ABSTRACT
The study set out to identify and analyse the contribution of Vision Umurenge Program (VUP) to improve the accessibility to healthcare services among its beneficiaries with particular difference to Musanze District. Although the contribution of VUP in poverty reduction is visible and perceived by everyone, since its principle aim is that of eradicating poverty, there appears to be no documentation resulting from a study to show, how targeting to reduce poverty can have other positive impacts (externalities) on health, education, nutrition, among other services. The study was thus done to investigate the extent to which VUP has improved healthcare accessibility among its beneficiaries. The study assumed a case study design and data was collected from a sample of 100 respondents. Data were collected using documentary approach, questionnaires, interviews and observation and were analyzed using SPSS to extract frequencies for different variables and to calculate corresponding percentage. Through the study it was found that VUP has decreased the time used to get to the nearest health facility, thus improving geographical accessibility to healthcare services. This study also pointed out that factors such as gender, education among others which can affect the accessibility to healthcare. In order to facilitate the collection of all data needed in monitoring and evaluation of the program, the government of Rwanda should include the health indicators within the list of primary outcome indicators for the VUP (for example ANC visits, assisted deliveries, nutrition, and service utilization.)