

**EFFECT OF DEVOLUTION ON SOCIAL - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN KENYA. (A CASE
IN MANDERA COUNTY)**

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ABSTRACT

Devolution means the transfer of powers from a higher or central order of government to a regional or local order of government. Decentralization is said to improve governance of public service delivery by improving the efficiency of resource allocation efficiency. The study objective was to determine if literacy levels, access to health facilities, levels of income and infrastructures are the effect of devolution on social - economic development in Mandera County.

The study used a descriptive survey research design and data was collected through the use of the questionnaires. The target population were 300 respondents. All categories of respondents were selected using simple random sampling technique; the sample size was 150 respondents. The study findings were then be analyzed and presented in form of charts through the use of quantitative and qualitative techniques; this contributed towards answering of the research questions and making conclusion and recommendation of the research study.

The study found out that devolution to affect literacy levels in Mandera County, access to health facilities was rated low by majority of respondents. Devolution to greatly affect the levels of income in Mandera County. Devolution to greatly affect infrastructure in Mandera County to a high extent. Most respondents felt that the national government should allocate more money to the county government to develop infrastructure.

The study recommended that the national government should devolve all education functions so as to realize full potential to Mandera residents. The national government should devolve all the functions of health sector to the county governments. County government of Mandera should start projects that will generate income and create employment to the county residents. The national government should allocate more money to the county government to develop infrastructure.