



## Analysis of Policy Deliberative Argumentation Approach for Security Management in Kenya's Kerio Valley

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### ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** This study examined the effectiveness of the Argumentation Approach as a deliberative policy framework in enhancing security management in the Kerio Valley, Kenya. The study aimed to assess how the use of structured, critical discussions and debates, as promoted by this approach, influences security outcomes in the region. Specifically, the research sought to determine the extent to which this approach, both independently and in combination with other deliberative frameworks, improves decision-making processes and addresses security challenges in the area. Through this investigation, the study aimed to provide context-specific insights into the role of argumentative methods in security management, contributing to the development of more effective, adaptive, and sustainable security policies. Additionally, the study sought to inform future policy design by highlighting the benefits and limitations of using the Argumentation Approach in combination with other policy frameworks.

**Materials and Methods:** A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative and quantitative techniques was utilized to explore the relationship between the argumentative approach (independent variable) and security management (dependent variable). Data collection targeted conflict-prone areas in the Kerio Valley, focusing on counties such as Baringo, Turkana, Elgeyo Marakwet, and West Pokot, with a total target population of 59,908 stakeholders, including government officials, community leaders, and household heads. Systematic and random sampling methods were used to select a representative sample of 455 respondents, with data collected through semi-structured questionnaires and interviews. A pilot test validated the research instruments, ensuring reliability through the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure and Cronbach's alpha. Quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS (v.25) through descriptive and inferential analyses, while qualitative data were thematically examined with NVivo software. Ethical standards, including informed consent and data confidentiality, were rigorously upheld, and data security was ensured throughout the research process.

**Finding:** The study found that the Argumentation Approach, as a deliberative policy framework, has a significant positive impact on security management in the Kerio Valley. When used independently, the approach improves security outcomes by approximately 27%, promoting in-depth discussions and critical evaluations that lead to better-informed decisions and strategies. However, when combined with other deliberative frameworks, its effectiveness slightly diminishes to a 12.9% improvement, suggesting diminishing returns or overlapping benefits from multiple approaches. Despite this reduction, the Argumentation Approach remains beneficial, highlighting its importance in fostering open dialogue and addressing security issues comprehensively. These findings emphasize the value of the Argumentation Approach in security management while suggesting that its integration with other frameworks should be strategically considered to maximize its overall impact.

**Implication to Theory, Practice and Policy:** The findings of this study have significant implications for theory, practice, and policy. From a theoretical perspective, the results support the value of structured communication frameworks, such as the Argumentation Approach, in enhancing decision-making and security management. The study reinforces existing theories on deliberative policy-making and structured communication, particularly in conflict-prone areas. Practically, the findings suggest that integrating the Argumentation Approach into security management can lead to more informed, comprehensive, and sustainable solutions, especially when used independently. However, its effectiveness may be reduced when combined with other frameworks, emphasizing the need for strategic integration. In terms of policy, the study highlights the importance of adopting deliberative methods in security management policies to ensure robust, culturally relevant, and context-specific interventions. Policymakers are encouraged to incorporate the Argumentation Approach alongside other frameworks, balancing their strengths to improve security outcomes in complex environments like the Kerio Valley.

**Keywords:** Argumentation Approach, security management, deliberative policy framework, Kerio Valley, decision-making, policy integration, conflict management, structured communication, qualitative research, security outcomes.

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Conflict in Kenya, particularly in Kerio Valley, has profoundly disrupted livelihoods, particularly for marginalized populations reliant on farming and pastoralism. Ethnic clashes, cattle rustling, and resource disputes frequently displace families, leading to the loss of homes, livestock, and access to essential resources. These conflicts perpetuate poverty, limit access to education and healthcare, and heighten vulnerabilities, especially for women, children, and the elderly. Youth unemployment has surged due to eroded economic opportunities, with some resorting to criminal activities for survival. For instance, Kerio Valley, a culturally diverse region with economic potential in agriculture and pastoralism, faces persistent insecurity rooted in socio-economic, political, and environmental factors. Traditional responses, such as deploying security personnel and initiating disarmament programs, have yielded limited success due to weak policy enforcement and enduring socio-cultural practices. This has led to a growing emphasis on community-based approaches that involve local stakeholders in peacebuilding efforts. Research highlights poverty, unemployment, and resource scarcity as key drivers of conflict, alongside cultural factors like the link between cattle rustling and notions of masculinity.

