

**THE IMPACT OF DOUBLE REGISTRATION ON KENYAN SOMALI NATIONALS IN
GARISSA COUNTY**

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Declaration

This project is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other University or for any other award.

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MIRD/2021/43019

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Date: 21st April 2025

I confirm that the work reported on this project was conducted by the candidate under my supervision.

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Dedication

I dedicate this research to all the Kenyan Somali in Garissa County facing challenges because of double registration.



Acknowledgement

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all those who have contributed to the successful completion of this research and my master's degree. This journey would not have been possible without the guidance, support, and encouragement of many individuals and institutions.

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Abstract

The phenomenon of double registration has engendered a protracted legal and humanitarian crisis for Kenyan Somalis, whose contested citizenship status reflects systemic ambiguities in nationality governance. Originating in the aftermath of Somalia's state collapse in 1991, mass displacement prompted survival strategies that inadvertently conflated refugee and citizen identities within Kenya's administrative frameworks. Contemporary estimates indicate that approximately 40,000 individuals remain ensnared in systemic bureaucratic inefficiencies, wherein delayed deregistration from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) registry obstructs formal recognition of their Kenyan nationality. This institutional limbo deprives affected populations of foundational rights—including national identification documents, basic services, and freedom of movement—exacerbating cycles of marginalization, structural discrimination, and intergenerational poverty.

This study aimed to analyze the challenges of double registration among Kenyan Somalis in Garissa County, focusing on three specific objectives: investigating the factors contributing to double registration in Africa, establishing its consequences for Kenyan Somalis in Garissa, and evaluating the effectiveness of existing registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somalis and refugees. Employing a mixed-methods approach, the study utilized questionnaires, interviews, and focus groups, with data collected from 254 purposively selected respondents in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties. The data were analyzed, revealing a predominantly male respondent pool (70.9% in Dadaab and 74.8% in Fafi), with most participants aged 26-35. Despite existing legal frameworks, including national laws, regional charters, and United Nations (UN) conventions, persistent challenges such as coordination gaps, limited resources, and inadequate verification methods hinder effective registration. The study recommends establishing a robust coordination mechanism between UNHCR and Kenya's national registration systems to ensure seamless data integration and reduce discrepancies. The significance of this study lies in its contribution to addressing the injustices faced by Kenyan Somalis, promoting social equity, and informing policy reforms to enhance registration systems. By aligning international and national frameworks, this research underscores the importance of inclusive governance and the protection of citizenship rights in fostering stability and development in marginalized communities.

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List of abbreviations and acronyms

UDHR- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

UNHCR- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

IDPs- Internally Displaced Persons.

ID- Identification card.

KHRC- Kenya Human Rights Commission.

TSC- Teachers Service Commission.

NRS- National Registration System



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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

The historical development of international conventions, declarations, and charters has significantly advanced the recognition and protection of individual rights, particularly concerning identity and nationality. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), under Article 15(1), explicitly states that “Everyone has the right to a nationality” (Cantor, 2022). This principle has been reinforced by various international legal instruments, including the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 319 A (V) of 1949, which established the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The UNHCR is mandated to protect refugees and ensure their well-being, including the registration of refugees in a systematic and procedural manner. Other key legal frameworks include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Article 24), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Articles 7 and 8), the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights.

The importance of reliable and formal identification systems has grown significantly, impacting civic engagement, societal integration, and access to essential services (Clark, 2023). Effective identity management systems foster collaboration between governments and citizens while enabling necessary modifications to address emerging challenges (Malik, 2023). However, the failure to register certain populations or issue identity documents can have severe consequences, including exclusion from education, healthcare, employment, and civic participation (Nyamwasa,

2022). As a result, many countries are increasingly adopting biometric-based national identification systems to prevent issues such as double registration.

Globally, the issue of double registration has emerged as a significant challenge, particularly in the context of refugee movements and asylum-seeking processes. For instance, the European Stability Initiative (2019) reported that the influx of Syrian refugees into Germany in 2015 led to instances of double registration. Some asylum seekers who had already been registered in neighboring countries like Türkiye were inadvertently registered again in Germany, creating administrative complexities and delays in processing asylum claims. Similarly, the United Kingdom's hostile environment policies, designed to deter illegal immigration, have inadvertently affected refugees. Individuals with complex asylum claims or citizenship in countries deemed "unsafe" by the UK often face difficulties obtaining identification documents, leading to situations where they are registered as both asylum seekers and undocumented migrants (Rogers, 2020).

In the Americas, the National Institute of Migration in Mexico (INM, 2022) estimates that approximately 4.5% of the Mexican population, or around 5.85 million individuals, are double-registered as citizens of both Mexico and the United States. This dual citizenship arises from birthright citizenship in the U.S. and citizenship by blood in Mexico. However, this status often leads to challenges in obtaining official documents, legal uncertainties, and conflicts related to social and cultural identity (State, 2022).

Regionally, countries in Africa have also grappled with the issue of double registration, particularly in contexts of forced displacement and refugee crises. For example, Côte d'Ivoire, which hosted thousands of refugees from Liberia during its civil war, has faced challenges related to the registration of children and marginalized groups (Adepoju, 2014). Kemp (2019) highlights that bureaucratic obstacles and systemic inefficiencies in Côte d'Ivoire have exacerbated difficulties in

accessing civil registration services, particularly for individuals already registered as refugees in the UNHCR database. This has led to challenges in accessing essential services, voting rights, and legal recognition as citizens.

Similarly, the influx of Somali refugees into Kenya during the 1991 civil war in Somalia led to the establishment of refugee camps in Garissa County, including Dadaab. While these camps provided essential services such as food and healthcare, the registration process was often fraught with challenges, including language barriers, cultural differences, and logistical hurdles (Ibrahim, 2012). These issues resulted in inaccuracies in registration records, with some Kenyan citizens mistakenly registered as refugees. Additionally, prolonged drought conditions and a lack of infrastructure in the region prompted some Kenyan Somalis to deliberately register as refugees to access benefits and services. However, this has created long-term challenges for individuals seeking to reintegrate into Kenyan society, as their fingerprints in the UNHCR database complicate their ability to obtain legal identification as Kenyan citizens (HSI, 2021).

At the local level, double registration has profound implications for individuals, particularly vulnerable populations such as refugees and marginalized communities. In Kenya, for instance, individuals of Somali ethnic origin face discrimination, inappropriate deregistration processes by humanitarian organizations, and ineffective verification mechanisms, all of which contribute to the persistence of double registration (Ibrahim, 2012). These challenges extend beyond administrative hurdles, affecting access to education, employment, and basic freedoms such as movement. Children, in particular, are disproportionately affected, as they often find themselves registered in the UNHCR database without their knowledge, complicating their ability to access essential services and legal recognition (HSI, 2021).

The issue of double registration is further compounded by socio-economic disparities and systemic inequalities. Vulnerable populations are often excluded from resource endowments and employment opportunities, perpetuating cycles of poverty and marginalization. Addressing these challenges requires a comprehensive approach that considers the global, regional, and local dimensions of the issue, as well as the interplay between institutional frameworks, individual behaviors, and systemic inefficiencies.

In conclusion, the phenomenon of double registration is a multifaceted issue with significant implications for individuals, communities, and governments. Understanding its origins and consequences from global, regional, and local perspectives is essential for developing effective solutions that uphold the rights and dignity of all individuals.

1.2 Statement of the problem

The experience of being born and raised in one's home country, only to be labelled as a "foreigner," is a distressing reality for approximately 40,000 Kenyan Somalis grappling with the issue of double registration. This complex challenge stems from historical factors associated with the 1991 Somali civil war and remains inadequately addressed by the relevant authorities. Many individuals, both Somali and Kenyan citizens, sought refuge in UNHCR camps due to a lack of basic necessities, actions that have inadvertently altered their citizenship status. Consequently, they find themselves entangled in a bureaucratic labyrinth, where delays in deregistration from the UNHCR system jeopardise their Kenyan citizenship status, rendering them stateless and depriving them of essential documents, services, and even the freedom to move freely.

The problem of double registration among Kenyan Somalis, particularly in the Dadaab and Fafi Sub-County regions, has emerged as a challenge that exacerbates existing social and economic inequalities. This predicament begets discrimination and marginalisation, thereby hindering access

to opportunities for those affected. The challenges associated with this issue, including protracted delays in the deregistration process and the refusal to issue national identity cards to individuals possessing birth certificates, highlight the necessity for a comprehensive evaluation of both formal and informal systems in operation. Moreover, existing legal loopholes further complicate the situation, contributing to a void in the current literature regarding the specific phenomenon of double registration among populations in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-County. In light of this context, the researcher endeavours to explore the issues surrounding the double registration of Kenyan Somalis in Garissa County.

While the problem of double registration has been acknowledged, there remains a significant gap in understanding its full social and academic implications. Socially, the issue perpetuates systemic discrimination and marginalisation, as affected individuals are often denied access to essential services, education, and employment opportunities. This exclusion not only deepens poverty but also fosters a sense of alienation among Kenyan Somalis, who are legally entitled to citizenship but are treated as outsiders. Academically, the phenomenon of double registration has not been sufficiently explored, particularly in the context of its long-term effects on identity, belonging, and citizenship rights. Existing studies often focus on the legal and bureaucratic aspects, neglecting the lived experiences of those affected and the broader socio-economic consequences.

