

# Gender Inequality and female participation in Sports: A case study of Moving The Goalposts Kilifi, Kenya.

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## 1. Introduction

Participatory research on the challenges faced by girls and young women participating in Moving The Goalposts (MTG) soccer program, to generate information for improving the organization's intervention model.

MTG integrates Gender-Based Violence, Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS, and economic empowerment interventions into youth sports programming, with soccer serving as the primary tool for positively impacting the lives of disadvantaged girls and young women aged 9 to 25 in Kenya's rural coastal region of Kilifi and Kwale.

Participation rates among women and girls in sports are much lower than among men (Burnett, 2018). This gender gap is caused by many barriers, which can be categorized as social, cultural, and economic.

## 2. Conceptual/Contextual Framework

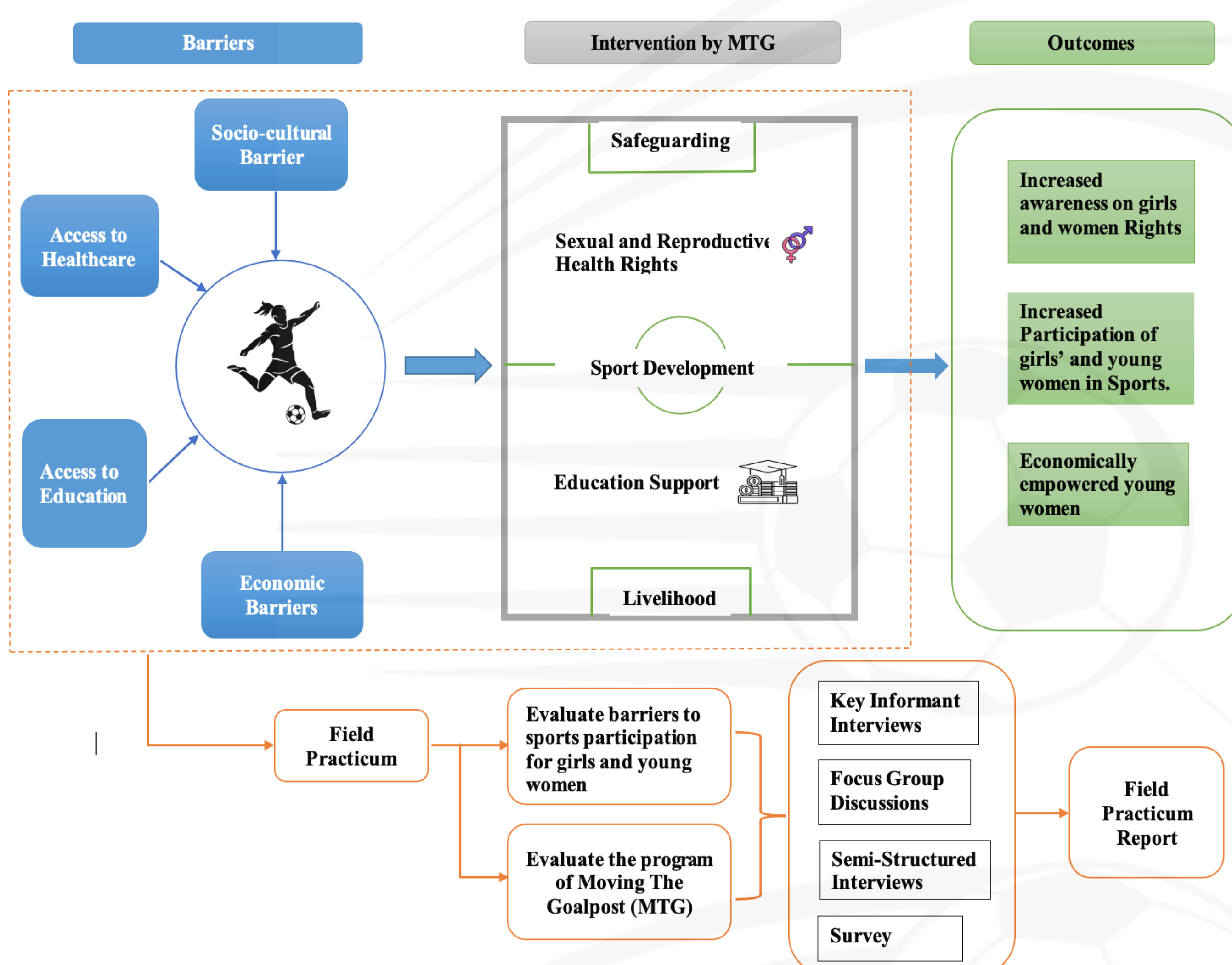


Figure 1: The contextual framework of the field practicum

## 3. Objectives

1. Identify the challenges faced by the organization in supporting girls and young women participation in the sports.
2. Identify the challenges faced by girls and young women that impact their participation in the MTG program.
3. Document parents'/partners involvement and support in girls and young women participation in sports.