However, existing interventions have inadequately addressed structural barriers to peace. Studies often focus on socio-economic or cultural dimensions without integrating deliberative frameworks for conflict resolution. There is also limited engagement of marginalized groups, including women and youth, in formal security mechanisms. Multi-stakeholder dialogues, which could foster long-term, inclusive solutions, remain underexplored.

This study proposes adopting a Deliberative Policy Framework (DPF) for security management in Kerio Valley. The DPF emphasizes structured, inclusive dialogues among diverse stakeholders—government agencies, local communities, civil society, and private actors. Unlike adversarial approaches, this framework prioritizes shared interests and sustainable, mutually beneficial outcomes. By addressing the root causes of insecurity, this approach aims to align interventions with the region's socio-cultural and political context, fostering long-term peace. An argumentation-based approach offers several advantages for Kerio Valley. It addresses the region's multi-dimensional conflicts holistically, fosters understanding and relationship-building, and ensures inclusivity, particularly for marginalized groups. Its adaptability allows for continuous engagement and alignment with evolving security dynamics. By integrating these principles, the study seeks to contribute to a robust security management model that promotes inclusivity, legitimacy, and sustainable peace in Kerio Valley.

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## 2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

The argumentation approach, as outlined by Toulmin (1958) in *The Uses of Argumentation*, provides a theoretical framework for addressing emerging and existing societal challenges. This model has evolved significantly, influenced by critiques of conventional policy analysis and the emergence of post-positivist perspectives in the USA and Europe. Fischer (2015) highlighted the integration of argumentation into social scientific discourse, focusing on policy agendas, decision-making, and evaluation. This study adopts the argumentation approach to establish a link between theoretical models and security management in Kenya's Kerio Valley, addressing a gap in the application of these frameworks to security challenges. Forester (2013) emphasized the importance of institutional networks in policy argumentation, examining not just policy content but also the structures that support negotiation and strategic relationships. This analysis extends to balancing technical and political components of social networks, as noted by Fischer, Miller, and Sidney (2007). However, these studies lack a focus on transposing such negotiation frameworks to address security concerns like cattle rustling and banditry. By applying these principles to security issues, this study fills the gap in connecting negotiation-based argumentation to practical security management.

Fischer and Gottweis (2012) introduced the concept of the argumentative turn, linking policy processes to political environments shaped by beliefs, norms, and traditions. They explored how deliberative interactions influence policy decisions, acknowledging the interplay between orderly policy proposals and societal opposition. While they effectively outlined the role of language and politics in argumentation, their work does not directly address actor-specific security challenges or policy frameworks targeting insecurity in Kenya. This study bridges that gap by contextualizing argumentation within the realities of security management. Zittoun (2014) explored how argumentative strategies mediate conflicts among diverse actors, emphasizing the power dynamics that influence policy agendas. Though insightful, this approach lacks application to security challenges in regions like Kerio Valley, where unequal political coalitions exacerbate insecurity. This study extends Zittoun's framework by applying deliberative mediation to community conflicts, thus addressing a critical gap in the literature.

Borrowing insights from Habermas, Foucault, Wittgenstein, and Austin, Fischer and Gottweis (2012) framed argumentation as a tool for shaping public policy through interactive discourse. Their approach, used in contexts ranging from environmental policies to healthcare reform, connects normative and political knowledge to policy agendas. However, it lacks a focus on applying these principles to security policy formulation in Kenya. This study addresses this limitation by exploring how discursive approaches can inform security strategies in Kerio Valley. Durnová (2013) demonstrated how mediation and emotional discourse resolved conflicts over railway construction in the Czech Republic. While effective in addressing infrastructure disputes, the study does not explore the applicability of such strategies to security management. This study extends the use of mediation and deliberative dialogue to address insecurity caused by cattle rustling and banditry, adapting these principles to the Kenyan context.

In summary, while existing literature demonstrates the versatility of argumentation frameworks across various domains, significant gaps remain in applying these models to security management in Kenya. This study fills these gaps by leveraging argumentation approaches to address the unique challenges of insecurity in the Kerio Valley, contributing to both theoretical and practical advancements in policy formulation and implementation.

