

**ASSESSMENT OF INTERNAL FACTORS AFFECTING EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF
PROCUREMENT IN PUBLIC SECTOR IN KENYA
(A CASE OF MINISTRY OF DEFENCE)**

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ABSTRACT

The specific objectives of the study was to find out how adoption of Information Communication Technology (ICT), procurement planning, procurement skills and control systems affect effective management of procurement in the public sector: a case of Ministry of Defence (MOD). The study was guided by the Theory of Constraints (TOC). The study adopted descriptive research design. The target population was 180 personnel who are involved in the procurement process (AIE holders, accountants, auditors, procurement officers, user departments and IT personnel) in one way or another at the Ministry Headquarters in Nairobi. Stratified random sampling technique was used given that the population of interest was not homogeneous and was thus subdivided into groups or strata to obtain a representative sample. The strata were according to levels of management, namely, top level, middle level and operational levels. Data was collected from a sample of 54 staff members who constituted 30% of the target population. Questionnaires containing closed ended questions were used. Both descriptive and inferential data analysis methods including frequencies, percentages and regression were used. The collated data was coded and analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (Version 17). The software packages enabled the researcher to analyze the data into percentages, means and standard deviations. To test the level of significance of each variable against the dependent variables, correlation analysis was used. To identify the type of the relationship between the independent and the dependent variables, a multiple regression analysis was used. In aiding the interpretation of the relationship between the dependent and the independent variables, multiple regression model was used. The findings were presented in the form of frequency distribution tables and percentages. The study established that there was positive correlation between the management of procurement and all the independent variables and that the four variables explained 87.5% of variations in the management of procurement in the public sector. From the findings, planning accounted for 27% of the variations in management of procurement in the public sector while control systems, procurement skills and adoption of ICT accounted for 23%, 20% and 17% of the variations respectively. The study recommends that the National and County Governments and other interested stakeholders should prepare and adhere to procurement plans; adopt ICT; establish controls systems and focus on procurement skills when developing a comprehensive policy that is supportive to the effective management of procurement in the public sector.