentiments which were shared by the majority respondents.

Two or more police units may unintentionally clash while pursuing same case if they did not share intelligence and this can result to injuries and even deaths. The Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) and anti-Crime Branch officers, for instance, both operate in the same areas and in civilian clothes. They may unintentionally exchange fire mistaking the other group for criminals.

Hence according to these respondents, intelligence sharing is paramount because it makes concerned security agencies work in a coordinated way and with less misunderstanding. For instance, as Respondent 2 of Sub-county B in the interview noted as follows: "Sharing of intelligence is key to effective policing for crime prevention and requires utmost professionalism and confidentiality by the concerned parties".

e. SOURCES OF INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence for police operations comes from several sources. To begin with, the primary source of police intelligence is the Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) based at DCI headquarters in Nairobi. This Unit has been decentralized to regions, counties and sub-counties for efficiency and effectiveness. However, according to the respondents, not much of intelligence is given to the operating units. This gap makes other police units like the Anti-Narcotic Unit to develop own intelligence networks to complement the intelligence offered by the CIU. This agrees with some respondents as below:

The Criminal Intelligence Unit officers have been trained to collect, process and analyse criminal information and share it with other police units, if actionable. But there seems to be some challenges because the Unit sometimes does not have capacity in terms of resources to make them effective. So the other police operatives may use other sources of intelligence

to work better and achieve results like arrest criminals and drug peddlers.

Other sources of intelligence that police officers fighting against drug trafficking rely on are community policing forums, local government officials, the general public as well as reports and complaints made to police stations as well as police informers. What this portends is that no single source is sufficient. Information from different sources must be corroborated and cross checked to enhance reliability and prevent the possibility of conducting a botched or compromised operation. Such scenarios may be costly in terms of safety of the officers and resources.

f. RELIABILITY AND CONTRIBUTION OF POLICE INFORMERS

Police informers are quite useful due to the fact that they form part of the community where criminals live and operate in. This makes them be in a good position to see or hear what the criminals are engaged in. Police have over time relied on information provided by informers to arrest criminals and oftentimes recover proceeds of crime. An informer can be anybody who is willing and cooperating with the police and gives criminal information pertaining to activities that known or unknown criminals may be involved in. However, it should be noted that information provided by police informers may be inaccurate at times and therefore there is need to cross check or confirm the authenticity of the reports. Respondent 1 had the following remarks:

Police informers should be facilitated for morale boosting so that they can be active in searching for the right criminal information and giving it to the police. They also need some support in terms of monitory incentives to help them during their information collection or surveillance assignments. Any information provided by the informers should be treated with a lot of confidentiality so that they continue to trust the police and for their own safety and security.

Various reasons abound to explain why there is need to verify and do more analysis of information provided by police informers. According to the sentiments by the respondents, the reasons range from lack of motivation to lack of commitment to the cause, that is failure to follow through and get facts right. Police informers' motives to cooperate with the police should be objective rather than subjective. There should be a desire in the informers to have a secure neighbourhood for all. The police handlers of the informers should be able to identify the motive, if genuine concern for security or if it is based on selfish ends such as monitory benefits.

The respondents agreed that informers should be handled well and with caution. The way police officers manage their informers determines the quality of information that they will get. For instance quality information will require confidentiality, protection, feedback, facilitation in terms of monitory incentives to cover operational expenses and other forms of motivation.

A motivated police informer is likely to be proactive rather than reactive. He/she may show more commitment and therefore be more observant for any suspicious activities. The veracity of the information given out by an informer will therefore be dependent on such factors as how his handlers handle him or her.

Police informers in Nyeri County, despite having information on the suspects of drug-trafficking, are usually reluctant to provide such information to the police. This affects their usefulness and reliability in the fight against drug trafficking. Overwhelming majority of the questionnaire respondents expressed the following views:

Police informers in the county do not cooperate fully with the police as far as provision of drug-related information is concerned. Most of them are afraid that the dangerous criminals will revenge when they know who sold them out. The criminals are armed and usually have intelligence on police activities in the area. This fear of attack by criminals, or sometimes mistrust of the police make information from the informers scanty and not worthwhile. Hence their contribution to fighting drug trafficking is very minimal. Police use other available means when they fail to get useful information from the informers.