### 3.0 METHODOLOGY

This study was grounded in a constructivist research philosophy, emphasizing that reality is shaped by human knowledge and experiences. As highlighted by Davis and Sumara (2002), knowledge is constructed through interactions rather than solely through scientific methods. This philosophical foundation enabled the integration of qualitative and quantitative data collection methods, providing a comprehensive approach to examining the relationship between the deliberative policy framework and security management. A mixed-methods approach combining descriptive and inferential techniques was employed to enhance flexibility in data analysis. This design facilitated the collection of preliminary data, which was crucial for establishing causal relationships between the variables. Data cleaning and accuracy were ensured through pragmatic variable identification and correlation and regression analyses. The independent variable in this study was the deliberative policy framework, characterized by argumentative approaches, integrative negotiation, narratives, and metaphors. The dependent variable was security management, defined in terms of peaceful coexistence, sustainable security coordination, intelligence-led operations, and law enforcement.

The research was conducted in the Kerio Valley region, specifically in conflict-prone areas along the Kerio River and regions unsuitable for arable farming or pastoralism. The selected counties—Baringo, Turkana, Elgeyo Marakwet, and West Pokot—formed the target population, which comprised 59,908 individuals. These included National Government Administrative Officers, National Police Service commanders, elected leaders, religious representatives, Kenya Defence Forces officers, community elders, teachers, and household heads. Key informants were selected using systematic sampling, while participants were chosen through simple random sampling to ensure equal representation and generalizability of the results. A sample size of 455 respondents was determined using Slovin's formula with a 5% error margin.

Data collection involved semi-structured questionnaires and interviews, utilizing a 5-point Likert scale to assess participants' views on the variables. Both electronic and manual distribution methods were employed, supplemented by phone and in-person interviews with key informants. Prior to data collection, ethical approval and permits were obtained from Kenyatta University and the National Commission for Science, Technology, and Innovation (NACOSTI). To validate the research instruments, a pilot study was conducted with 46 respondents (10% of the sample) in Laikipia and Samburu Counties. The tools were refined in collaboration with supervisors and tested for reliability using the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure and Cronbach's alpha.

Quantitative data were analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS 25), applying both descriptive and inferential techniques, including a linear regression model to explore the relationships between variables. Qualitative data were thematically analyzed using NVivo software, with themes contextualized against the research objectives. The study strictly adhered to ethical guidelines, ensuring informed consent, confidentiality, and anonymity of participants. Permissions were secured from relevant authorities, and data were securely stored with plans for deletion after the study's completion. Notably, the study achieved a reliable and ethically sound exploration of the interplay between the deliberative policy framework and security management.

### 4.0 DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS

The study targeted a sample size of 455 respondents, including National Government Administrative Officers (such as County Commissioners, Deputy County Commissioners, Assistant County Commissioners, chiefs, and assistant chiefs), elected leaders, representatives from National Security Organs, religious organizations, head teachers, community elders, household heads, and other key informants (e.g., NGO stakeholders and aggrieved parties) in selected counties from the Kerio Valley. However, as indicated in Table 4.1, only 410 respondents, representing 90.11%, participated in the interview process, while the remaining 9.89% either declined or were unavailable for personal reasons. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) and Dixon (2012), this response rate is considered acceptable, as it exceeds the 50% threshold for an adequate response rate. In line with Babbie (2004), a response rate of 50% is deemed acceptable for analysis and publication, 60% is good, and 70% is very good. Regarding the Focus Group Discussions, 30 out of 40 interview guides were successfully administered, yielding a 75% response rate, which is also deemed satisfactory. Therefore, the collected data provides a reliable basis for statistical analysis, as presented in the following sections.

Table 4. 1: Response rate (Quantitative and Qualitative data)

Particulars	Quantitative data		Qualitative data		Total	
	Responses	Non-Responses	Responses	Non-Responses	Quantitative	Qualitative
<b>Frequencies</b>	410	45	30	10	455	40
<b>Percentages</b>	90.11%	9.89%	75%	25%	100%	100%

Source: Research Data (2024)

The validity and reliability of the data used in the analysis were assessed using Cronbach's alpha to measure consistency, with values ranging from 0 to 1 for the multiple Likert-scale items in the semi-structured questionnaire. Additionally, the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure of sampling adequacy was applied to evaluate the suitability of the sample across varied respondents over time and demographic locations (Field, 2000). A KMO value greater

than 0.5, as suggested by Field (2000), was considered adequate and informed the study's decision-making process. The results of the KMO measure of sampling adequacy are presented in Table 4.2.

