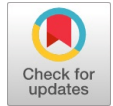# Community Advancement in Community Policing Within the Addis Ababa City Organization

Derese Simegnew, R. Karunakaran, Bantyergu Engida

Abstract: Community development focuses on improving the quality of life and well-being of individuals and communities. This exploratory study used a descriptive research design and mixed methods research strategy. The study uses primary and secondary data, including questionnaires and interviews with front-line police, intermediate and senior officials, and unpublished documents from verified organizations such as the AAPC. The quantitative approach focuses on the degree to which community policing is applied, while qualitative approaches identify obstacles to successful deployment. This research aimed to provide unbiased descriptions of experiences in natural settings. However, the increase in crime has reduced public confidence and security, leading to low levels of human well-being. The Ethiopian government has worked to identify the root cause of the problem and implement initiatives to ensure smooth operations. Police have involved community participation in problem-solving partnerships, and various community programs have been organized to provide knowledge and skills in handling crime-related cases. This has enhanced community confidence and overall well-being.

Keywords: Community Development, Community Policing, Community Members

I. INTRUDUCTION

A community is defined as a group of people united by shared life, beliefs, and practices and often influenced by factors such as ethnicity, religion, sex, education, age, and economics. As resources become scarce, effective interactions among members are crucial for sustainable community development. Community development often involves education, rural development, and rural sociology to improve quality of life and well-being. Approaches include mobilization efforts from various parties, government agencies, private organizations, and residents. Active participation in community development programmes is also essential (Davis et al., 2003) [2][11].

Community development consists of six essential elements: composition, symbols, language, values, norms, mutual influence, will, commitment, and emotional relationships.

The approach can be divided into two concepts: directing community and facilitating community. The directing community involves government agencies developing a holistic community based on ideas, plans, and requirements, often using a technical assistance approach. Facilitating communities involve society making changes together to improve quality and well-being with the help of change agents. Popular approaches include technical assistance, self-help, and partnership approaches. The implementation of these approaches depends on resources, development objectives, community involvement, and power sharing. The technical assistance approach is sponsored by government agencies or local authorities and focuses on developing specific areas without community involvement. It assumes that parties making a difference are more efficient, communities are responsible for improving living conditions, and the development plan is consistent with the community's needs and goals (Roseland & Spiliotopoulou, 2024) [9].

Several weaknesses in community involvement were identified, including limited community participation, inappropriate programs, low determining power, limited opportunities for self-confidence development, and manipulation of development elements. Community involvement is classified as manipulative, as providers control development elements without community support. A self-help approach, also known as facilitating community, focuses on community readiness to develop and promote local change. This approach involves discussions, decision-making, and implementation by communities themselves. The assumption is that communities have the power to determine their needs, and community workers are not experts in determining community needs (Park et al., 2023) [8][15].

The strength of this approach lies in the philosophy of "working with the community," providing space for community self-reliance and increased decision-making. However, this approach has disadvantages, such as high failure rates if the community is not united and if the influence of change agents is difficult to determine (Méndez Beck & Jaffe, 2019) [7].

Researchers emphasize the partnership approach in community development, which involves alliance partners and joint ventures between parties to bring about change. This approach has advantages such as efficient use of resources, integration of internal information with external expertise, and accommodating the lack of a party. However, this approach also has disadvantages, such as subjective views and trust issues between partners.

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Community policing aims to establish close cooperation between police and the community, create opportunities for community problem solving, address perceived crime, establish a structured procedure, and establish coownership rights in planning. Community development can be measured using indicators in the model of quality of life elements, including social, economic, political, educational, safety, and security (Egunyu & Boakye-Danquah, 2024) [4].

II. STATEMENT OF PROBLEMS

Community development can be categorized as a goal or a process, with the goal being to achieve community well-being. In community policing, the process involves containing and preventing crime, requiring an improved culture, mindset, attitudes, awareness, knowledge, and commitment to the community. Active and interactive relationships between police and communities are crucial for creating a collective spirit of cooperation and ensuring public order and safety (Rosenbaum, 1988) [10][14].

Habermas' theory of communicative action suggests that community participation in democratic activities often leads to active participation in state care. This occurs when public opinion and criticism are taken seriously, identifying problems and attempting solutions to policy change. The communicative action formed is shaped at the seam of the system and the "life-world," where speakers and hearers meet and can criticize and agree on solutions. This theory is practical and effective at driving community expectations, helping communities combine technical, corporate, local, and practical knowledge to develop new emancipatory knowledge. In the context of community policing, this theory is guided by the intersection of technical and corporate knowledge with local and practical knowledge, leading to new ideas and actions (Roseland & Spiliotopoulou, 2024).

III. MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study is exploratory; hence, the methodology employed to obtain the data were based on a search of the literature and various documents that are available in natural settings. This approach would help in the discovery of knowledge in an open and unbiased description of various experiences in natural settings. In terms of design and methodology, this study aimed to assess how well Addis Ababa City's community policing program is being implemented. To accomplish these goals, a descriptive research design is recommended. This study aims to outline the features of community policing and present the practices of community policing as it already exists. The objectives are addressed through the use of a mixed-methods research strategy. Both qualitative and quantitative data were utilized. The degree of community policing applied in Addis Ababa city is determined through quantitative approaches. However, qualitative approaches aid in identifying obstacles to successful community policing deployment in cities (De Torres et al., 2024) [3].

Both primary and secondary data were used for the investigation. Primary data were obtained via questionnaires and interviews. The questionnaire, which concentrated on the use of community policing, was given to the frontline police. Interviews with intermediate and senior community policing officials were also conducted. They focused on the barriers that stand in the way of community policing success as well as its overall implementation. As secondary proof, we also examined unpublished documents from respectable, verified organizations such as the AAPC. The data are utilized to bolster the results of the survey (Lespiau & Tricot, 2022) [6].

IV. DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Table 1. The Effect of Community Policing on Ensuring Community Safety and Security

The Effect of Community Policing in Ensuring Community Safety and Security					
	N			**Mean**	**Std. Deviation**
	Statistic	**No**	**%**	**Statistic**	**Statistic**
Refocusing police strategy in Community Policing	strongly agree	81	24.7	2.628	1.32561
	agree	93	28.4		
	neutral	56	17.1		
	disagree	63	19.2		
	strongly disagree	35	10.7		
	Total	328	100		
Community Policing increases awareness on the mechanism of CP	strongly agree	99	30.2	2.6006	1.4041
	agree	77	23.5		
	neutral	48	14.6		
	disagree	64	19.5		
	strongly disagree	40	12.2		
	Total	328	100		
There is knowledge about practical application of community policing among the community.	strongly agree	103	31.4	2.4695	1.35648
	agree	90	27.4		
	neutral	48	14.6		
	disagree	52	15.9		
	strongly disagree	35	10.7		
	Total	**328**	**100**		

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The variables of grand mean (M=2.564) and Std. Deviation (SD=1.395) were not effective and were used to measure the effect of community policing on ensuring community safety and security. Typically, values less than 0.05 were considered to indicate statistical significance. The effect of community policing on ensuring community safety and security is based on a large dataset. Take a look at the column on the far right of this output table. The asymptotic significance, or p value, of the mean and standard deviation was calculated with SPSS V-26. This value determines the statistical significance of the relationship we tested according to all the tests of significance; there is a statistically significant relationship between the two variables.

This means that the relationship between community policing and ensuring community safety and security is significant. The mean and standard deviation for association were used to assess the associations between the dichotomous variables of community policing policies, community policing training, community policing partnerships and community policing activities and between the property crime rate and the property crime clearance rate. We found that there was no statistically significant relationship between the study variables.

Table 1 show the mean and standard deviation results for community policing implementation methods and property crime rates, while Table 4.25. The mean and standard deviation for community policing implementation methods and property crime clearance rates reveal the asymptotic significance, or p value, of the mean and standard deviation calculated in SPSS V-26. This value determines the statistical significance of the relationship we tested, according to all the tests of significance; there is a statistically significant relationship between the two variables (Johnson, E. W., 2017)[1].

Pearson's mean and standard deviation (SD) were used for categorical data. It is used to determine whether your data are significantly different from what you expected, the mean and Std. Deviation, although they may measure ensuring community safety and security. If you are measuring the significance of your result, you need to first convert the values from chi-square to a p value to determine whether your result can ensure community safety and security.

Likelihood ratios (LRs) are used to assess two things: (1) ensuring community safety and security and (2) ensuring community safety and security are basically a ratio of the probability that a test result is correct to the probability that the test result is correct. Each test result has its own likelihood ratio, which indicates how many times more likely community policing is to have that particular result than community policing without ensuring community safety and security.