The Respondents In The Interviews Echoed Similar Sentiments As Exemplified By Respondent 2:

Intelligence gathering through use of informers has its challenges. In Nyeri County where there is history of organized criminal gangs that can be quite lethal to any perceived enemies, most of the police informers have opted to remain silent for most part or just offer information when assured of all time security which is not possible. Fear of harm is main driving factor. As such, not much contribution from the informers and this probably explains why drug trafficking especially cannabis (bhang) continues to occur in many parts of Nyeri.

g. HIGHWAY DRUG-TRAFFICKING

The following were the results of the responses from the questionnaires pertaining to the significance of the highway to drug trafficking proliferation.

Scale	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Extremely significant	7	25.0
Moderately significant	18	64.3
Less significant	3	10.7
Not significant at all	0	0
TOTALS	**28**	**100**

Source: Research data (April, 2019)
Table 4.6: Analysis of Contribution of highway to drug-trafficking

According to the respondents, both in the questionnaires and interviews, there was overwhelming view that the Nairobi-Nyeri-Moyale-Ethiopia highway was a key contributor in the increase of drug-trafficking incidents within the county. The police were trying their best but drug-traffickers continued to sneak the drugs in or through the county. Out of the twenty five (28) respondents 7 officers (25%), believed that the highway is extremely significant to the increased cases of drug trafficking experienced in Nyeri County while 18 officers (64.3%) were of the view that the highway is moderately significant in contributing to the cases

of drug trafficking in the county. The remaining 3 officers (10.7%) were of the view that the highway was less significant as far as its contribution to drug trafficking in Nyeri County is concerned.

The three interviewed respondents aired their position which indicated that the Nairobi-Nyeri-Moyale-Ethiopia highway as well as other connecting road networks were key to the increasing cases of drug trafficking. Sentiments of respondent 3 which are echoed by other two respondents 1 and 2 are as follows:

The highway is key and important contributor to drug trafficking in the county. Drugs can be transported from outside the country like Tanzania or Ethiopia or even Uganda and transported through or into the county. Drugs have to be transported through the roads, sea, or air. Transportation in Nyeri County is mainly through the roads and highway. Several detections have been done on the highways and arrests made. There is therefore need to ensure that officers dedicate enough effort and time in preventing and detecting drug trafficking on the highways and other roads. The Commander of Anti-Narcotics should have a well trained and equipped squad for patrolling the highway and other roads. This will make the Unit more effective in prevention of drug trafficking

Respondent 2 Reiterated The Views Of Respondent 3 By Emphasizing That Just Like Other Avenues Of Drug Trafficking Such As Seaports And Airports, The Highway Has Its Part To Play.

The highway contributes to drug trafficking because it connects main cities or towns as well as connects countries (Kenya and neighbouring countries such as Ethiopia, Uganda and Tanzania). Just like the seaports and airports, drugs can be moved along the highways. There are also many feeder roads that connect to the highway. Drug traffickers use these roads to escape police checks on the highway. Drugs can originate from other neighbouring countries and be transported along the highway to any part of Kenya or to another third country. That makes the highway and other roads have a considerable impact on the increase of drug trafficking in the county. If sustained efforts are made to have a team whose main role is high patrol and searches on motor vehicles, it would help in decreasing instances of high drug trafficking. Such a team would be required to undergo relevant training for their role.

Respondent 1 Further Asserted That The Highway Trafficking Is Easily Concealed In Cargo In The Various Means Of Transport, That Is, Lorries, Public Service Transport Or Even On Motor Cycles.

Drugs are trafficked by drug dealers who sent the drugs through couriers or agents. Main drug dealers usually stay in secret places and use their agents for trafficking. Sometimes they use 'boda boda' (motor cycle riders) or motor vehicles for transportation. The roads in Nyeri are good for transportation of drugs. There is also an international highway from Nairobi to Ethiopia through Nyeri and this may help drug traffickers where they conceal the drugs within the motor vehicles to avoid detection by police in road blocks.

The above views indicates that the police strategic leadership have to focus not only in the urban centres and informal settlements to detect drug trafficking but also the major roads and particularly the highways that cuts across territorial borders. These highways have the capacity to connect cities and urban centres to the international airports and sea ports, completing the interconnected web of drug traffickers' operations.

h. USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

The respondents were generally of the view that the use of ICT in intelligence-led policing is paramount. To support that position, Respondent 2 pointed out as follows:

ICT has both positive and negative effects on investigations. The positive side has to do with technological equipment for surveillance, detection, intelligence collection and analysis, amongst others. Conversely, criminals also use the same technology or ICT to commit crimes and evade police dragnets. For instance cyber-crime is on the rise due to technological advancements. Use of CCTV and artificial intelligence technology in surveillance may help in detection and prevention of drug-trafficking. The dark net or dark web being a collection of websites that exist on encrypted networks are not easily detected by law enforcement. These dark webs are popular with drug traffickers.