Table 4. 2: KMO measure of sampling adequacy (validity and reliability test)

Study Variables	Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin
Argumentative approach	0.5638

Source: Research Data (2024)

Results in Table 4.74 above showed that KMO statistics for key independent. The values were greater than the critical level of 0.5 (Field, 2000) implying that the sample data was valid to undertake analysis. Reliability of research instruments used to collect data for this study were tested using the Cronbach's alpha coefficient. The results of the test are presented in Figure 4.11 below.

Table 4. 3: Cronbach's alpha coefficient for reliability

Test scale = mean (unstandardized items)	
Average interitem covariance	1.721414
Number of items in the scale	4
Scale reliability coefficient	0.8006

Source: Research Data (2024)

From Table 4.3 above, a scale reliability coefficient of 0.8167 which is the Cronbach's Alpha. Indicates good internal consistency among the items implying that the items are highly correlated and measure the same underlying construct.

Table 4.4 reveals that majority of respondents (52.44%) perceived argumentative approach as only slightly effective in managing security in the Kerio Valley region, indicating general skepticism about its ability to resolve conflicts or improve security. A notable proportion (38.54%) considers it moderately effective, suggesting it has some merits but is not viewed as a highly reliable or robust security management method. Only 4.63% of respondents rate it as very effective, highlighting significant limitations in its application. Meanwhile, 4.39% find it completely ineffective, reflecting minimal outright dismissal but raising questions about its efficacy.

The mixed effectiveness ratings underscore the need to complement the argumentative approach with alternative strategies. Policymakers and practitioners, as highlighted by KII-04, should consider integrating methods such as integrative negotiation and narrative techniques to enhance overall security management. Adapting the argumentative approach to the cultural, social, and political context of the Kerio Valley is crucial. This could involve training mediators in culturally sensitive argumentation, incorporating local traditions, and making the method more relevant and acceptable to the communities.

Additionally, targeted training programs for mediators and community leaders could improve argumentative skills, focusing on respectful dialogue, active listening, and evidence-based arguments to increase the method's impact. Continuous evaluation and feedback from the community are essential to refine and adapt these approaches.

Table 4.4: The use of Argumentative Approach, Security Management and the Rising Insecurity Within Kerio Valley region

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative
Not Effective	18	4.39	4.39
Slightly Effective	215	52.44	56.83
Moderately Effective	158	38.54	95.37
Very Effective	19	4.63	100.00
Total	409	100.00	

Source: Research Data (2024)

Table 4.5 indicates that the majority of respondents (51.46%) perceive narratives as moderately effective in managing security in the Kerio Valley region, suggesting they are somewhat useful but have untapped potential. A significant portion (41.46%) considers narratives slightly effective, indicating that while they hold promise, their application is not fully optimized within the security management framework. Only 5.12% of respondents view narratives as very effective, highlighting gaps in implementation or understanding of their role in conflict resolution. Meanwhile, just 1.95% find narratives completely ineffective, reflecting that they are generally seen as valuable despite existing challenges.

Key informants (KII-2, KII-12, KII-18, and KII-29) emphasized the need to enhance the use of narratives in security management. Training mediators and community leaders in effective storytelling techniques and leveraging narratives for peacebuilding could improve their impact. Additionally,

integrating narratives with other conflict resolution methods, such as integrative negotiation and metaphors, could provide a more comprehensive and effective strategy. Tailoring narratives to align with the cultural, social, and political context of the Kerio Valley region is essential. Incorporating local traditions, values, and communication styles can make narratives more relatable and persuasive.

**Table 4. 5: Narrative, security management and rising insecurity within Kerio Valley region**

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative
Not Effective	8	1.95	1.95
Slightly Effective	170	41.46	43.41
Moderately Effective	211	51.46	94.88
Very Effective	21	5.12	100.00
Total	409	100.00	

Source: Research Data (2024)

Table 4.6 reveals that the majority of respondents (89.02%) consider metaphors highly effective in managing security in the Kerio Valley region, highlighting their significant role in conflict resolution and security management. Only a small percentage find metaphors slightly effective (1.71%) or not effective (1.46%), indicating broad acceptance and positive reception. This high effectiveness reflects the strong alignment of metaphors with the local population's cultural norms and communication styles. To build on this success, it is essential to train mediators and community leaders in the strategic use of metaphors. Workshops and training programs can enhance their application by teaching how to simplify complex issues and make them more relatable through culturally relevant metaphors. Such an approach can bridge communication gaps, foster understanding, and improve cooperation among conflicting parties. Integrating metaphors with other conflict resolution techniques, such as narratives and integrative negotiation, can create a holistic and effective strategy for security management. Establishing a standardized framework for the use of metaphors can further ensure their consistent and impactful application.