The mean and standard deviation of independence determines whether there is an association between categorical variables. It is a nonparametric test. This test is also known as the mean and SD of associations. According to the interview data from middle and higher officials, community safety is important because everyone needs and deserves to feel safe at home and around their home. In the focused group discussion with the problem-solving committee, feeling unsafe in your home or walking near your home should not be a feeling anyone experiences. There is no community safety about helping communities to be and feel unsafe. It is important that you feel unsafe where you live, work or spend your leisure time. There are ways that we cannot get involved in helping improve the safety of your own community. There is a large difference between the police and the community because the police do not serve the community but rather participate in theft thieves. Threatening to lose civilization, the problems of accepting bribes and distorting justice have been raised, but the police, on the contrary, have problems with the community partnership of the police, problems working together, viewing the police as above the law, and the absence of a responsible society are the points raised in the discussion. The police and the community must collaborate in the quest to encourage and preserve peace and prosperity. According to Friedmann, R. R., and Cannon, W. J. (2007), whereas a small number of people denote a low chance of community police success in reducing crime and building trust, a large number of people indicate a high possibility of community policing affecting safety and security through the crime prevention rate. Community policing establishes open channels of communication and cooperation between law enforcement and the public, paving the way for the development of trust and a strong sense of security.

Table 2 ANOVA Results for Community Policing Practices

ANOVA Result the Practice of Community Policing						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	196.557	19	10.345	9.440	.000[b]
	Residual	337.538	308	1.096		
	Total	534.095	327			
a. Dependent Variable: The practice of community policing						

b. Predictors: (Constant), There is isolation of police officers from the community that limits the proactive problem solving of community policing., Community policing fulfills the objective crime prevention., Community policing needs discussion between society and police, There exist family police in our houses., Community Policing identifies the potential areas of crime., The Community Policing structure suggests that crimes or disputes are dealt with initially at the lowest level., Community Policing emphases on prevention, early identification, and timely intervention to deal with crime issues before they become unmanageable problems., CP officers make the society more confident on their security issues, Foot patrol as specific assignment, If the crimes or disputes are unresolved at the lowest level, it will be referred to the highest level., There exist adequate legal frameworks for the commencement and developments of community policing, The community's attitude toward policing roles is dominated by the traditional belief that community problems are solely solved by the police effort, Geographically based crime analysis made available to officers at beat level , Community policing fulfills the objective as community development., There are adequate community policing officers in the Kebele., Community policing fulfills the objective as citizen participation in policing., Regular radio or TV programs to inform community about crime, criminals and police activities, CP officers are always with the society to follow up the CP structures., CP officers identify the potential causes for crime (Glaesser, 2024)[5].

Table 3 Effect of Community Policing on Ensuring Safety and Ensuring Security

	Sum of Squares	DF	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between groups	88.355	4	22.089	12.199	0
Within groups	583.058	322	1.811		
Total	671.413	326			

A. Dependent variable: safety and security b. Predictors: (constant), community policing

The sum of the squares of the processed data and the parameters had a significance level of 0.000, which shows that the data are ideal for making a conclusion on the parameter when the value of significance (p value) is less than 5%. The calculated value was greater than the critical value (23.9 < 12.199), an indication of the effect of community policing on ensuring safety and security in the Addis Ababa city administration. The results showed that the model was significant, with a p value of 0.000, which implies that the model was good for estimation. Between-group differences revealed that two or more groups differed among the cities of Arada, Kirkos and Addis Ketema, whereas within-group differences showed differences among subjects in the same group. Within-group differences can come to light when examining between-group research. Effective community policing depends on optimizing the safety and security of officers, and ensuring safety and security is the only method of conveying police services to community members in each of the three subcities. The Addis Ketema and Kirkos subcultures have more police supplements to ensure safety and security through community policing (Crowl, 2017).

Table 4 Regression Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted r Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	DF1	DF2	Sig. F Change
1	.689ᵃ	.474	.363	.5591030	.474	4.282	4	19	.012
A. Predictors: (constant), effect community policing for ensuring safety and security									

The two dependent variables disagreed with the effect of community policing on ensuring safety and security. The correlation coefficients were between 0.749 and .721, which are both; ECOP disagrees with the effect of community policing for ensuring safety and security because the values fall greater than 0.70 (Pryce, D. K., 2018). The values are also positive, indicating that when the independent variables increase, the dependent variable also increases, and vice versa. The r^2 values indicate that 56.1% (0.561), 64.1% (0.641) and 53.1% (0.531) of the effect of community policing on ensuring safety and security could be explained by the independent variables (the effect of community policing required to ensure safety and security).

