



**ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF SCHOOL FEEDING
PROGRAMME ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN PUBLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN ASAL DISTRICTS,
LAISAMIS DIVISION, MARSABIT COUNTY**

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REG. NO.: MED 111/03785



MKU206/13

1 B 30 42 1 76 2013

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF EDUCATION OF MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY**

JULY 2013

Mount Kenya University
LIBRARY

ABSTRACT

School feeding programs have been implemented in Kenya since the 1980's with varying degrees of success, used primarily to create awareness to the enrolment and retention of rural school children. Thus this study was aimed at assessing school feeding program and its roles in on academic performance among public primary schools in Laisamis. The specific objectives included: To investigate the consequences of proper nutrition on academic performance, to examine the outcomes of water availability and utilization on academic performance and to assess the significance of institutional feeding regulation on academic performance in Laisamis division, Marsabit County. The study adopted explanatory research design. The target population was the 3,780 teachers. The researcher administered questionnaires to a total of 14 respondents. Convenient sampling was used to come up with a representative sample size. Secondary data was gathered from various authoritative sources including books, published articles, and on-line journals. Data was collected through questionnaires edited, classified, coded and tabulated in a systematic manner. Tools of descriptive and inferential statistics were employed to analyze the data. The findings were then presented in form of charts and tables. The study found out that water availability and utilization ($0.049 \leq p\text{-value} \leq 0.05$) and institutional feeding regulation ($0.013 \leq p\text{-value} \leq 0.05$) had significant relationship with academic performance in Laisamis. Consequently the study recommended that mechanisms are devised to reduce the distance between water sources and the school through sinking boreholes within the school premises, providing for water connections to a sustainable water source and considering water development projects as priority. This ensures efficient and effective utilization of available water resources through putting in place a guide to use water resources on priority basis; which improves the general governance of the management of the feeding program through development of a working service charter that provides for organizational values that should be observed in transacting activities within the school and mechanisms which cushion the school management from overbearing external interference through review of the existing policies by government to provide for the nature of engagement between the school management and its subjects among other recommendations.