The problem of double registration is not merely a bureaucratic issue but a manifestation of deeper systemic inequalities. It reflects a failure by the state to protect the rights of its citizens, particularly those from marginalised communities. The refusal to issue national identity cards to individuals with valid birth certificates, for instance, underscores a lack of political will to address the problem. This inaction perpetuates a cycle of exclusion, where Kenyan Somalis are denied their rightful place in society, further entrenching social divisions.

The lack of comprehensive research on double registration represents a critical gap in the literature. While some studies have examined the legal frameworks governing citizenship and refugee status, few have delved into the socio-cultural and economic ramifications of double registration. This oversight limits our understanding of the issue and hinders the development of effective solutions. By addressing these gaps, this study aims to provide a holistic analysis of the double registration phenomenon, shedding light on its multifaceted impact on Kenyan Somalis in Garissa County.

The problem of double registration among Kenyan Somalis is a pressing issue that demands urgent attention. By exploring its social and academic dimensions, this research seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by affected individuals and to inform policy interventions that promote inclusivity and justice.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the impact of double registration on Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. This involved investigating the contributing factors, establishing the consequences for affected individuals, assessing the effectiveness of existing registration systems in distinguishing between nationals and refugees, and proposing potential solutions to address these challenges. By focusing on Garissa County, the study aimed to provide a localized understanding of the issue while offering insights applicable to other regions facing similar challenges.

1.4 Objectives of the study

This section guided the systematic study on the topic by delineating the general objective and specific objectives, each considered to insight the phenomenon under study.

1.4.1 General objective of the study

The general objective of this study was to discuss the impact of double registration on Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County.

1.4.2 Specific objectives of the study

This study was guided by the following specific objectives:

- I. To identify and analyze the key factors contributing to the double registration of Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County.
- II. To assess the socio-economic, legal, and political consequences of double registration on Kenyan Somali individuals and communities in Garissa County
- III. To evaluate the effectiveness of existing registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees in Garissa County.

1.5 Research questions

The following research questions were used in this study:

- I. What are the key factors contributing to the double registration of Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County?
- II. What are the socio-economic, legal, and political consequences of double registration for Kenyan Somalis in Garissa County?
- III. To what extent are the existing registration systems effective in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees in Garissa County?

1.6 Justification of the study

This study addresses a critical research problem related to double registration among Kenyan citizens, with a specific focus on the Somali community in Garissa County. Despite numerous

academic and policy-oriented investigations into the issue, there remains a significant gap in understanding the complex interplay of individual actions, organizational roles, systemic structures, and legal frameworks that contribute to the challenges of harmonizing identities.

Existing literature predominantly examines double registration from a broad perspective, often overlooking the nuanced impacts of both formal and informal structures. This lack of comprehensive analysis highlights an urgent need for more focused research that explores how these elements interact to shape identity registration processes. Consequently, this study seeks to fill this gap by providing both theoretical insights and empirical evidence regarding the factors influencing double registration.

By shedding light on the specific circumstances experienced by Kenyan Somalis and the systemic issues at play, the findings from this research aim to contribute valuable knowledge to the field. Additionally, it is anticipated that the insights generated will inform policymakers and practitioners, equipping them with the real-time evidence necessary to craft effective solutions to the challenges posed by double registration—not only in Garissa County but also in other regions facing similar issues.

1.7 Scope of the study

This study on an investigation into the impact of double registration on Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. The researcher chose Garissa County because of its geographical location bordering Somalia and having a large population of the target population. To achieve these, the study had a thematic focus on the following objectives: to identify and analyze the key factors contributing to the double registration of Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County; to assess the socio-economic, legal, and political consequences of double registration on Kenyan Somali individuals and communities in Garissa County; and to evaluate the effectiveness of existing

registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees in Garissa County.

The study drew upon various secondary sources to enrich its content and deepen understanding of its objectives. These sources included peer-reviewed journals, reports, books, and official documents from relevant Kenyan government institutions and international organizations involved in refugee registration and management. The analysis focused on documents issued between 2009 and 2024, specifically those pertaining to the introduction of the biometric registration system. This analysis was conducted within a strict time limit, with data collection primarily occurring between mid-March and mid-May 2024.

Factors contributing to double registration: This includes an examination of socio-political, economic, and administrative factors that lead to double registration among Kenyan Somalis.

Consequences of double registration: The study explores the legal, social, and economic implications of double registration for individuals and the broader community.

Effectiveness of registration systems: This involves an evaluation of the biometric registration system and other existing mechanisms in distinguishing between Kenyan nationals and refugees, with a focus on their strengths and limitations.

By clearly defining these content areas, the study ensures a focused and comprehensive analysis of the double registration phenomenon in Garissa County.

1.8 Study limitations

The strategic location of Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties in Garissa presented unique challenges for the researcher, primarily due to security concerns arising from ongoing conflicts and logistical constraints. Poor infrastructure and transportation networks made travel stressful, while limited network access and technological challenges hindered communication. Additionally, some

respondents were hesitant to share information about double registration, often due to past negative experiences or cultural sensitivities. To address these issues, the researcher collaborated with local authorities and NGOs for security guidance, conducted a pilot study to refine logistical plans, and invested in reliable network services and widely used technological devices. Building trust with the community was achieved through thorough cultural research, guidance from local experts, and ethnically appropriate methods of obtaining informed consent.

Despite these mitigation efforts, the study faced three key limitations. First, the volatile security situation in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties restricted access to certain areas and respondents. This limitation, specific to the region's conflict-prone nature, was measurable by the number of inaccessible locations and remained relevant throughout the fieldwork period. Although collaboration with local authorities helped mitigate risks, the constraint was time-bound to the duration of data collection. Second, logistical challenges, particularly poor infrastructure, caused significant delays. While careful planning and budgeting alleviated some issues, this limitation persisted throughout the study period. Third, respondent hesitation, driven by cultural sensitivities and past negative experiences, limited the depth of information shared about double registration. This was measurable through the decline in interview requests and was addressed through culturally informed consent processes. However, this challenge remained relevant and time-bound to the data collection phase.

1.9 Delimitations

The research focused on Garissa County, specifically targeting the Kenyan Somali population residing in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties. This targeted approach allowed for an in-depth examination of double registration within a region with a high concentration of Kenyan Somali nationals. However, this delimitation excluded other parts of Garissa County, as well as other

regions in Kenya and ethnic groups that may also face double registration challenges. While this focus provided valuable insights into the experiences of the Kenyan Somali community, it introduced certain limitations that should be acknowledged.

First, the study's geographical scope was limited to Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties, which means the findings may not be generalizable to other parts of Garissa County or Kenya. This limitation is specific to the study's design and is relevant because double registration issues may vary across regions due to differing administrative structures and demographic characteristics. Second, the research focused exclusively on the Kenyan Somali population, excluding other ethnic groups that might experience similar challenges. This delimitation, while necessary for depth, limits the study's applicability to other communities and contexts. Third, the study's reliance on a specific population within a conflict-prone area introduced potential biases, as the experiences of respondents may be influenced by the unique socio-political and security dynamics of the region. These limitations, while inherent to the study's focus, highlight the need for further research in other regions and among diverse ethnic groups to provide a more comprehensive understanding of double registration in Kenya.

1.10 Assumptions of the study

- I. **Institutional Framework Limitations:** The study assumed that despite the existence of legal frameworks—such as United Nations conventions (e.g., the 1954 Refugee Convention), regional charters (e.g., the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights), and national laws (e.g., Kenya's Registration of Persons Act)—persistent gaps in interagency coordination, resource allocation, and verification mechanisms hindered effective resolution of double registration. This implied that the mere presence of institutional frameworks did not guarantee robust identity management.

- II. **Geographical and Conflict-Driven Vulnerabilities:** The researcher assumed that Garissa County's geographical proximity to conflict zones like Somalia exacerbated identity challenges, particularly double registration, due to cross-border movement, historical displacement patterns, and heightened administrative pressures in the region. This assumption positioned the county as a critical case study for analyzing how conflict-adjacent areas face unique registration vulnerabilities.
- III. **Formal-Informal System Interplay:** The study operated on the assumption that formal identity registration systems (e.g., government databases) and informal practices (e.g., clan-based documentation or unofficial record-keeping) interacted dynamically. This interplay was theorized to influence outcomes through factors such as bureaucratic inefficiencies, individual behavioral choices, and legacies of historical marginalization.
- IV. **Respondent Reliability:** The researcher assumed that participants would provide truthful responses to research instruments, based on the ethical safeguards implemented (e.g., anonymization, informed consent, and culturally sensitive engagement). This assumption acknowledged potential biases but deemed them mitigated through methodological rigor.

1.11 Operational definition of key terms

The following terms were defined as per the study:

Civil Registration: The official recording of notable events such as births, deaths, marriages, and the issuance of identity documents by the respective government authorities to establish legal identity and citizenship status.