This study reveals that crime prevention in Ethiopia is a part of the police force's role, as outlined in the 1967 Police Act. This can be done through reactive or proactive actions. The country's growth and human civilization have led to an increase in crime cases since 2007. The factors contributing to crime include environmental factors, population growth, education polarity, technological advancements, innovation, and globalization. The police force faces challenges due to a shortage of personnel in the field.
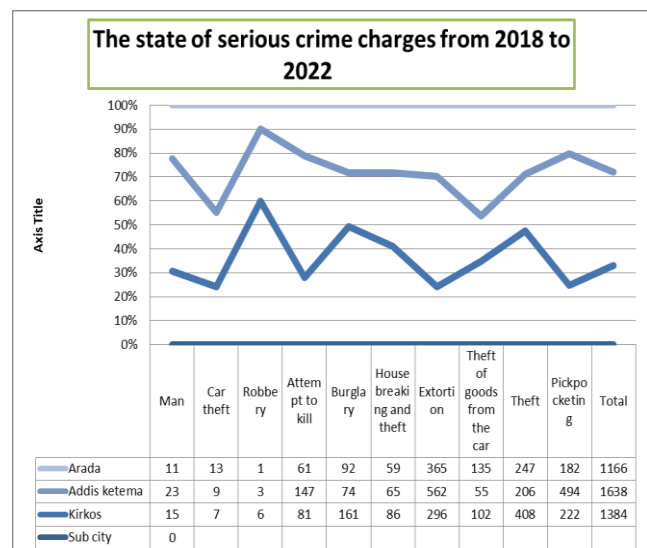
In 2007, the Ethiopian Police Force developed a Five-Year Strategic Plan to address crime and community concerns. This led to the introduction of community policing, a police philosophy that involves police and community working together to identify effective actions and address social issues. This approach involves various stakeholders, including local authorities, government agencies, NGOs, media, politicians, and the private sector. During the five-year period (2018-2022), community policing activities included discussions, patrols, local censuses, awareness talks, road shows, courses, workshops, and social media sharing. These activities have shown a positive relationship between the police and the community in combating crime and reducing public fear of crime. Evidence from communities such as Puchong and Serdang of Selangor shows that community policing programmes reduce crime rates; increase knowledge, skills, attitudes, and aspirations; and foster good relationships between police and community members[12][13].

The State of Serious Crime Charges from 2018 to 2022

At the Addis Ababa City Police Commission level, crimes are divided into three types, and they are serious crimes; it has been understood from senior leaders and police experts that providing the necessary advice and monitoring offenders when crimes are rare are highly beneficial.

Table 5 Data for Five Crimes

	Man	Car theft	Robbery	Attempt to kill	Burglary	House breaking and theft	Extortion	Theft of goods from the car	Theft	Pickpocketing	Total
Arada	11	13	1	61	92	59	365	135	247	182	1166
Addis ketema	23	9	3	147	74	65	562	55	206	494	1638
Kirkos	15	7	6	81	161	86	296	102	408	222	1384
Sub city	0										

In the Addis Ababa Police Commission, a serious crime registered at various times each year, which was prepared from the high crime in extortion and theft in the Addis Ketema,
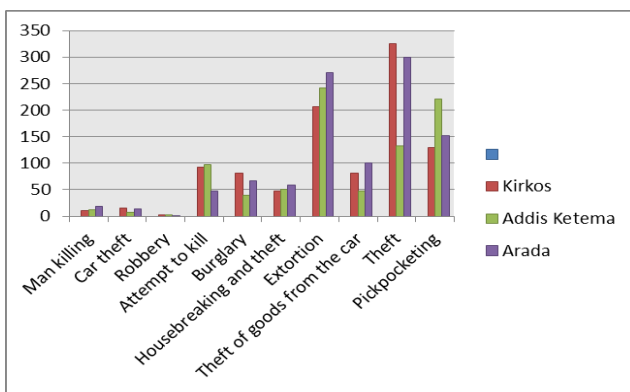
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Arada and Kirkos subcities from 30% to 80% of the country's average crime increase, has been carried out from the district to collect information from the people and seize illegal extortion and theft. The people also protect the environment, and by revitalizing institutions, hotels,

pensions, etc., intensive inspections are encouraged, and intensive inspections are still expected to increase people's participation and help people work hard to achieve results by focusing on the activities carried out in terms of extortion and theft.