**Table 4. 6: Experiences on use of Metaphor, Security Management and the Rising Insecurity within Kerio Valley region**

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative
Not Effective	6	1.46	1.46
Slightly Effective	7	1.71	3.17
Moderately Effective	32	7.80	10.98
Very Effective	365	89.02	100.00
Total	410	100.00	

Source: Research Data (2024)

Table 4.7 reveals a strong agreement among respondents (68.54%) regarding the willingness of communities and parties in the Kerio Valley region to coexist peacefully, with an additional 23.66% agreeing. This combined total of 92.2% indicates a substantial readiness for collaboration, providing a promising foundation for security management initiatives. Such a high level of agreement suggests that deliberative policy frameworks incorporating integrative negotiation, argumentative approaches, narratives, and metaphors have strong potential for success, as communities appear open to dialogue and cooperative efforts. However, a small minority of respondents disagreed (2.68%) or strongly disagreed (0.98%), signaling some resistance or skepticism. Addressing the root causes of this dissent—whether stemming from grievances, misconceptions, or perceived exclusion from peacebuilding processes—is essential to ensure broader acceptance. Policymakers and mediators should harness this widespread willingness by actively involving communities in security discussions and decision-making. Tailored communication strategies that align with local cultural and social contexts can enhance trust and cooperation. Training initiatives for community leaders and mediators in integrative negotiation, argumentation, narrative techniques, and metaphor use can further strengthen the foundation for peaceful coexistence.

**Table 4. 7: The Peaceful Coexistence among Communities and Parties to Foster Security**

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative
strongly Agree	281	68.54	68.54
Agree	97	23.66	92.20
Somewhat Agree	17	4.15	96.34
Disagree	11	2.68	99.02

Strongly disagree	4	0.98	100.00
Total	410	100.00	

Source: Research Data (2024)

Table 4.8 indicates that a majority of respondents (50.49%) strongly agreed, and an additional 43.41% agreed, that community leadership structures and security commands can negotiate sustainable security, resulting in an overwhelming 93.9% expressing confidence in these entities. This high level of agreement highlights the potential of leveraging these structures to achieve effective and sustainable security management. Integrative negotiation approaches, emphasizing collaboration and mutual benefit, are particularly suited to this context, given the community's belief in their leaders' ability to engage in constructive dialogue. While a small minority (2.93%) disagreed, their concerns must be addressed through transparent and inclusive negotiation processes to ensure broader acceptance and effectiveness. As noted by KII-03, involving dissenting voices can enhance trust and cooperation, further strengthening mediation efforts. Security policies should focus on empowering community leadership and security commands through adequate resources, training, and consistent communication to build trust and demonstrate commitment to sustainable outcomes.

**Table 4.8: Community leadership structures and security commands in negotiating stainable security**

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative
strongly Agree	207	50.49	50.49
Agree	178	43.41	93.90
Somewhat Agree	13	3.17	97.07
Disagree	12	2.93	100.00
Total	410	100.00	

Source: Research Data (2024)

From Table 4.9, the overwhelming majority (96.1%) of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed that multi-agency cooperation, combined with intelligence-led operations, is effective in controlling crime. This indicates strong support for collaborative security strategies. Only a small fraction (2.44%) expressed any level of disagreement, suggesting that this approach is widely accepted. The high level of agreement underscores the perceived effectiveness of a collaborative approach to security management. KII-02 suggested that strategies involving multiple agencies working together, along with use of intelligence, are seen as crucial for crime control. Intelligence-led operations enhance efficiency and precision of security measures, contributing to their success. The study found that integrative negotiation should focus on collaboration and mutual benefit, aligned well with multi-agency cooperation. This further emphasizes the importance of collaborative efforts in security agencies working together in the spirit of supporting multi-agency cooperation, integrative negotiation approaches and various stakeholders' involvement that could be particularly effective.

Policies and regulations should be reviewed regularly to facilitate stronger partnerships between different security agencies, including law enforcement, intelligence, and community-based organizations. Adequate sufficient security, economic, social and environmental resources and support should be provided to ensure the successful implementation of multi-agency operations. This includes training, technology, and logistical support. Effective mechanisms for information sharing and coordination between agencies are crucial. Establishing secure and efficient communication channels enhanced the effectiveness of intelligence-led operations.