Civil Rights: Rights related to participation in society and governance, including rights to education, healthcare, freedom of movement, or expression, and participation in political processes.

Double Registration: The phenomenon where individuals are registered or identified in more than one official database or system, often leading to complications, legal uncertainties, and challenges in accessing rights and services due to conflicting or duplicate identities.

Harmonizing Identities: The process or effort to align, unify, or streamline the identification of individuals within a particular region or among specific groups, aiming to create a consistent and accurate record of information across different systems.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): An individual who has been forced to flee their home due to conflict or violence, but remain within their own country's borders, and are not protected by international refugee law, though they are eligible for humanitarian assistance.

Nationality: The legal status of belonging to a specific nation or country and being entitled to its rights, privileges, and protection, often tied to citizenship rights, which may include the rights to vote, access to services, and freedom of movement.

Refugees: An individual who has been forced to flee their country due to war, violence, conflict, or persecution and they are unable or unwilling to return to their home country because of fear of their safety or freedom.

Statelessness: A stateless person is an individual who is not recognized as a national by any state under the operation of its law, they do not have the nationality of any country leaving them without basic rights.

1.12 Significance of the study

The significance of this study lies in its potential to systematically uncover the socio-political and administrative challenges faced by the Somali community in Garissa County, Kenya, concerning dual identity registration. By analyzing structural factors—such as historical migration patterns, proximity to porous borders, and bureaucratic ambiguities, this research illuminates how systemic inefficiencies and competing legal frameworks perpetuate double registration. It directly addresses a gap in existing literature, which has inadequately explored the interplay between individual agencies, organizational practices (e.g., conflicting mandates of local and national agencies), and institutional legacies in shaping identity harmonization. This contribution enriches academic debates on citizenship, marginalization, and state systems in contexts where the line between citizens and refugees is blurred due to cross-border ties and protracted displacement.

Beyond academia, the findings offer actionable insights for policymakers. For instance, the study's identification of procedural gaps could inform streamlined registration protocols, inter-agency collaboration, or community-led verification mechanisms tailored to border regions. Such reforms would mitigate risks of exclusion from social services, legal disputes, or statelessness among the Somali community. By centering their lived experiences, the study advocates for policies that balance security concerns with humanitarian imperatives, fostering trust in governance.

Ultimately, this research transcends Garissa County, serving as a model for addressing dual registration in other marginalized communities facing similar hybrid identity landscapes, such as Turkana and border communities. Its recommendations aim to advance equitable access to rights, reduce administrative fragmentation, and strengthen social cohesion in Kenya's borderlands, aligning with national goals of inclusive development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on reducing inequalities (SDG 10) and promoting peaceful societies (SDG 16).



CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter provides a comprehensive review of the related empirical literature pertinent to the topic under investigation. The literature review will be structured around key areas aligned with the study's objectives, including the factors contributing to the double registration of nationals in Africa, the consequences of double registration among Kenyan Somalis in Garissa County, and the effectiveness of current registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somalis and refugees in Garissa County. Furthermore, this chapter will incorporate a theoretical framework that underpins the study, presenting and discussing relevant theories that guide the research. In addition, a conceptual framework will be developed to illustrate and explain the relationships between the independent, dependent, and intervening variables under examination.

Synthesizing insights from previous research, this chapter aims to provide a scholarly foundation for understanding the dynamics of double registration within the context of Garissa County. The review will critically analyze the existing body of knowledge, highlighting gaps, trends, and key findings from prior studies, thereby situating this research within the broader academic discourse. This rigorous approach will ensure that the study is well-grounded in relevant empirical evidence and theoretical perspectives.

2.2 Empirical literature

The empirical literature review presented here is pivotal in establishing the foundation of this study by addressing the research objectives and uncovering the gaps that necessitate further investigation. In addition to offering a systematic analysis of previous studies, this section seeks

to critically assess the existing knowledge and how this research advances our understanding of double registration in Garissa County. Linking the literature to the specific objectives of the study, it serves to demonstrate how previous work informs this research and where gaps exist that this study aims to fill.

The first objective of this study is to investigate the factors contributing to the double registration of nationals in Africa, with a particular focus on Garissa County. In addressing this, the review draws upon scholarly work by Gervais (2018), Adjami (2016), and Hovil (2018), which highlight how historical legacies, political manipulation, and socioeconomic marginalisation have played crucial roles in creating registration complications in several countries. In particular, Adjami's research on Côte d'Ivoire and Hovil's findings on Uganda illustrate how colonial-era policies and weak data management systems have exacerbated identification challenges, leading to double registration. This research builds on these findings by exploring similar factors in the context of Garissa County, focusing on the unique challenges faced by Kenyan Somalis due to their geographical proximity to refugee camps and the legacy of cross-border movement. This study, however, extends the analysis by incorporating the effects of local political dynamics, cultural practices, and socioeconomic inequalities that may have been underexplored in previous studies, providing a more comprehensive understanding of the root causes of double registration in this region.

The second objective is to examine the consequences of double registration for Kenyan Somali individuals in Garissa County. The literature highlights several detrimental effects of double registration, including social isolation, restricted access to services, and economic marginalisation. Nyamwasa (2022) and the Kenya Human Rights Commission (2018) emphasize how double

registration limits access to identification documents, employment opportunities, and freedom of movement. Similarly, Hassan (2023) points out the social stigma and discrimination faced by double-registered individuals, which deepens their exclusion from mainstream society. While these studies provide valuable insights, this research takes a more focused approach by examining the specific socioeconomic, political, and legal consequences faced by Kenyan Somalis in Garissa County. By engaging with local perspectives and case studies, this study adds nuance to existing research and offers a deeper exploration of how double registration perpetuates poverty, restricts political participation, and undermines trust in government institutions among affected individuals. This research fills an important gap by focusing on the lived experiences of Kenyan Somalis in a specific context, rather than providing a more general overview of double registration issues.

The third objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of existing registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees. While previous studies, such as those by Weitzberg (2019) and Osman & Hampson (2017), have critiqued the inefficiencies and inconsistencies in registration systems, this study delves deeper into the practical challenges faced by both government institutions and individuals. The literature points out that, despite the implementation of biometric technologies, outdated data-sharing mechanisms between the UNHCR and Kenya's national registration databases persist. Crisp (2018) argues that the lack of harmonisation between refugee and national databases results in overlapping records and double registration. However, these studies often focus on broader bureaucratic inefficiencies without considering local-level dynamics. This research will address this gap by investigating how these systemic failures manifest in Garissa County and affect Kenyan Somali nationals in their daily lives. Additionally, the study will explore the potential for technological advancements and policy

reforms to enhance the accuracy and reliability of registration systems in this specific context, moving beyond the theoretical critiques offered by existing literature.

In conclusion, this literature review not only provides a description of the factors contributing to double registration, its consequences, and the effectiveness of registration systems but also presents the researcher's critical perspective on how these issues have been addressed in previous studies. This study differs from others by focusing specifically on Garissa County and offering a detailed examination of local dynamics, thereby addressing the gaps in existing research. By linking the literature review to the study's objectives, it becomes clear how this research contributes to a deeper understanding of double registration challenges, and the findings will provide actionable insights for policymakers and practitioners working to improve identity management systems. This section, therefore, serves not only as a review of previous work but as a foundation for the research to follow, providing the necessary context and rationale for the study's focus on Kenyan Somali individuals in Garissa County.

2.2.1 Factors contributing to the double registration of Nationals

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), double registration occurs when an individual is registered as a refugee in two different countries or under two different authorities (UNHCR, 2019). This phenomenon arises from several circumstances, such as when refugees flee to another country and are registered again or when refugees are registered both with the UNHCR and as citizens of another country. These cases are aligned with the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol, which establish legal frameworks for the protection of refugees (UNHCR, 2023). However, the overlapping registrations create a legal gray area, as outlined in Article 35 of the 1951 Refugee Convention, which calls for cooperation between the UNHCR and contracting states to facilitate the exercise of its functions (Weis, 2017). This

collaboration, while well-intentioned, exposes vulnerable populations to the risk of double registration, raising questions about the effectiveness of information-sharing mechanisms between the UNHCR and host states.

Global recognition of the issue has prompted efforts to address double registration. In 2016, the UN General Assembly adopted the Global Compact on Refugees, which included recommendations aimed at preventing and mitigating double registration (UN, 2018). These include fostering stronger cooperation between states and stakeholders, leveraging technological advancements such as biometric data and electronic registration systems, and providing support to states in developing more effective registration processes (UN, 2018). While these initiatives represent a positive step forward, their implementation has been uneven across different regions and contexts.

Modood (2005) introduces the concept of harmonizing identities, which relates to reconciling the cultural and social differences between refugees and host societies. This process is crucial in mitigating the legal and social complications that arise from double registration. However, despite these efforts, the issue persists globally. For example, a report by the European Stability Initiative (2019) highlights how the Syrian refugee crisis led to cases of double registration in Germany due to a lack of coordination between neighboring countries. Similarly, the UK's hostile environment policies have inadvertently affected asylum seekers with complex claims, contributing to instances of double registration (Rogers, 2020).

