

ASSESSMENT OF USE OF CONSTITUENCY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS IN
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT: A CASE OF PUBLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOLS IN MARSABIT COUNTY



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ABSTRACT

The Constituency Development Fund was introduced in Kenya in 2003 with the passage of the CDF Act 2003 by the Parliament of Kenya. The CDF Act provides that the government set aside at least 2.5% of its ordinary revenue for disbursement under the CDF program. This study assessed the use of constituency development fund in infrastructure development among public primary schools in Marsabit County. The findings of this study may be useful to various stakeholders including the government, management of schools under study and researchers. The type of research design that was used for this project was descriptive cross-sectional design. The target population of this study was all public primary school head teachers in Marsabit County. Data was collected mainly by use of questionnaire method and observational checklist. The feedback obtained from the questionnaires was used to gather the data needed for this study. Data was analyzed mainly by use of descriptive and inferential statistics. Descriptive statistics included mean, standard deviation as well as the frequency tables. Before the questionnaire is administered, consent was sought and given by the participants. All the questionnaires administered were successfully filled and returned. This implied that, the response rate for this study was 100%. This was considered sufficient for analysis. The study found out that 73% of the respondents were male while 27% were female. This partly explained that a majority of the teachers in arid and semi arid areas are men. As relates to the effects of community collaboration on use of constituency development fund in infrastructure development, the study found out that lack of involving key community members greatly affected the use of CDF in infrastructure development in public primary schools under study. In addition, lack of sustainable connections with the community, lack of identification of relevant stakeholders who actively support school programs as well as lack of understanding of community needs. Based on the findings of the study, the research concluded that there was very little community collaboration and there was little expenditure tracking by community in the use of CDF in infrastructure development in public schools especially in Marsabit County. The study recommends proper prioritization mechanisms are established. This is to be achieved through situational analysis of various development projects funded by CDF to establish the cost benefit of such projects to the schools and the community.