Strong agreement on productivity of multi-agency cooperation and intelligence-led operations highlighted the importance of collaborative and well-coordinated security strategies among all the national security organs. The policy documents should strengthen partnerships, enhance intelligence capabilities, and engage all community to achieve effective and sustainable security management in the Kerio-Valley region.

**Table 4.9: Multi-Agency Cooperation and Intelligence-Led Operations to Control Crime**

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative
strongly Agree	141	34.39	34.39
Agree	253	61.71	96.10
Somewhat Agree	6	1.46	97.56
Disagree	9	2.20	99.76
Strongly disagree	1	0.24	100.00
Total	410	100.00	

Source: Research Data (2024)

Table 4.10 indicates that an overwhelming majority (96.83%) of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed that mediated negotiations are fair and inclusive, resulting in mutually acceptable resolutions. This demonstrates a high level of confidence in the mediation process. Only a small proportion (2.44%) expressed disagreement, suggesting that perceptions of fairness and inclusivity are widely upheld in the mediation framework. The findings emphasize the effectiveness of integrative negotiation, which prioritizes collaborative problem-solving and mutual benefits, fostering inclusivity by addressing the interests of all stakeholders. To enhance mediation outcomes, policies should prioritize practices emphasizing fairness and inclusivity. Training mediators in integrative negotiation techniques can strengthen the effectiveness of the mediation process. Ensuring that all relevant parties and stakeholders are adequately represented during mediation can bolster perceptions of fairness and inclusivity. Transparent and accountable mediation practices are essential for building trust among participants, increasing their willingness to engage in and adhere to agreements. Involving respected local leaders and community figures can further legitimize the process and encourage community acceptance. Establishing feedback mechanisms for participants in mediation can provide valuable insights into perceptions of fairness, representation, and areas for improvement. Such mechanisms are critical for refining mediation practices and building trust to achieve effective and sustainable security management in the Kerio Valley region.

**Table 4. 10: Mediated Negotiation, Fairness and Inclusivity in Mutual Resolutions**

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative
strongly Agree	284	69.27	69.27
Agree	113	27.56	96.83
Somewhat Agree	3	0.73	97.56
Strongly disagree	10	2.44	100.00
Total	410	100.00	

Source: Research Data (2024)

Table 4.11 reveals that an overwhelming majority (98.05%) of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that collective mediation and the full implementation of resolutions contribute to a peaceful environment and development. This indicates strong support for the effectiveness of collective mediation as a conflict resolution strategy. A very small fraction (1.95%) somewhat agreed, with no disagreement recorded, further reinforcing the positive perception of this approach. Collective mediation, which involves all stakeholders and emphasizes collaborative problem-solving, aligns with integrative negotiation principles. The consensus suggests that this approach is effective in managing both security and development. The full implementation of mediation resolutions ensures that agreements are realized, producing tangible outcomes that foster peace and development.

To institutionalize collective mediation, policies should create frameworks that encourage the involvement of all relevant parties in mediation processes. These frameworks should also include mechanisms to ensure the full implementation of mediation resolutions, such as monitoring systems, follow-up procedures, and accountability measures. Training programs for mediators should focus on integrative negotiation techniques, emphasizing collaboration and mutual benefit.

The positive perception of collective mediation underscores the connection between peace and development. Policies should integrate security management and development efforts, recognizing that a peaceful environment is essential for sustainable development. Implementing community development projects as part of the resolution process can provide tangible benefits and reinforce peacebuilding. Institutionalizing mediation as a primary conflict resolution tool could provide a consistent, reliable framework for addressing conflicts, which could include establishing mediation centers and offering ongoing support and resources. Regular monitoring and evaluation of mediation processes would help identify best practices and areas for improvement, ensuring the continued enhancement of fairness and inclusivity in negotiations. In line with this, KII-06 emphasized that "the effectiveness of collective mediation and full implementation of resolutions promotes a peaceful environment and development," highlighting the importance of mediation in security management. Security experts should focus on improving collective mediation practices, ensuring mutual responsibility for the implementation of security resolutions, and integrating development initiatives and peacebuilding frameworks to achieve sustainable security and development in the Kerio Valley region.