In Mexico, double registration is a unique challenge due to dual citizenship laws. Approximately 4.5% of Mexico's population holds dual nationality, with many individuals being registered both as Mexican citizens and as U.S. citizens through birthright citizenship (INM, 2022). This dual

status presents challenges in obtaining official documentation and navigating legal frameworks in both countries.

Regionally, double registration has been observed in countries such as Uganda, Côte d'Ivoire, and Nigeria, where historical, political, and socioeconomic factors contribute to identity confusion and registration challenges. In Côte d'Ivoire, for example, the influx of refugees from Liberia due to political instability resulted in double registrations, particularly among children (Adepoju, 2014). Gervais (2018) points out that a lack of coordination between agencies during the civil wars led to widespread double registration among refugees returning to the country, with approximately 20% being registered in multiple databases. This was exacerbated by limited resources for verification and inefficient data management systems.

Sturm (2023) highlights how the issue of double registration is rooted in historical and political factors, creating fragmented identities for many individuals. Adjami (2016) provides a detailed analysis of Côte d'Ivoire's colonial legacy, linking the issue of statelessness to the imposition of arbitrary citizenship criteria during the colonial era. She argues that these legal ambiguities, coupled with discriminatory nationality laws, have perpetuated double registration and identity confusion, particularly among individuals of mixed ethnicity.

In Uganda, Hovil (2018) points to weaknesses in the data management systems that lead to duplicated registrations. The flaws in record-keeping, lack of coordination between registration entities, and inadequate verification processes result in errors that expose vulnerable populations to legal limbo. The Refugee Law Project (2019) further highlights how economic hardship drives individuals to engage in fraudulent registration practices, often with the complicity of officials.

Bergh (2019) examines the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), where administrative errors, displacement, and intentional manipulation contribute to double registration. The displacement of people due to conflict has led to delays in deregistration, leaving many individuals in a legal limbo. Kambale (2020) notes that despite the introduction of biometric technology, outdated and insecure data management systems have perpetuated these challenges.

Korir (2019) explored the prevalence of double registration among the Luo community in Kenya, linking the issue to historical factors, political manipulation, and socioeconomic marginalization. In Garissa County, the integration of the UNHCR database with Kenya's national register has contributed to double registration, particularly among individuals who registered as refugees during the drought of 1991 (Haki na Sheria, 2021). Many of these individuals renounced their refugee status but remained trapped in the system due to a lack of deregistration mechanisms.

While the existing literature provides valuable insights into the factors contributing to double registration, there is a notable gap in understanding how these issues play out in specific regional contexts, such as Garissa County. Most studies focus on the macro-level drivers of double registration, such as historical legacies and systemic flaws, without providing a detailed analysis of the lived experiences of those affected by double registration in specific regions. This study seeks to address this gap by focusing on the unique challenges faced by Kenyan Somalis in Garissa County, who are disproportionately affected by double registration due to their proximity to refugee camps and the complex political dynamics in the region.

Moreover, while technological solutions such as biometric registration systems have been proposed, the literature does not sufficiently explore how these systems are implemented in regions with limited resources and weak institutional frameworks. This study will critically evaluate the

effectiveness of these systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees, with a focus on local-level dynamics that have been underexplored in previous research.

Providing a detailed examination of these regional factors, this study aims to contribute to the broader literature on double registration by offering new insights into the specific challenges faced by marginalized populations in Garissa County. This research will ultimately provide actionable recommendations for policymakers and practitioners working to improve identity management systems and prevent double registration in similar contexts.

2.1.2 The consequences of double registration of Kenyan Somali in Garissa County

Nyamwasa (2022) argued that the inability to obtain a Kenyan national identity card, a critical requirement for accessing various services and opportunities, further complicates the challenges faced by individuals affected by double registration. He observed that without a valid ID card, individuals are unable to engage in basic societal functions such as traveling, opening bank accounts, or subscribing to communication services. A report by Haki na Sheria Initiative (HSI, 2021) further supported this, revealing that the integration of the UNHCR database with the Kenyan government's register of persons had resulted in identifying individuals who were inadvertently double registered due to fingerprint and identity mismatches. This situation highlights significant barriers to accessing vital services for these individuals.

A study by the Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC) (2018) illuminated the adverse effects of double registration on employment, with those affected more likely to face discrimination in the workplace. The research surveyed over 1,000 employees in Garissa County, uncovered that double-registered individuals often encounter limited employment opportunities, exclusion from promotions, or unjust terminations. The study posited that this stems from employer perceptions linking double registration with fraudulent activity. These individuals are stereotyped as more

likely to engage in deceptive behavior, reinforcing stigmatization and perpetuating economic marginalization within affected communities.

The inability to freely exercise one's right to movement, enshrined under Article 39 of the Constitution of Kenya (2010), serves as another critical challenge for double-registered individuals. While the Constitution guarantees the right to travel and reside in any part of the country (KLR, 2011), this freedom remains elusive for those burdened by double registration. Individuals often face difficulty obtaining critical travel documents, such as national IDs and passports, due to complications surrounding their identity status. Without these documents, mobility within and outside the country is severely restricted (HSI, 2021).

Additionally, the right to education, which is a basic constitutional right for every Kenyan, becomes a significant hurdle for individuals impacted by double registration. Khurshid (2018) highlighted the difficulties faced by children from nomadic and pastoralist communities, who often find themselves registered in multiple systems. He emphasized that without proper birth certificates or identity documents, children are frequently denied access to schools or experience delays in the enrollment process. This was corroborated by a report from Haki na Sheria (2021), which linked restricted movement to diminished educational opportunities, citing cases where students were unable to travel to school due to their inability to verify their identity.

Ndung'u (2016) examined the broader impact of double registration on education in Garissa County, finding that students, particularly refugees, face additional challenges such as absenteeism, lower engagement, and travel complications. These hurdles exacerbate the already difficult educational conditions in the county, leading to reduced academic performance and opportunities for these children. The double registration status compounds the refugee students'

struggles as they must navigate complex administrative procedures and manage their uncertain status.

Hassan (2023) explored the social repercussions of double registration, noting that individuals with this status face significant social exclusion and stigmatization. He argued that such individuals are often perceived as disloyal or untrustworthy, leading to further marginalization and the erosion of their social support networks. The stigmatization results in a decline in their sense of belonging, reinforcing social isolation and exacerbating psychological stress.

Further compounding the issue of social exclusion, the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR, 2007) reported that individuals affected by double registration are systematically disenfranchised from participating in the electoral process. Denied access to voter registration, civic education, and the ability to exercise their right to vote, these individuals are effectively excluded from political participation. The KNCHR report documented cases where double-registered individuals faced intimidation and threats of violence, particularly during election periods, as political actors and community members sought to prevent their participation. This systemic exclusion not only strips affected individuals of their constitutional rights but also deepens their sense of marginalization and civic alienation.

In summary, the pervasive consequences of double registration among Kenyan Somali in Garissa County reveal a multifaceted challenge affecting access to legal identity, basic services, employment, education, and political participation. This phenomenon entrenches both social and economic exclusion, while existing studies have predominantly focused on the descriptive impacts. This research will therefore delve deeper into the socio-legal mechanisms contributing to these challenges and explore the policy and institutional gaps that perpetuate the disenfranchisement of

this vulnerable population, differentiating itself by investigating how these consequences can be mitigated through policy reform and administrative efficiency.

2.1.3 The effectiveness of existing registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali and refugees in Garissa County

Weitzberg (2019) critically examined the intersection of identities and the challenges surrounding the acquisition of official documentation, particularly in the context of Garissa County. Her work underscores the systemic weaknesses within bureaucratic systems, perpetuated by corruption and fraud, and highlights the shortcomings of biometric technologies in addressing these issues. Weitzberg argues that the insistence on registering individuals based on their birthplace, a legacy of colonial indirect rule, has deepened the exclusion of certain groups, including the Somali population in Garissa County. This historical backdrop reveals the ongoing challenges in reconciling citizenship and belonging for these communities, resulting in statelessness for many.

Osman and Hampson (2017) highlighted the vulnerabilities of the UNHCR refugee database, specifically its reliance on self-attestation for identity verification. They argued that this system is susceptible to manipulation, as individuals may provide false information to gain refugee status and access benefits. The authors emphasized that this lack of stringent verification has resulted in cases where legitimate Kenyan citizens are mistakenly registered as refugees. This raises concerns about the criteria for issuing refugee documentation, particularly in a context where many refugees live outside formal camps, making complicated efforts to monitor and manage registration.

Crisp (2018) identified the lack of harmonization between the UNHCR refugee database and Kenya's National Registration System (NRS) as a key contributor to double registration. He suggested that inconsistencies in data collection methods and verification standards between the

two systems have led to discrepancies, particularly when refugees voluntarily leave camps but remain listed as registered refugees. The failure to effectively deregister individuals from the UNHCR system has perpetuated double registration issues, undermining the accuracy and reliability of the data.

