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THE IMPACT OF THE LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK IN THE MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS IN KENYA. A CASE OF ELGEYO/MARAKWET COUNTY - KENYA

BY

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A RESEARCH PROJECT STUDY SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTERS OF ARTS IN GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS OF MT KENYA UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

This study investigated the impact of the legal and regulatory framework in the management of Forests in Kenya. The study was carried out in Elgeiyo/Marakwet County. The objectives of the study were to; establish the role of the community in the management of forests, establish the impact of destruction of forests on the wellbeing of the people in Elgeiyo/Marakwet County and its surroundings, examine the role of forests laws and policies in the management of forests, examine the ethical and governance factors in forests management and to identify the challenges facing forests management in Elgeiyo/Marakwet County with a view to providing solutions. This study adopted both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. The target population of the study included Forest officers, members of youth groups, the provincial administration the local community and other stakeholders. The study intended to interview around two hundred and thirteen respondents in the county. The study used random sampling to select the target population from the youth groups and the local community while convenience sampling technique and purposive sampling were used to select the members of provincial administration, forest officers and other civil servants. The instruments for data collection used were self-administered questionnaires, oral interviews schedule, document analysis and observation. Piloting of the instruments was done in the Uasin Gishu County using around thirty respondents to test the reliability of the instruments. The data collected were summarized and are presented in the form of percentages, ANOVAs, graphs or frequency tables. The findings of this study will be useful to stakeholders especially those involved in the management of forests in the country. The study intends to fill the apparent gap obtaining on the best sustainable management practices of forests management in the world and the current situation Kenya.