**Table 4. 11: Collective Mediation and Resolution Implementation for Peace Development**

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative
strongly Agree	277	67.56	67.56
Agree	125	30.49	98.05
Somewhat Agree	8	1.95	100.00
Total	410	100.00	

Source: Research Data (2024)

Table 4.12 shows that many respondents (94.39%) either strongly agreed or agreed that stringent enforcement of laws, norms, beliefs, values, and regulations are essential for sustainable security. This indicates a high level of support for a robust regulatory and enforcement framework to ensure long-

term security. The small percentage of respondents who somewhat agreed (2.93%) or disagreed (2.69%) suggested minimal opposition or concerns regarding the approach. The strong support for stringent enforcement aligns with the principles of integrative negotiation, which emphasizes comprehensive and well-defined agreements that all parties are committed to upholding. KII-29 being vast in county administration postulated that integrating stringent laws and community norms into the negotiation process was viable in ensuring that agreements are more likely to be respected and adhered to, thus enhanced security management. Policies should focus on establishing and reinforcing stringent laws and regulations that are aligned with community norms and values. This creates a clear and consistent foundation for security management. Engaging the community in the development and enforcement of these laws and norms ensures that they are culturally relevant and more likely to be accepted and adhered to. A secure environment is foundational for sustainable development. Policies that integrate security measures with development initiatives can create a virtuous cycle where security and development reinforce each other. Developing infrastructure and services that support both security and development can provide tangible benefits to the community and reinforce adherence to laws and norms. The strong agreement on enforcement of stringent laws, norms, beliefs, values, and regulations highlights that robust regulatory framework strengthens legal frameworks, communities' engagement in the development and enforcement of such cultural norms and integrating security measures with development initiatives in Kerio-Valley region.

**Table 4.12: Stringent Laws, Norms, Beliefs, Values and Regulations to Sustainable Security**

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative
strongly Agree	283	69.02	69.02
Agree	104	25.37	94.39
Somewhat Agree	12	2.93	97.32
Disagree	9	2.20	99.51
Strongly disagree	2	0.49	100.00
Total	410	100.00	

Source: Research Data (2024)

Table 4.13, the results demonstrate that the Argumentation Approach, as a deliberative policy framework, has a significant positive impact on security management in Kerio Valley ( $\beta=0.270$ ;  $p=0.000$ ). Specifically, when other factors are held constant, the adoption of the Argumentation Approach alone improves security management outcomes by approximately 27%. However, when this approach is combined with other deliberative frameworks, its effectiveness is slightly reduced, yielding a 12.9% improvement ( $\beta=0.129$ ;  $p=0.000$ ). Despite this reduction, the Argumentation Approach remains beneficial, suggesting that while its contribution diminishes in a multi-framework context, it still plays a vital role in enhancing security outcomes.

The initial positive impact (27%) indicates the substantial value of the Argumentation Approach when implemented independently. This approach fosters in-depth discussion and critical evaluation of security issues, leading to well-informed decisions and improved security strategies. The observed reduction in its impact when used alongside other frameworks may be attributed to overlapping benefits or diminishing returns from multiple deliberative methods. Consequently, these findings suggest that while the Argumentation Approach is a valuable tool, its effectiveness can be enhanced when strategically integrated with other frameworks to avoid redundancy and ensure a complementary effect. Policymakers should consider the optimal use of the Argumentation Approach in conjunction with other frameworks to maximize overall security management effectiveness. A balanced approach that leverages the strengths of multiple deliberative frameworks can provide more nuanced and adaptive solutions to the complex security challenges in Kerio Valley. This strategy can lead to more comprehensive, sustainable, and context-specific security policies.

Qualitative data from Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) further supports these findings. Respondents highlighted the importance of structured debates and discussions in the Argumentation Approach, which allowed for a deeper understanding of security issues and more informed decision-making. They argued that engaging in structured debates and policy argumentative framework uncovered multiple facets of security issues for better-informed decisions and developed robust security strategies. The quality of our security management improved noticeably with encouraged stakeholders to voice their views while addressing root causes of security problems, leading to more sustainable solutions" (KII-5, KII-3 & KII-15).

Result shows that argumentation approach significantly enhanced security management when used independently but slightly reduced when combined with other frameworks. These findings suggest that while the approach is highly beneficial, its integration with other deliberative methods should be carefully considered to maximize its impact. A strategic combination of frameworks could lead to more effective and adaptive security policies in Kerio Valley.