Muhozi (2018) further explored the phenomenon of unregistered refugees who, despite living in Garissa County, have avoided formal registration with refugee agencies. These individuals, often residing in remote and inaccessible areas, pose a challenge to both the government and humanitarian organizations. Muhozi argued that the limited presence of UNHCR in these regions, due to logistical and security concerns, has enabled individuals to informally register as Kenyan citizens, exacerbating the verification gaps between government and UNHCR systems.

In assessing the NRS, Osman and Hampson (2017) highlighted the introduction of biometric identification measures, such as iris scans, as an attempt to improve accuracy and verification. However, they noted that the inconsistent implementation of these measures has limited their effectiveness, allowing individuals to obtain multiple NRS IDs. The lack of data-sharing mechanisms between the NRS and the UNHCR database has further compounded this issue, resulting in a disconnect that has hindered efforts to address double registration comprehensively. Moreover, Osman (2017) and Crisp (2018) emphasized the importance of raising awareness among both refugees and nationals about the legal implications of double registration. They argued that a lack of understanding of these consequences has contributed to the persistence of the issue, particularly among individuals who registered as refugees during the 1991 drought in Garissa County. This lack of awareness has perpetuated a cycle of double registration that remains a significant challenge for the affected populations.

2.2 Theoretical framework

This study adapts constructivism theory, a widely recognized international relations theory that emerged in the late 20th century, providing a valuable lens for understanding how norms, identities, and social interactions shape global political behavior. The theory moves beyond traditional materialist views such as realism and liberalism, which focus on state interests and power, by emphasizing the importance of socially constructed ideas and identities in shaping state behavior.

Wendt's Contributions: Wendt (1992) posited that the structure of the international system is not only determined by material factors but also by social relationships and shared ideas. In his seminal article, *"Anarchy is What States Make of It,"* Wendt challenged the traditional concept of anarchy, arguing that state behavior is influenced by the identities and norms they construct through interactions with others. In the context of refugee registration and the identification of stateless individuals, this theory is relevant as the process of defining citizenship, human rights, and refugee status is not purely driven by material interests but by shared understandings, legal norms, and institutional practices.

Social Construction of Human Rights and Refugee Status: Onuf (1989) argued that human rights, including refugee rights, are not pre-existing entities but are constructed through ongoing international interactions, negotiations, and advocacy efforts. The evolving definitions of who constitutes a refugee and the rights they are granted are shaped by both local and global power dynamics. In the case of Garissa County, the contested identities of Somali refugees and Kenyan citizens highlight the constructed nature of citizenship, where both governmental policies and UNHCR protocols play a role in shaping the criteria for recognition and protection.

Power Dynamics and Norm Diffusion: Wendt (1992) also emphasizes that power plays a crucial role in shaping norms and identities. Dominant states and international organizations, such as the UNHCR, often exert influence over how refugee rights are defined and implemented. In Garissa County, the collaboration between the Kenyan government and international organizations illustrates how power dynamics influence refugee registration, verification, and deregistration processes. By constructing and enforcing identification norms, these actors determine who is recognized as a legitimate refugee or citizen, impacting access to rights and services.

Role of International Norms: Nicholas (1989) argued that international norms, which govern expectations about appropriate behavior, influence how states act within the international system. Constructivism highlights how evolving norms, such as those related to refugee identification and human rights, shape the actions of states and other actors. In the case of Garissa County, the evolving norms surrounding refugee identification and double registration have influenced both governmental and civil society responses. For example, organizations like Haki na Sheria advocate for the recognition of refugees' rights, influencing the government to consider reforms in identification and registration systems.

Norm Socialization and Collaboration: Finnemore and Sikkink (1998) developed the concept of norm socialization, which explains how actors learn and internalize new norms through interaction with others. This theory is highly applicable to the study of double registration, as it explains how Kenyan government officials and civil society organizations, such as Haki na Sheria, collaborate to address challenges related to refugee identification and registration. Through ongoing dialogue and cooperation, these actors are socialized into adopting new practices that align with international norms on refugee rights and citizenship.

Application to Double Registration in Garissa County: The constructivist theory is crucial to understanding the complex dynamics of double registration in Garissa County. By focusing on the socially constructed nature of refugee status and citizenship, this theory sheds light on how legal frameworks, institutional practices, and international norms influence the registration process. It also highlights the role of power in determining whose identities are recognized and protected, as well as how local actors, such as Haki na Sheria, contribute to shaping national and international discourse on refugee rights.

In the case of the Kenyan government's collaboration with the UNHCR, constructivism underscores the importance of shared ideas and evolving norms in addressing the double registration challenges. It provides insights into the ways in which socialization and norm diffusion influence state behavior, encouraging reforms that seek to harmonize refugee identification systems and address gaps in verification and deregistration.

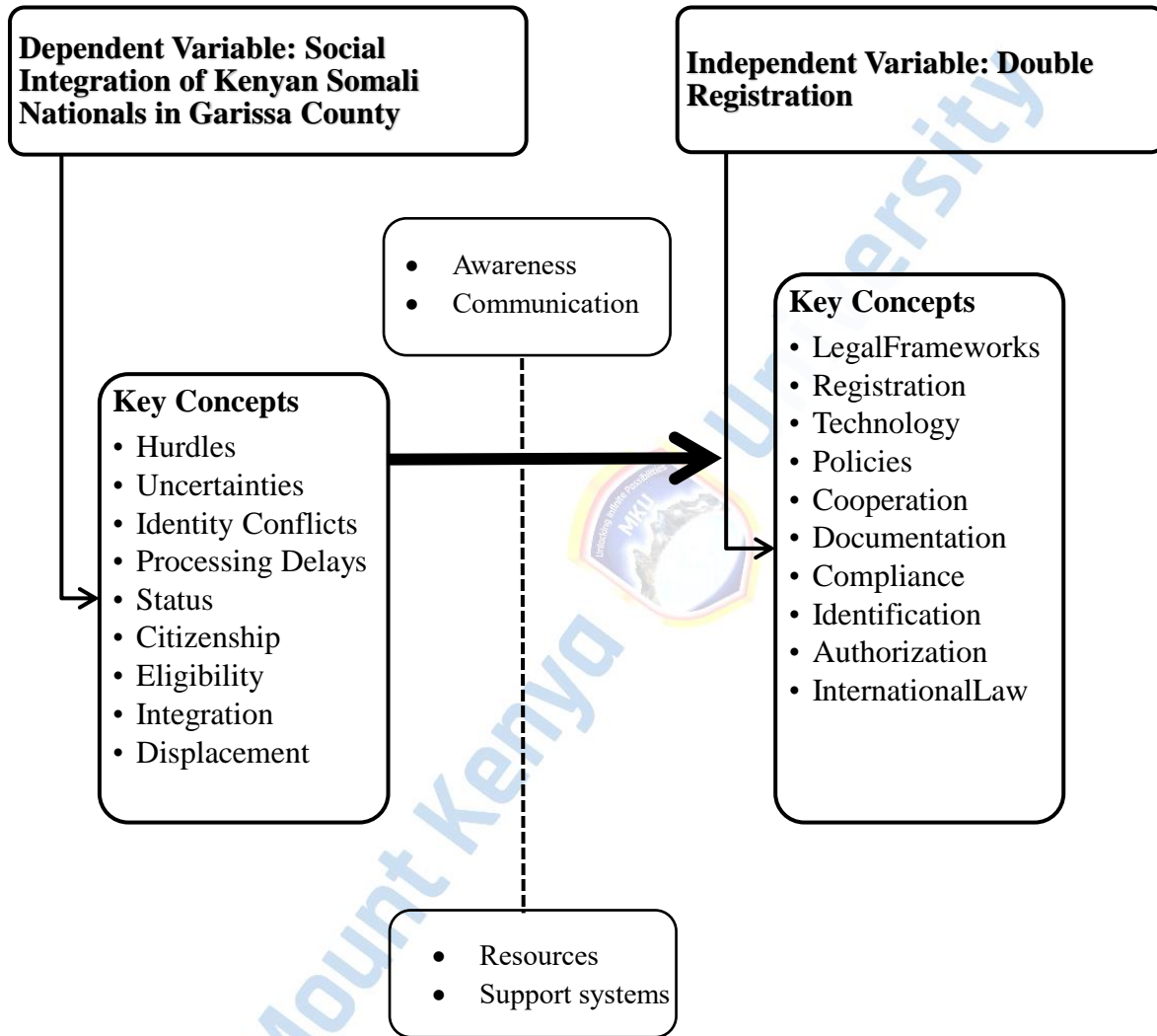
By incorporating the perspectives of constructivist theorists, this study offers a deeper understanding of how international norms shape the interactions between states, international organizations, and civil society in addressing issues of double registration and refugee rights.

2.3 Conceptual framework

Luse et.al (2012) defined conceptual framework as a visual representation of a research plan that outlines the key concepts, variables, and hypothesized relationships that are grounded in the theoretical framework and relevant literature. Similarly, Creswell (2014) posits that a conceptual framework is a visual or written product, one that explains either graphically or in narrative form, the main things to be studied-the key factors, constructs, or variables-and the presumed relationships among them. A systematic yet structural representation of different variables is a

guidance for coherence during the study and an insight into informative decisions in any research process.