## 4. Methods

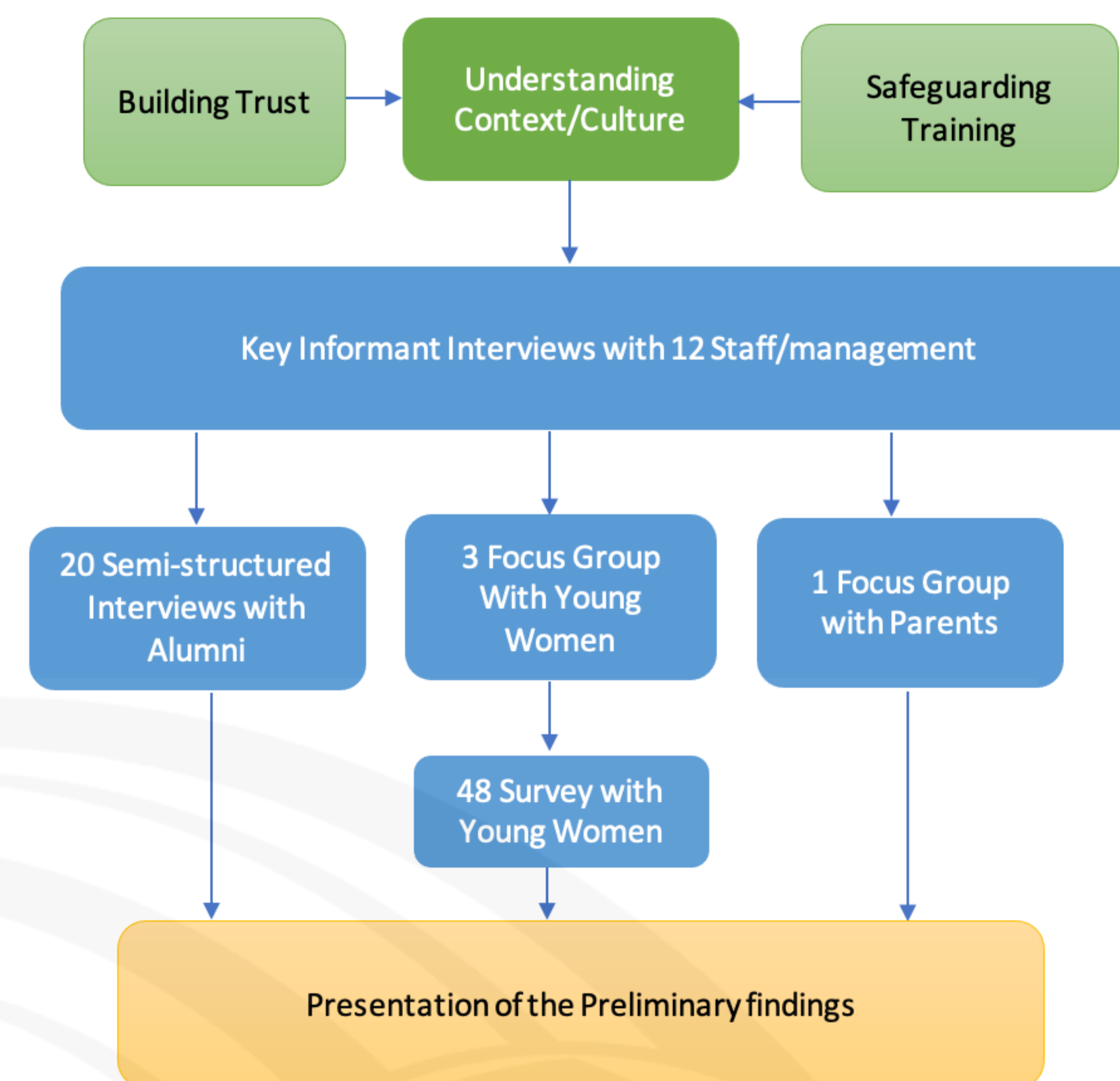


Figure 2: The methods matrix applied during the field practicum