Table 6 Serious Crimes Registered in 2019

Sub city	Man killing	Car theft	Robbery	Attempt to kill	Burglary	Housebreaking and theft	Extortion	Theft of goods from the car	Theft	Pickpocketing	Total
Kirkos	10	16	2	92	81	48	207	82	325	129	992
Addis Ketema	12	8	2	97	39	50	242	47	132	221	850
Arada	18	14	1	48	67	59	271	101	299	152	1030
Total	**40**	**38**	**5**	**237**	**187**	**157**	**720**	**230**	**756**	**502**	**2,872**

(A Serious Crime Registered in 2019)

The Addis Ababa Police Commission, a serious crime registered in 2019 that was prepared from a high degree of extortion and theft in Arada and Kirkos, was implemented in the district. By collecting information from the people and making them seize illegal extortion and theft, the people also protect the environment by revitalizing institutions, hotels, pensions, etc. The activities of conducting intensive inspections are encouraging, and it is still expected to increase the participation of the people and to work hard to achieve results by focusing on the activities carried out in terms of extortion and theft.

V. CONCLUSION

Since 2018-2022, Ethiopia's increase in crime has reduced public confidence in the police force and public safety, leading to a decrease in quality of life and low levels of human well-being. The Ethiopian government is working to identify the root cause and implement initiatives to address this issue.

An effective and positive attitude toward community policing promotes good police officer cooperation, which, according to the data obtained, shows that citizen safety is at stake. Peace and forestry depend on the cooperation of citizens, and citizens are more likely to help them participate in law enforcement. It fosters positive and community-based solutions to community policing, creating a sense of ownership in community peace and security. However, according to the findings, the peace and security of the citizens were highly difficult, as indicated by the interviews

and group discussions.

The findings indicate that the levels of community participation in community-policing efforts (section 3) show that most of the cities represented in the sample of 328 community members at the level of community participation in community-policing efforts have an average level of effect on ensuring community safety and security. Overall, the interview and focus group discussion police departments had community policing scores within 0.5 standard deviations of the mean police officer scores—328 community policing scores—representing 42% of the sample. Approximately 8% of the sample had community policing scores at least 1.5 standard deviations above the mean, indicating high levels of community policing. In contrast, 12% of the sample had a difference of at least 1.0 below the mean for the effects of community policing on community safety and security, which is the lowest in the sample. When comparing community policing in high- and low-scoring suburbs, the former had higher rates of poverty, unemployment, and violent crime, as well as higher proportions of ethnic minority populations.

The police have implemented community policing initiatives involving community participation in problem-solving partnerships for public safety. This has led to increased community involvement in crime reduction, enhanced crime

Since 2018-2022, Ethiopia's increase in crime has reduced public confidence in the police force and public safety, leading to a decrease in quality of life and low levels of human well-being. The Ethiopian government is working to identify the root cause and implement initiatives to address this issue.

The police have implemented community policing initiatives involving community participation in problem-solving partnerships for public safety. This has led to increased community involvement in crime reduction, enhanced crime prevention, and increased confidence, ultimately improving societal well-being.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The community should be made aware of the role of community policing in maintaining community safety and security so that people can understand that they have a structure for crime prevention in the locality. The police members should enable the community to be aware of the structural foundation and thus enhance teamwork, commitment, and volunteerism in preventing crimes.

The police should ensure that they interact well with the community so that the members of the community can provide information to the police willingly, which may help prevent crime. Through information sharing, there will be increased levels of community participation in crime reduction, which enhances security.

Members of the public should be encouraged to have a positive attitude toward the police so that they can maintain good relationships that can boost community policing. This is because a positive attitude toward community policing enhances good cooperation among police officers and hence good security.

Future research needs to compare how knowledge is shared using different methods across intra- and interorganizational boundaries and to identify both generalizable and contextually specific barriers, facilitators, and outcomes for this crucial aspect of police functioning.

LIMITATIONS AND DIRECTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

This study provides an in-depth understanding of how community policing structures maintain community safety and security. Due to its security sensitivity in the context of country instability, this study does not attempt to generalize its conclusions. In other organizations with similar mandates, this may limit the application and extent of the research's conclusions. Therefore, future studies should concentrate on broadening the focus to include the impact of government, the structure of community policing and the links among various political issues with comparable missions.

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Ethical Approval and Consent to Participate	No, the article does not require ethical approval and consent to participate with evidence.
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Authors Contributions	All authors have equal participation in this article.

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