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework



Source: Author, 2023

2.4 Research gaps

This study identifies several critical gaps in the current literature regarding the issue of double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. Despite acknowledging the legal ambiguities arising from Article 35 of the 1951 Refugee Convention, the existing literature lacks an in-depth exploration of the specific uncertainties related to double registration. There is a need for a more comprehensive investigation into the legal challenges and their impact on fostering cooperation between the Kenyan government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Such an inquiry could yield valuable insights into the legal complexities surrounding refugee registration and propose solutions that enhance collaboration between state and non-state actors.

Furthermore, while the Global Compact on Refugees provides practical recommendations for addressing refugee-related issues, including the adoption of technological advancements and strengthened intergovernmental cooperation, there remains a critical gap in the literature concerning the practical implementation of these recommendations. The literature has yet to offer a thorough evaluation of the challenges, successes, and barriers faced during the adoption of these strategies, particularly within the Kenyan context. This gap limits our understanding of the efficacy of these global recommendations in resolving the issue of double registration.

Another significant gap identified pertains to the integration of UNHCR's refugee database with the Kenyan government's registration system. While the potential for such integration appears promising, literature lacks a comprehensive assessment of the associated benefits and challenges. It is crucial to critically analyze whether this integration could mitigate the issue of double registration or, conversely, exacerbate it. This gap necessitates further empirical research to

ascertain the long-term implications of data-sharing mechanisms between international organizations and national governments.

Moreover, the existing research fails to address the broader consequences of double registration, particularly its impact on the affected population, who are often innocent victims of systemic issues. Literature tends to focus predominantly on individual actions rather than acknowledging the institutional gaps that contribute to this problem. There is a pressing need to examine the role of the Kenyan government and UNHCR in perpetuating or resolving these challenges. This study seeks to contribute to bridging this gap by employing a mixed-method research approach, thereby offering a holistic understanding of the double registration issue.

Addressing these identified gaps, this research aims to provide a nuanced analysis of the legal, institutional, and technological challenges associated with double registration, offering insights into potential solutions that can be implemented to ensure the effective social integration of Kenyan Somali nationals. The detailed research methodology and its application will be elaborated in the subsequent chapter.

2.5 Recap of literature review

This chapter has provided a comprehensive examination of the existing body of literature on the factors contributing to the double registration of nationals in Africa, the implications of double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County, and the effectiveness of current registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees within the same geographical region. The analysis draws from a variety of empirical studies, reports, and scholarly articles to offer an in-depth exploration of these interconnected issues.

The review of literature addressing the factors contributing to double registration across Africa identifies several key drivers behind this phenomenon. Legal ambiguities, particularly those outlined in the 1951 Refugee Convention, have emerged as a critical factor. These ambiguities have resulted in challenges for cooperation between UNHCR and host states, inadvertently leading to the exposure of vulnerable populations to double registration. Historical legacies, political dynamics, socio-economic inequalities, and systemic weaknesses within registration processes further compound these challenges. As highlighted by scholars such as Sturm, Adjami, and Hovil, the interplay of these factors has created a fragmented identity landscape, rendering it difficult to distinguish between refugees and citizens, especially within marginalized populations.

The review also illuminates the significant consequences of double registration for Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. Reports from organizations such as the Kenya Human Rights Commission and Haki na Sheria reveal the extensive repercussions of double registration, including discrimination in employment, restrictions on freedom of movement, limited access to education, and social exclusion. These consequences underscore the detrimental impact that double registration has on the affected individuals, perpetuating social isolation, economic marginalization, and the denial of basic human rights for vulnerable communities.

The evaluation of the effectiveness of existing registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees in Garissa County highlights the significant challenges these systems face. Scholars such as Weitzberg, Osman, Crisp, and Muhozi identify substantial discrepancies and weaknesses in data management, biometric identification technologies, and the lack of harmonization between the UNHCR database and national government registration systems. These systemic flaws contribute to the persistence of double registration and obstruct efforts to achieve accurate identification, thereby exacerbating the problem.

The theoretical framework underpinning this study, grounded in Constructivism Theory, offers a valuable perspective for understanding the social, normative, and institutional dynamics influencing state behavior in addressing double registration challenges. The theory highlights the role of evolving norms, ideas, and identities in shaping international relations and institutional reforms. It provides a lens through which to analyze the importance of normative shifts related to refugee identification and the role of collaboration between state and non-state actors in addressing the challenges posed by double registration.

In conclusion, the literature review has presented a multifaceted understanding of the complexities surrounding double registration. The review underscores the interconnected nature of legal, historical, socio-economic, and political factors driving double registration, as well as the profound consequences for affected individuals. Furthermore, it highlights the inadequacies of existing registration frameworks and emphasizes the need for comprehensive and coordinated approaches to address the persistent issue of double registration in Africa, with a particular focus on Garissa County. This study will build on these insights to contribute to the broader discourse on refugee registration and social integration.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter outlines the research methodology, which refers to the systematic approach used to investigate the phenomenon of double registration. It details the specific procedures and techniques the researcher employed to forecast, describe, and analyze the challenges faced by Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. The chapter is structured to cover several key areas: research methodology, research design, location of the study, target population, sampling procedures and techniques, sample population, construction of research instruments, testing for validity and reliability/trustworthiness, data collection methods and procedures, proposed data analysis techniques and procedures, and ethical considerations.

3.2 Research methodology

Creswell (2014) describes research methodology as a dynamic and adaptable framework that allows researchers to tailor their approach based on the research questions and the context of the study. It is not a rigid set of rules but rather a strategic plan that helps to guide researchers toward achieving specific research objectives.

This study adopts a **mixed-methods approach**, integrating both qualitative and quantitative research methods. The choice of this methodology is based on the need to capture the complexity of the double registration phenomenon, which requires both numerical data to measure the extent of the issue and in-depth qualitative insights to understand the lived experiences of affected individuals. Creswell (2014) emphasizes that mixed-methods research provides a more comprehensive view by addressing the limitations of both qualitative and quantitative methods when used individually.

Quantitative methods will be used to collect numerical data on the prevalence and patterns of double registration through surveys and analysis of existing records. This approach will allow the researcher to quantify the scope of the issue and identify statistical trends within the target population. On the other hand, qualitative methods such as interviews and focus groups will be employed to gather detailed personal accounts from those affected by double registration. This will provide rich, contextual data that highlights the social, legal, and personal challenges associated with the issue. By combining these methods, the study aims to generate both statistically significant findings and deep, nuanced insights into the phenomenon.

The mixed-methods approach is particularly relevant for this study because of its flexibility and ability to explore the issue from multiple perspectives. Double registration involves both systemic failures that can be quantified and personal experiences that require qualitative exploration. Therefore, this methodology is well-suited to produce a holistic understanding of the issue and contribute to more informed policy recommendations.

3.3 Research design

According to Creswell (2014), research design refers to the structured plan that organizes the various phases of a research study, from data collection to analysis and interpretation. A **descriptive research design** has been chosen for this study to accurately depict the patterns and characteristics of double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. Descriptive research is effective for understanding phenomena without manipulating variables and is particularly useful in capturing the existing situation in a specific context.

This study's descriptive design, combined with a mixed-methods approach, enhances its ability to provide a comprehensive analysis of double registration. The **quantitative component** will involve statistical analysis of numerical data collected through surveys and official records,

allowing the researcher to identify patterns and correlations related to double registration. The **qualitative component** will include in-depth interviews with key stakeholders and individuals affected by double registration, providing a deeper understanding of their experiences and the systemic factors contributing to this issue. This integration of both methods enables a more robust analysis, as it allows the study to capture both the scope of the problem and the nuanced experiences of those affected.

The descriptive design is also appropriate because the study focuses on the unique socio-political context of Garissa County, where the overlap between refugee and citizen populations poses specific challenges for identity registration. This design ensures that the research findings are directly relevant to the local context and contribute to a better understanding of the complex factors driving double registration in the region.

3.4 Location of the study

The research was conducted in Garissa County, located in North-Eastern Kenya. Garissa borders Somalia to the east and is home to a significant population of Somali ethnic origin, making it a focal point for understanding the phenomenon of double registration. According to the 2019 census, Garissa County had a population of 841,353, with a population density of 19 people per square kilometer (KNBS, 2022). The study focused specifically on Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties, where the majority of the population is of Somali ethnic origin. These areas were selected because they are representative of the larger issue of double registration due to the historical and ongoing presence of refugee populations. This location allows for a detailed investigation into the interplay between citizenship and refugee status within the context of Garissa County.

3.5 Target population

Trochim (2008) defines the target population as the group of individuals or entities that the researcher intends to study or make conclusions about. In this study, the target population includes Kenyan Somali nationals residing in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties in Garissa County. These individuals are most likely to be affected by double registration due to their proximity to refugee populations and the historical overlap between citizen and refugee identities in the region.