## 5. Results

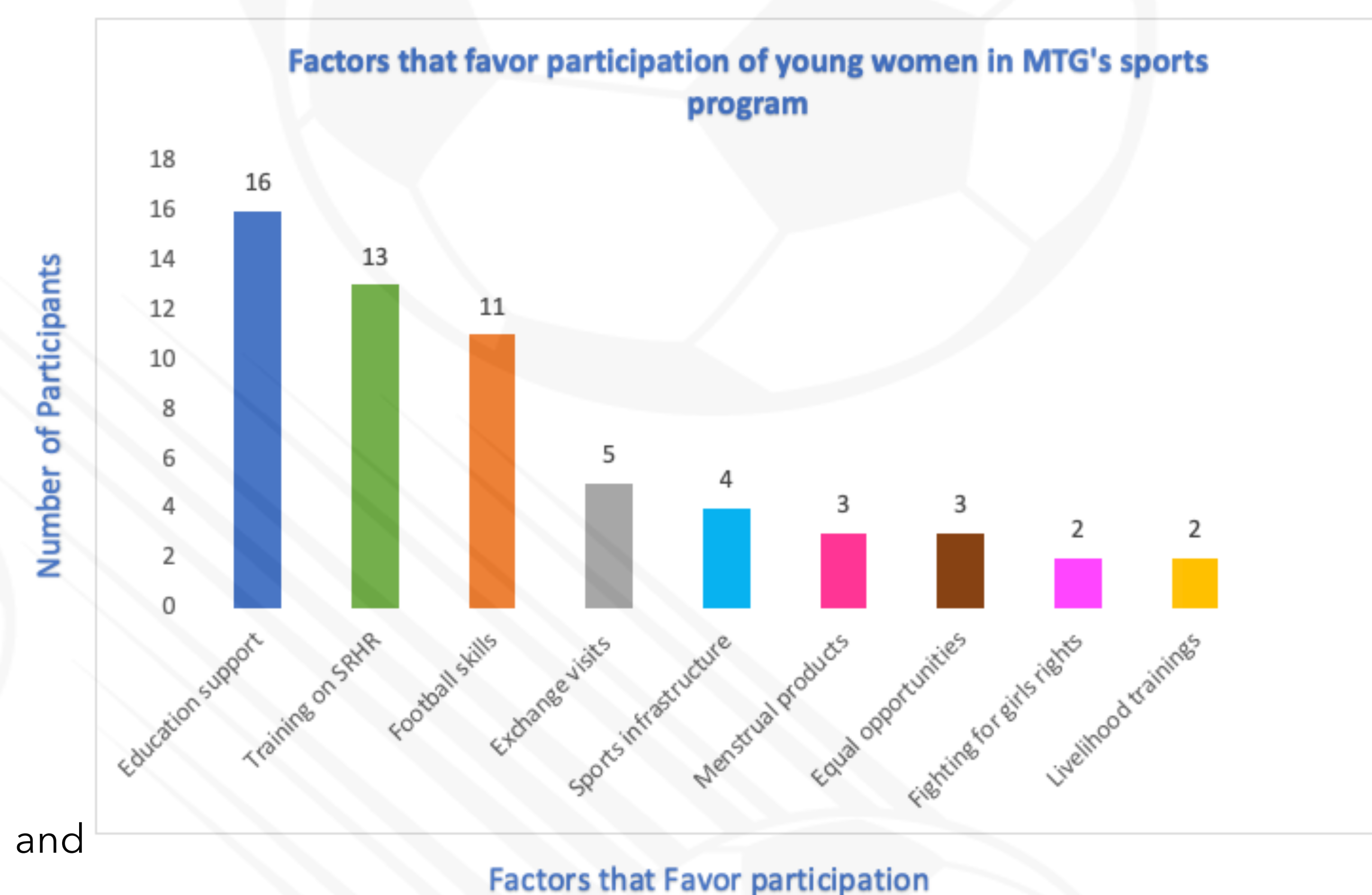


Figure 3: Factors that favor participation of girls and young women in MTG's sports program.

