

**EFFECTS OF GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND RATIONALIZATION OF YOUTH
FUNDS**

(A CASE OF NAIROBI COUNTY)

BY

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ABSTRACT

Gender mainstreaming is a very important aspect of any governmental undertaking. It determines the wholesome participation of the population in the development process. Without Gender mainstreaming most government development priorities will be affected and therefore gender mainstreaming is an essential part of the day to day developmental interventions for the success of not only county governments but also the national government. However, not all county governments take Gender Mainstreaming seriously. This lapse has created inequality and exclusion of some section of the population in contribution and involvement in the process of development. This study therefore will look into the effect of Gender Mainstreaming on full rationalization of Youth Fund with specific focus in Nairobi County. The objectives of the study are: to determine the factors hindering youth from accessing the youth fund; to determine the extent to which gender influences youth involvement in the development process and to establish the relationship between gender mainstreaming and development level of youths at the county level. The study will draw its theoretical underpinnings from Human Needs Approach as well as Sustainable development Approach since these schools of thought advocate for the primacy of the individual person in any development oriented intervention. A descriptive research design will be applied as it will ensure enough provision for protection against biases, maximize reliability and ensure that data collected will be relevant. A survey will be conducted on a target population of 210 youths out of, which 63 youths (of both genders) will be selected representing 30% of the population. Stratified random sampling will be used to ensure that no gender in the population is favoured. Questionnaires and interview will be used in collecting relevant information and data. Kenya as a country is currently experiencing a challenge of handling the youth bulge which has led to issues such as unemployment among the youth as well as increasing insecurity and lack of basic needs with most of the youth living below poverty levels. One intervention to address such impediments was the introduction of the Youth Fund to help youths initiate entrepreneurial activities to earn a descent living. However, Gender inequality has been a challenge to the realization of this objective. The study seeks to answer some of these questions in attempt to analyse the effects of Gender Mainstreaming full realization of Youth Fund as development tool.