The study also includes key informants, such as local government officials (Governor, Senator, Members of Parliament, and Members of County Assembly), chiefs, local administrators, and directors of human rights organizations. These stakeholders provide essential insights into the legal, social, and administrative challenges associated with double registration. Their perspectives will complement the data gathered from affected individuals, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of the issue at both the individual and institutional levels.

Table 3.1: Target population

Sub-Counties	Respondents	Size
Dadaab	Kenyan Somali	180
Fafi	Kenyan Somali	180
		360
	Key Informants	
	Governor	1
	Senator	1
	Member of Parliament	2
	Member of County Assembly	10
	Women Representative	1
	Chief	5
	Local Administrators	5
	Heads of Human and Civil Rights Organization	5
	TOTAL	390

Source: Author, 2023.

3.6 Sampling procedures and techniques

Harley (2022) describes sampling procedures and techniques as systematic strategies employed to select a subset of the target population for study. These techniques are crucial in ensuring that the selected sample is representative of the larger population, thereby minimizing bias and enhancing the reliability and validity of the findings. The primary goal of sampling is to draw accurate inferences about the entire population based on the characteristics of the sample.

In this study, **purposive sampling** was employed to select respondents from the Kenyan Somali population in Garissa County. This non-probability sampling technique was chosen because it allows for the intentional selection of participants who are most relevant to the research problem—in this case, individuals who have experienced challenges related to double registration. According to Creswell (2014), purposive sampling is particularly effective when researchers seek to gain in-depth insights from participants with specific characteristics or experiences relevant to the study's objectives. Given the complex and sensitive nature of the double registration phenomenon, purposive sampling ensures that the study focuses on those directly affected by or knowledgeable about this issue.

The purposive sampling approach also facilitates the inclusion of key informants, such as local administrators and civil society leaders, whose expertise and insights are essential for a comprehensive understanding of the structural factors contributing to double registration in the region. This technique was deemed appropriate for this study because it targets individuals and groups most likely to provide rich, relevant data, ensuring that the findings are both accurate and meaningful in the context of Garissa County.

3.7 Sample population

A sample population refers to a selected segment of a larger population that serves as a representative group for the purpose of the study (Creswell, 2014). The sample is chosen based on specific criteria to ensure that it reflects the characteristics and demographics of the larger population. In this study, the target population consists of assisted population of (15,000) Kenyan Somali nationals residing in Garissa County who may have been impacted by double registration. The sample population is derived using **Slovin's Formula**, which provides a method for determining the appropriate sample size based on the total population and the desired margin of error.

Slovin's Formula is expressed as follows:

$$n = N / (1 + N * e^2)$$

Where:

Entire population = **40,000**

n is the sample size/ population

N is the population size = **15,000** (Assisted population)

e is the margin of error = **± 5%**

$$n = 15,000 / (1 + 15,000 * 0.05^2)$$

$$n = 390$$

Using this formula, the researcher determined that a sample size of approximately 390 respondents would be necessary to obtain statistically reliable results. This sample size ensures sufficient

level of precision in the study's findings while maintaining feasibility in terms of data collection.

A response rate of at least 60% is expected for this study, aligning with Fincham's (2008) recommendation that researchers aim for a response rate of 60% to ensure the validity of their findings. A response rate at this level will provide a sufficient number of data points to analyze trends, make inferences, and draw conclusions about the population's experience with double registration in Garissa County.

Employing purposive sampling and ensuring an adequate sample size, this study is well-positioned to achieve its research objectives and provide valuable insights into the challenges faced by the Kenyan Somali population in relation to double registration.

3.8 Construction of research instruments

According to Trochim (2006), research instruments are tools designed to systematically gather data from the identified sample of a population. These instruments include survey questionnaires, structured interview guides, observational checklists, document reviews, or databases, depending on the research objectives (Creswell, 2014). These instruments facilitate the collection of both quantitative and qualitative data, enabling the researcher to capture a comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon under investigation. The study employed the following instruments for data collection:

3.8.1 Interview guide

An interview guide is a qualitative research instrument used to facilitate in-depth exploration of the research topic through open-ended questions, which allow for flexibility in responses (Merriam, 2009). In this study, interview guides were developed to elicit rich, detailed information from key informants, including political leaders, administrative officials, religious leaders, and

senior officials from humanitarian organizations and civil society groups based in Garissa County. These informants were purposefully selected based on their relevance to the issue of double registration. Invitations were sent through their aides, and the interview guide ensured that the responses obtained were insightful and relevant to the study objectives. Additionally, this instrument provided the opportunity to clarify sensitive aspects of the double registration issue as they arose during the interviews.

3.8.2 Focus group discussion

A focus group discussion (FGD) is a data collection technique where a small group of individuals discuss specific topics guided by a moderator (Krueger, 2009). In this study, FGDs were conducted with groups of 8 to 14 participants, who were purposively selected with the assistance of local administrators. These sessions focused on the challenges of double registration and provided insights from individuals with varying perspectives. The discussions were organized to maximize participation and gather diverse opinions on the phenomenon, allowing the researcher to capture a broad range of experiences and opinions. FGDs were designed to align with the study's specific objectives and were moderated to ensure the collection of relevant and comprehensive data.

3.8.3 Questionnaires

A questionnaire is a research tool composed of standardized or flexible questions designed to collect information from respondents in written or oral form (Creswell, 2014). In this study, a structured questionnaire was developed with both closed-ended and open-ended questions. The closed-ended questions aimed to gather specific, quantifiable data, while the open-ended questions allowed respondents to provide detailed insights into the issues under investigation. The questionnaire also included Likert scale questions to measure attitudes and perceptions related to

double registration. The development of the questionnaire was guided by the study's objectives to ensure relevance and alignment with the research questions.

3.9 Testing for validity and reliability/ trustworthiness

Trochim (2006) defines validity as the degree to which a research instrument measures what it is intended to measure, emphasizing the importance of accuracy, consistency, and relevance in producing meaningful results. This study used both **face validity** and **content validity** to assess the appropriateness of the research instruments. Face validity ensured that the instruments were clear, comprehensible, and visually appealing, while content validity ensured that the questions were aligned with the research objectives. To validate the research instruments, consultations were held with the research supervisor, who reviewed the content of the questionnaires and interview schedules and provided feedback for improvement. These consultations enhanced the instruments by ensuring they accurately captured the necessary information for the study.

Reliability refers to the consistency of a research instrument in producing stable and consistent results over repeated tests (Trochim, 2006). To ensure reliability, the study conducted a **pilot study**, where the instruments were administered to a small group similar to the main sample population. The pilot study allowed the researcher to identify any potential issues with the instruments, such as ambiguous questions or technical difficulties. Based on the results of the pilot study, the instruments were revised to ensure clarity and consistency. The pilot test also provided an opportunity to assess whether the instruments would yield reliable data when used in the final study. Testing both the validity and reliability of the research instruments, this study ensured that the findings were credible, dependable, and trustworthy. This process strengthened the overall quality of the research and increased confidence in the study's conclusions.

3.10 Data collection methods and procedures

The choice of data collection methods in this study was informed by the research objectives, the nature of the data required, and the characteristics of the target population. Both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods were employed to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon under investigation (Creswell, 2014). **Qualitative Data Collection:** Secondary data were collected from various sources, including books, journal articles, government reports, and official documents. These sources provided a wealth of information that was used to inform the qualitative aspects of the study. Qualitative data were also gathered through interviews and focus group discussions, allowing the researcher to explore the experiences and perspectives of the participants in-depth. **Quantitative Data Collection:** Quantitative data were collected through structured questionnaires, which were designed to capture specific variables related to double registration. The data were entered into a computer and analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS version 29.0) for descriptive and inferential analysis. This software was chosen for its reliability and capacity to handle large datasets.

The researcher obtained all necessary permissions and clearances from the relevant institutions and organizations prior to the commencement of data collection. This included obtaining an introductory letter from the academic institution and securing permits from local authorities and organizations involved in the study.

3.11 Data analysis techniques and procedures

The study employed both qualitative and quantitative data analysis techniques to ensure comprehensive results. **Quantitative Data Analysis:** The quantitative data collected from the questionnaires were entered into SPSS (version 29.0) for analysis. Descriptive statistics such as frequencies, percentages, and means were calculated to summarize the data. These results were

presented in tables, allowing for a clear and systematic interpretation of the data in relation to the study variables. **Qualitative Data Analysis:** The qualitative data collected through open-ended questions, interviews, and focus group discussions were transcribed and analyzed thematically. This involved identifying key themes and patterns in the responses that related to the study's objectives. The qualitative data provided context and supported the quantitative findings, offering a more nuanced understanding of the double registration phenomenon (Creswell, 2014).

Through the combined use of qualitative and quantitative analysis, the study was able to triangulate the findings and draw robust conclusions about the experiences of the Kenyan Somali population in Garissa County.

3.12 Ethical considerations

Ethical considerations, as defined by Creswell (2014), are essential principles that guide researchers in conducting their studies with integrity. In this study, ethical considerations were strictly adhered to throughout the research process. The first step involved informing participants that the research was for academic purposes only, ensuring transparency and building trust. The voluntary nature of participation was emphasized, with respondents given the freedom to withdraw at any stage of the research without consequence. This empowered participants and minimized any pressure to remain involved if they felt uncomfortable.