## Constraints faced by females in sports participation at MTG Kilifi

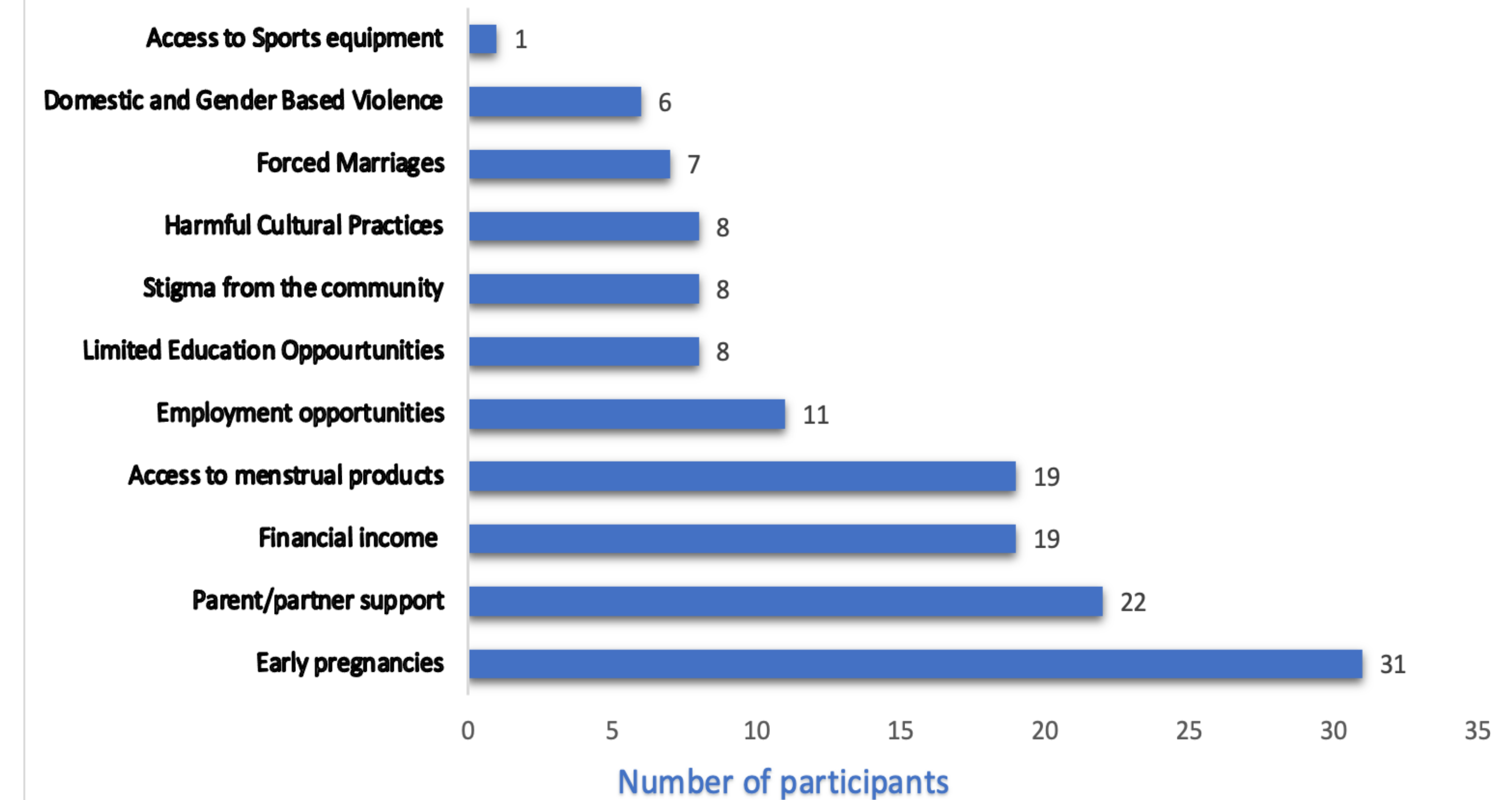


Figure 4: Constraints faced by girls and young women in sports participation in Kilifi.

## 6. Conclusion

1. MTG has increased participation of girls and young women in sports, access to education and livelihoods in Kilifi.
2. Proximity to a sport field and access to sport infrastructure does not guarantee increased participation in sports for girls and young women.
3. Access to healthcare and education should be prioritized as enablers for sports participation.
4. To increase female participation in sports, its important to support girls during their childhood, and adolescent periods.

## 7. Reference

Burnett, C. (2018). Politics of Gender (in)Equality Relating to Sport and Development Within a Sub-Saharan Context of Poverty. *Frontiers in Sociology*, 3. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2018.00027>

## 8. Acknowledgment



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