Intelligence-led policing relies to a great extent on information and communication technology (ICT). Surveillance equipment such as CCTV cameras, video and voice recorders as well as other office machines are valuable tools used to make work easier. After information is collected and presented to the analysts, they use technological devises such as computers to transcribe the information and analyse the same using programmes or software tailor made for that purpose. Mobile phones and particularly smart phones also form part of ICT and are heavily used to communicate and store information. The use of ICT has made it possible to have refined intelligence that the police can rely on to prevent crime. Data analysis helps the police identify trends that criminals such as drug traffickers use in their illegal business. Crime analysis tools help investigators link suspects to the crimes they are suspected of and therefore can be tracked and arrested to face justice.

i. CONCLUSION

The purpose of this chapter was to highlight the findings that emerged from the interviews and questionnaires. It is now evident that effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in drug-trafficking prevention is depended on various factors (or challenges) which include police capacity and professionalism, integrity, and their handling of informers. Consequently drug trafficking prevention has been successful for drugs being trafficked from outside the county and less successful in preventing drug trafficking from within the county. In addition, there are several challenges identified as affecting ILP and drug-trafficking prevention in the county. Further findings relate to the strategies that were

recommended for enhancing ILP and drug-trafficking prevention in the county.

V. SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the study was to understand the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County. This chapter concludes the research study. It does this first by way of a summary of the previous chapters and discussion of the main findings of the study with respect to the study objective. The objectives were as follows: Firstly, to find out how effective intelligence-led policing is in the prevention of drug-trafficking in Nyeri County; secondly, to find out the challenges that affect intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking prevention in Nyeri County; and thirdly, to make suggestions on possible strategies and way forward in improving intelligence-led policing and drug-trafficking prevention in Nyeri County.

The findings of this study are based on the interpretation and analysis of data obtained through the process of semi-structured interviews of 3 key participants and responses from 25 mixed (open-ended and closed) questionnaires. Thereafter, conclusions based on the findings were made, followed by recommendations of the study as well as suggestion for further research.

B. SUMMARY

Intelligence-led policing remains a crucial crime prevention approach which is available to the Kenya National Police Service. As part of the law enforcement officers, DCI detectives in Nyeri County have relied on intelligence-led policing to make several breakthroughs in investigations and pursuit of criminals. The intelligence shared by intelligence units and services goes a long way in helping the detectives with timely detection and prevention of crimes such as drug trafficking which has increasingly become a security challenge in the county. However, the reliance on intelligence-led policing doesn't seem to have achieved positive outcomes as far as prevention of drug trafficking is concerned. This is compounded by the limited availability of reliable research data on the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing on crime prevention. It is against this backdrop that this research sought to understand the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing on drug-trafficking prevention in Nyeri County.

Consequently, the purpose of the study was as stated above: to understand the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County. To achieve this, the study reviewed existing literature particularly on intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking prevention. Theoretical review relied on one theory namely the Rational Choice Theory to explain criminal responsibility of drug traffickers. The empirical review, on the other hand, led to the development of the conceptual framework which was in line with the research objectives. The diagram depicting the conceptual framework is marked fig. 2.1 in chapter two.

The study was essentially qualitative in nature. The study population comprised of DCI detectives in two sub-counties of Nyeri Central and Mathira both within Nyeri County. This target population was selected due to their assumed capabilities and experiences within the Kenya National Police Service. A total of 28 out of 33 targeted respondents took part in the study.

Primary qualitative data was collected through interviews and mixed questionnaires. Three DCI commanders were interviewed while the rest of the detectives (twenty five) presented their views in the mixed questionnaires. Secondary data was collected through review of relevant literature on intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking prevention where appropriate deductions were made.

Regarding the general characteristics of the respondents, a total of twenty eight (28) respondents participated in the study. Out of these seven (7) were women officers while twenty one (21) were male. In terms of ranks, two (2) were Assistant Superintendents (Gazetted rank), four (4) were members of inspectorate while twenty two (22) were members of 'other ranks' (constables, corporals, sergeants ranks). In terms of years of service, the study revealed as follows: 3 officers had 5 years and below; 6 officers had 6 - 10 years of service; 12 officers had 11 - 20 years of service while 7 officers had 21 and above years of service. As for the duties, only 3 were deployed in the Anti-Narcotics Unit while the rest (25) were in General Duty Investigations.