**Table 4. 13: Regression result for the effect of argumentative approach on security management**

VARIABLES	(Model 1)	(Model 2)
	Total effect	Partial effect 1
Integrative negotiation		0.450*** (0.0323)
Argumentation Approach	0.270*** (0.0308)	0.129*** (0.0340)
Narrative Approach		-0.749*** (0.0314)
Metaphor approach		0.428*** (0.0442)
Constant	-0.178*** (0.0494)	-0.267*** (0.0384)
Observations	410	410
R-squared	0.061	0.473

Source: Research Data (2024)

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

This study examined the impact of Argumentation Approach as a deliberative policy framework on security management in the Kerio Valley. The findings indicated that Argumentation Approach significantly enhances security outcomes when used independently, leading to a 27% improvement in security management ( $\beta = 0.270$ ;  $p = 0.000$ ). However, the approach's effectiveness diminishes when combined with other deliberative frameworks, yielding a 12.9% improvement ( $\beta = 0.129$ ;  $p = 0.000$ ). Despite this reduction, the Argumentation Approach remains a valuable tool for enhancing security management.

The study concludes that qualitative data further supports these quantitative findings, with key informants highlighting the importance of structured discussions and debates in identifying and addressing the multifaceted nature of security issues. The ability of the Argumentation Approach to facilitate informed decision-making and foster collaboration among stakeholders has proven essential in improving security strategies. While the Argumentation Approach has demonstrated its individual value, this study suggests that its integration with other deliberative frameworks must be carefully managed to avoid redundant benefits and maximize its effectiveness. A balanced, strategic combination of frameworks is recommended to ensure more adaptive and context-specific security policies. In conclusion, the study emphasizes the critical role of structured deliberation in addressing the complex security challenges faced by the Kerio Valley. Policymakers are encouraged to adopt a multi-faceted approach, combining the Argumentation Approach with other frameworks, to develop comprehensive, sustainable, and effective security strategies for the region.

## 6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, several key recommendations are proposed to enhance security management in the Kerio Valley and other similar contexts:

1. **Strategic Integration of the Argumentation Approach:** Given the significant positive impact of the Argumentation Approach on security management, it is recommended that policymakers prioritize its integration into security policy design. However, it should be used strategically alongside other deliberative frameworks to ensure a complementary effect. This approach can help foster thorough discussions and ensure that security strategies are well-informed and comprehensive.
2. **Optimizing the Use of Multiple Frameworks:** While the Argumentation Approach is effective on its own, its impact was observed to diminish when combined with other frameworks. Policymakers should focus on optimizing the use of multiple frameworks by carefully balancing their application. This may involve selecting frameworks that complement each other and addressing potential overlaps to avoid redundancy. Such a combination will allow for more nuanced and adaptable security policies.

3. **Strengthening Stakeholder Engagement:** The study highlights the importance of structured debates and discussions in addressing security issues. Therefore, it is recommended that the government and other stakeholders actively engage local communities, security personnel, and other relevant groups in regular, organized forums where security challenges can be critically evaluated. This engagement should aim to foster a sense of ownership and collaboration, improving the implementation and acceptance of security measures.
4. **Training and Capacity Building:** To fully leverage the potential of the Argumentation Approach, training programs should be implemented for stakeholders involved in security management. These programs should focus on enhancing skills in structured deliberation, critical thinking, and mediation. By building capacity in these areas, stakeholders will be better equipped to contribute meaningfully to security discussions and decision-making processes.
5. **Context-Specific Adaptation:** While the Argumentation Approach has proven effective in the Kerio Valley, its application should be tailored to the unique cultural, social, and political contexts of different regions. Policymakers are encouraged to adapt the approach to local needs, ensuring that security strategies are culturally relevant and sensitive to the specific dynamics of each area. Notably, it is essential to establish mechanisms for the continuous monitoring and evaluation of these strategies. Regular assessments will help identify any challenges or gaps in implementation, enabling policymakers to make timely adjustments and refine security management practices.

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## 7.0 CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE

This study, which analyzes the impact of the deliberative policy augmentative framework on security management in Kerio Valley, makes several significant contributions to the fields of security management, conflict resolution, and public policy. Specifically, it provides empirical evidence on the effectiveness of argumentative approaches in comparison to other deliberative policy frameworks, such as integrative negotiation, narratives, and metaphors, in enhancing security management. By demonstrating the positive effects of these frameworks on security outcomes, the study addresses a gap in existing literature, which has primarily focused on theoretical and qualitative analyses. Furthermore, the research offers context-specific insights into how deliberative policy augmentative frameworks can be applied within the unique sociopolitical and cultural context of the Kerio Valley. This deepens the understanding of the complexities involved in security management in conflict-prone areas, offering valuable insights into similar studies and interventions in other regions with comparable challenges.

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