

**EFFECTS OF FISCAL DECENTRALIZATION ON THE LIVELIHOOD OF
THE PEOPLE IN KIAMBU COUNTY
(A Case of Ruiru Sub-county)**

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ABSTRACT

The study sought to find out factors affecting fiscal decentralization. The objectives guiding the study were employment creation, local empowerment, local business growth and infrastructural development. The study employed a descriptive design and the stratified random sampling method. The questionnaires were the instruments for data collection purposes. The employees of Ruiru Sub-county management served as the population of interest to the study. Data was analysed by use of both quantitative and qualitative methods.

The study had the following findings:- The employment creation was equally confirmed as to having had impacted on economic growth highly. This indicated that fiscal decentralization had profound effects on employment creation. The respondents confirmed that the business growth had impacted on the economic growth highly. It was thus a confirmation of the ability of fiscal decentralization to spur business and the resultant economic growth. The response showed that the local empowerment had impacted favourably on the economic growth. The respondents confirmed that they had seen the growth of infrastructural capacity at the advent of fiscal decentralization highly.

The study recommended that:- The exchequer should increase the amounts of money disbursed to the local governance units. The devolved governance units should always seek to advertise for procurement contracts and have local business getting the first chance in terms of provision for pre-qualification. The devolved governance structures should always seek to enlist the local population in decision making and project planning and identification. The devolved governance structures should strive to allocate funds to the growth and development of infrastructural capacities.