The responses were in line with the research questions. This is particularly important to ensure that the required data would be collected and analysed. The study had three research questions as indicated in the introduction section of this chapter.

The study findings significantly show that whereas intelligence-led policing (ILP) is more effective in the prevention of drugs trafficked through or to Nyeri County from other parts of the country, it is less effective in preventing drug trafficking from within the county. This is due to a possibility of an unholy alliance between some corrupt police officers and drug traffickers or cultivators within Nyeri County. Such officers protect the Nyeri County drug traffickers for some 'fee'. Corruption in the judiciary also affects the drug-trafficking preventive efforts. Corrupt magistrates and judges probably give favourable considerations to connected drug dealers hence compromising on justice and rule of law. In addition, the effectiveness of ILP is premised on prompt sharing of actionable intelligence by intelligence units coupled with committed, professionally trained and well facilitated police units.

Generally, 71.4% of the respondents believe that ILP is moderately effective in the prevention of drug-trafficking in Nyeri County while 21.5% are of the view that it is extremely effective. The remaining 7.1% believe that it is less effective. This implies that the effectiveness of ILP would be higher, probably at extremely effective level, were it not for some challenges which need to be addressed. Some of these challenges include insufficient training on emerging DT trends, limited modern surveillance equipment, limited intelligence analysis tools and poor police-public relations.

Another key finding is that the presence of an international highway traversing Nyeri County contributes considerably to increased incidents of drug trafficking in the area and requires dedicated strategies to prevent or detect such crimes along the highway. Information from police informants and other intelligence collection ways have only succeeded in detecting few cases.

The other key finding is that the reliability and sufficiency of police informants' reports is depended on how professionally the police deal with the informants themselves and this includes providing monitory and non-monitory incentives as well as confidence building. Due to the limited facilitation of police informants in Nyeri County as well as breaches of confidence by some officers, the contribution of police informants has been minimal and unreliable at most.

Finally, the main drugs being trafficked in or through the county include cannabis (bhang) being the most prominent, kuber, heroin in that order in lesser quantities.

The above findings appeal for careful rethink of the manner in which intelligence is collected, analysed, shared and the outcome at the implementing levels. The level of accuracy of intelligence, the speed it is shared, and acted on determines the effectiveness and therefore success or failure in achieving the expected results. In addition, the integrity of the police officers who implement ILP should be looked into and the bad apples weeded out.

The main challenges affecting intelligence-led policing and drug trafficking prevention identified are as follows: public mistrust of police due to poor relations, reluctance by the public to cooperate with police due to fear of reprisals from drug kingpins, logistical and manpower difficulties of policing the international highway and other road networks, likelihood of violence while doing surveillance or arresting drug traffickers and lack of sufficient skills such as specialized training to effectively prevent, detect and or, investigate drug trafficking in the county of Nyeri.

The study therefore concludes that intelligence-led policing effectiveness in the prevention of drug trafficking is grounded on whether or not the police detectives have the capacity and commitment to do their work professionally. That explains why ILP is more effective in preventing drug trafficking for drugs from within the county than those from without. Further, it explains why the presence of an international highway can exacerbate cases of drug trafficking if not sufficiently addressed. Working at cross purposes and in isolation by the police will not bear expected results or outcomes since preventing drug trafficking requires inter-agency cooperation and prompt sharing of intelligence.

Accordingly, the study recommends that the operational DCI units should activate multi-agency forums composed of relevant law enforcement agencies to share intelligence and other capabilities to fight crimes such as drug trafficking. The police commanders at the county level should focus on effective community policing and professional policing with zero tolerance to incompetence and corruption. In addition, the strategic police commanders at the national level should deploy more resources in a bid to enhance the investigative and intelligence collection capacity of the operational units. Lastly, the Regional DCI coordinator should consider establishing a dedicated Highway Patrol Unit to deal with drug trafficking and other crimes along the highways in the region. Corrupt officials must be investigated and made to face justice. That will rid the criminal justice system of the bad elements who aid drug trafficking to persist.

C. GENERAL CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study was to understand the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County. Based on the research questions, the study made three important conclusions.

Firstly, intelligence-led policing (ILP) effectiveness on preventing drug trafficking is depended on the commitment and integrity of the police detectives, capacity of the police units as well as the cooperation of the affected community through the police informants. This explains the reason why ILP in Nyeri County was found to be more effective in the prevention of drug trafficking from outside the county but less effective in the prevention of drugs being trafficked from within the county.

