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Effects of insecurity on development in Kenya: A case of Tourism sector in Kenya

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**EFFECT OF INSECURITY ON DEVELOPMENT IN KENYA: A CASE OF
TOURISM SECTOR IN KENYA**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT FOR AWARD
OF DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES OF MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY**

AUGUST 2015

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of insecurity on development in Kenya with reference to the tourism in Kenya. The specific objectives of the study are: to determine the effect of insecurity on tourists arrivals in Kenya; to establish how insecurity affects growth in the tourism sector in Kenya and; to examine the effect of insecurity on performance of tourism businesses in Kenya. The target population consisted of 215 staff of the Ministry of East African Affairs, Commerce and Tourism. The population was in the categories of top management, middle level management and operations staff. A sample of 54 respondents was drawn from the population using stratified random sampling technique. Data collection was done using questionnaires that were administered to the respondents. Data analysis was done using quantitative and qualitative techniques. The findings of the study has shown that majority of respondents (89%) indicated that insecurity affects the number of tourists arriving in the country. Majority of respondents (81%) indicated that insecurity affects business growth. Majority of respondents (93%) indicated that insecurity affects business performance of tourism based businesses. The government should urgently address the runaway insecurity in the country by demanding the lifting of travel advisories by US and EC countries. Investors should be encouraged to continue investing in the tourism sector as the insecurity is being addressed. The government should give tax incentive to investors in this sector. Domestic tourism should be promoted in order to boost and sustain growth in this sector. The government should consider giving subsidies to the businesses in the tourism sectors by reducing the taxes and levies charged to hotels and tour operators for the period when they are experience low business volumes. All these measures will help sustain the tourism sector and the contribution it makes to Kenya's development.