Secondly, the presence on an international highway traversing Nyeri County, that is, the Nairobi-Nyeri-Moyale-Ethiopia highway is a key factor in increased cases of drug trafficking in Nyeri County. To support this, 64.3% of the respondents believe that the highway is moderately significant (or moderately contributes) to drug-trafficking prevalence in the county while 25% believe that is extremely significant. The remaining 7.1% believe that it is less significant. The highway is a conduit for transportation of drugs from other parts of the country or even from other countries such as Ethiopia, Tanzania or even Uganda. The longevity of the highway, the big volume of traffic and deployment of few police detectives makes ILP less effective for drug trafficking prevention along the highway. Nonetheless, the detectives working along the highway have made better strides in detecting and arresting drug peddlers using available intelligence as compared to other parts of the county. Hence addressing the capacity gap may make ILP more effective than it is now and enhance preventive measures.

Thirdly and finally, ILP is basically about multi-agency cooperation and coordination particularly in the face of organized crimes such as drug trafficking. Intelligence gaps within one security agency are easily covered by intelligence from other agencies. 'Lone wolf' approach where the police work in isolation is not only counterproductive but also self-defeating. For this reason, all security stakeholders starting with the public, the police, other government departments and agencies as well as international partnerships are crucial for the success of preventing crimes such as drug trafficking.

D. RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the findings of the study, the researcher came up with four recommendations which are in line with the study's objectives.

Effective prevention or investigation of drug trafficking requires a multi-agency approach where cooperation and coordination with other security agencies is paramount. Psychotropic substances or narcotic drugs may be trafficked to distant destinations other than the country of origin. Hence the

departments of Immigration, intelligence, coast guards, border patrol units and other agencies may need to work together on joint strategies and operations of fighting drug trafficking. The members of public are also an important stakeholder. This cooperation may extent to regional and international levels due to the transnational nature of the crime in question.

The capability of the police detectives at Nyeri County to effectively deal with drug trafficking prevention is wanting. More personnel should be trained and deployed to hotspot areas such as Mathira and Nyeri Central sub-counties. Further, the police strategic command at the Kenya National Police Service Headquarters and the DCI should do a capacity audit of Anti-Narcotic Unit (ANU) and work towards filling the identified capacity gaps. A more robust, professional and resourced Unit will be better placed to prevent drug trafficking and effectively deal with the detected cases. One of the areas that needs more support is provision of state-of-the-art ICT surveillance and office equipment and training officers on how to use such tools. Other capacity gaps include limited means of transportation for special operations, limited funding and limited office accommodation.

The Criminal Intelligence Unit should as well be strengthened in terms of capacity. Hence the Regional Criminal Intelligence Officer should request for more staff and resources to enable the office of Anti-Narcotics Unit function optimally and effectively. There should be deliberate steps to address the intelligence capacity gaps in the county. More collaborative efforts should also be geared towards working with other intelligence services such as National Intelligence Service, Directorate of Military Intelligence and Kenya Wildlife Intelligence Unit. Sharing the 'need to know' intelligence is crucial to timely interdiction and prevention of crimes such as drug trafficking. Information relating to drug trafficking should henceforth be shared with the Anti-Narcotic Unit (ANU) for prompt action.

The DCI Regional Coordinator should consider seeking help from the DCI Headquarters for establishment of a specialized highway patrol team (ANU Sub-Unit) to cover the Nairobi-Nyeri-Moyale-Ethiopia Highway within Central region (of which Nyeri County is part). The sub-unit would be sufficiently trained on highway crime prevention, detection and investigations. The highway plays a significant role in enabling easy transportation of illicit drugs from surrounding neighbourhoods such as the capital City of Nairobi, Aberdares forest and Mt. Kenya surroundings to the county or even to other destinations. Such a sub-unit would supplement the efforts of the main Anti-Narcotics Unit and make big strides in the prevention of drug trafficking in the county.

The legal framework in the areas of serious crimes such as drug trafficking should be strengthened and made more severe to ensure that criminals and their accomplices, including corrupt officers and judicial officials face the full force of the law.

E. SUGGESTION FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

This study restricted itself to understanding the extent of the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in the prevention of drug trafficking in Nyeri County and especially in the two sub-counties of Nyeri Central and Mathira. The study excluded the public and other police services such as the Kenya Police Service and Administration Police Service were not part of the study due to limitations of time. Having another study focused on ILP of other key highways in Kenya would provide a comparative view and more insights on how they influence detection and prevention of drug-trafficking in the country.

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