Confidentiality was a key priority, and measures were taken to ensure the anonymity of respondents. Questionnaires were designed to exclude any personal identifiers such as names, identification numbers, email addresses, or phone numbers. This approach was aimed at protecting participants' privacy and preventing the risk of data misuse. In addition, informed consent was obtained from key informants by sending formal letters through their aides, respecting their position and time.

To further foster trust, the researcher adopted a professional and courteous approach during interactions with respondents, particularly in interviews and focus group discussions. The study was introduced with care to ensure participants felt respected and valued. Sensitivity to the participants' concerns and potential discomfort was maintained, and any sensitive issues that arose were addressed with empathy and professionalism.

Following these ethical guidelines, the researcher ensured that the study was conducted in a manner that prioritized the rights, privacy, and dignity of all participants, thus promoting a secure and supportive environment throughout the research period.



Mount Kenya University

CHAPTER FOUR: RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the findings of the study, combining both quantitative and qualitative data to offer a well-rounded analysis. The quantitative data highlights the demographic characteristics of the respondents and provides statistical analysis of the key variables. These findings are presented through various graphical techniques to offer clear visual representation. On the other hand, qualitative data offers rich, in-depth insights based on the perceptions of respondents gathered through interviews and focus group discussions. This qualitative information adds a deeper understanding to the numerical data by contextualizing it within real-life experiences.

The study employed mixed methods of research design, which effectively integrated both qualitative and quantitative approaches. This combination allowed for a more comprehensive understanding of the complex issues being investigated, ensuring that findings were reliable and grounded in diverse perspectives. By using this approach, the researcher was able to generalize the findings while maintaining a nuanced understanding of the specific context.

The findings are organized around the study's key objectives: (1) investigating the factors that contribute to the double registration of nationals in Africa, (2) establishing the consequences of double registration for Kenyan Somalis in Garissa County, and (3) evaluating the effectiveness of current registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somalis and refugees in Garissa County. The chapter is structured into distinct sections, beginning with the response rate and demographic information, followed by a detailed discussion of the results under each specific objective.

4.2 Response rate

The study targeted a sample size of 390 respondents. Out of these, the researcher successfully collected and analyzed 228 complete questionnaires. Additionally, responses from 5 key informants and 21 participants in focus group discussions were incorporated, bringing the total number of respondents to 254. This represents a 65% response rate, which is considered satisfactory as it exceeds the 60% benchmark suggested by Fincham (2008) for drawing reliable conclusions in research studies.

Several factors contributed to the reduced participation. Some respondents were unavailable due to other commitments or forgot the scheduled sessions, while others were reluctant to participate due to concerns about being stigmatized based on their identity. Despite these challenges, the response rate achieved is deemed adequate for the study's analysis and interpretation of findings.

In research, a response rate of at least 60% is recommended to ensure that the sample is representative and that the findings are robust and generalizable (Fincham, 2008). Given that the response rate for this study surpassed the recommended threshold, the researcher was able to confidently proceed with data analysis. The gathered responses provided sufficient data to meet the study's objectives and generate insights into the factors contributing to the double registration of nationals in Africa, as well as the consequences and effectiveness of registration systems in Garissa County.

This section is complemented by tables and figures illustrating the response rate, demographic distribution, and other relevant data, providing a clear visual representation of the findings.

4.3 Factors contributing to the double registration of Nationals

4.3.1 Familiarity with the concept of double registration

The researcher sought to assess respondents' familiarity with the concept of double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. As presented in Table 4.1, all respondents from Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties reported being familiar with the issue. This unanimous awareness indicates that double registration is a pervasive and well-recognized problem within these communities.

One respondent from Fafi Sub- County, during a focus group discussion, elaborated on the issue, stating:

"The case of double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals is not a new thing here in Fafi. Most people are either double registered or have interacted with double-registered individuals. The challenges faced by these individuals became a community issue, and we had to support them regardless of their identity status because they are our own" (F.G.D, 2024).

This testimony aligns with Gervais' (2018) findings, which highlight that double registration is a prevalent issue in societies impacted by civil wars or other crises. According to Gervais, many individuals returning from displacement find themselves registered in multiple databases across various camps. The argument suggests that when groups return to their ancestral lands following natural or man-made calamities, they face the risk of double registration, particularly if they have crossed international borders.

The widespread familiarity with double registration in the study area underscores the severity of the issue. As grievances surrounding identity emerge, affected individuals often seek assistance from societal leaders. This collective awareness and engagement contribute to the community's

overall response to mitigating the challenges associated with double registration. The detailed analysis in Table 4.1 illustrates these findings.

Table 4.1: The respondents’ familiarity with the concept of double registration among Kenyan Somali Nationals

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
Yes	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0
No	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

4.3.2 Agreement on historical and political factors

The study sought to determine whether respondents agreed with the statement that historical and political factors have contributed to the occurrence of double registration among Kenyan Somali

nationals in Garissa County. As shown in Table 4.2, all respondents from both Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties unanimously agreed that these factors play a significant role in the double nationals

One respondent from the Haki na Sheria Documentary on double registration in the Northeastern region highlighted the impact of historical events, stating:

"The drought of the 1990s forced many people from the Northeastern region into refugee camps in Dadaab in search of survival and a better life. Their details were biometrically captured and stored in the UNHCR database" (Sheria, 2022).

From a political perspective, a key informant emphasized the role of government policies, noting:

"Government policies and administrative practices significantly influence the political aspect of this issue. Policies aimed at managing migration, refugee status, and citizenship have often been inconsistent or discriminatory, worsening the problem of double registration" (I.I, 2024).

These responses suggest that the issue of double registration in Garissa County is closely tied to historical events such as drought and political factors, including inconsistent policies. This finding aligns with Adjami's (2016) study, which argued that political maneuvering, coupled with economic instability, led to the enactment of exclusionary nationality policies, contributing to double registration. Korir (2019) similarly explored the issue among the Luo community in Kenya,

where political manipulation, socioeconomic marginalization, and historical factors such as forced assimilation during the colonial era caused identification inconsistencies.

A report by UNHCR (2023) further traced the origins of double registration to the 1991 Somali civil war, when Somali refugees entered Kenya. The Kenyan government, alongside the UNHCR, established refugee camps in Garissa County, including Dadaab, providing essential services. This situation highlighted the role of political factors in exacerbating double registration, as indicated by the data presented in Table 4.2. The graphical analysis accompanying this section visually reinforces the respondents' agreement and emphasizes the significance of these factors in the study's context.

Table 4.2: Respondents' agreement on whether historical and political factors influence the occurrence of double registration in Garissa County

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
Agree	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0
Disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

4.3.3 Extent of socioeconomic disparities contribution

The researcher sought to explore the respondents' views on the extent to which socioeconomic disparities contribute to the prevalence of double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. The data, as presented in Table 4.3, highlights respondents' opinions from both

Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties, showing a strong trend towards a significant majority attributing the issue to socioeconomic factors.

In Fafi, out of 127 respondents, 102 individuals (80.3%) indicated that they believed socioeconomic disparities contributed to the prevalence of double registration to a large extent, while 25 respondents (19.7%) believed the contribution was moderate. None of the respondents reported “no extent” or “do not know” as an answer. A similar pattern was observed in Dadaab, where 107 out of 127 respondents (84.3%) held that socioeconomic disparities influenced double registration to a large extent, and 20 respondents (15.7%) expressed a moderate opinion. Again, no respondents reported “no extent” or “do not know.”

When combining the results from both sub-counties, 82.3% of the total respondents believed that socioeconomic disparities contribute to double registration to a large extent, while 17.7% expressed that it contributes to a moderate extent, with no reports of indifference or uncertainty. This uniformity in responses across both regions indicates a broad consensus on the role of socioeconomic disparities in perpetuating the issue.

These findings align with Korir’s (2019) argument, which highlighted the role of socioeconomic marginalization in the double registration of citizens. The socioeconomic challenges faced by marginalized groups in Garissa County, particularly Kenyan Somali nationals, likely exacerbate their vulnerability to double registration. The researcher, therefore, concluded that socioeconomic disparities significantly contribute to the prevalence of double registration in Garissa County. The

corresponding table and figures further illustrate these trends, reinforcing the importance of addressing these disparities as part of broader efforts to resolve the issue.

Table 4.3: Respondents’ views on the extent to which socioeconomic disparities contribute to the prevalence of double registration among Kenyan Somali Nationals in Garissa County

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
Moderate extent	25	19.7	20	15.7	17.7
Large extent	102	80.3	107	84.3	82.3
No extent	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Do not know	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

4.3.4 Impact of the 1991 drought

The researcher sought to determine whether the 1991 drought in Garissa County led to an increase in vulnerability and subsequent cases of double registration, as many individuals opted for refugee status due to the harsh conditions. All respondents from Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties unanimously confirmed that the 1991 drought significantly contributed to this phenomenon, as represented in Table 4.4. This collective agreement underscores the widespread impact of the

drought on the local population and its role in exacerbating the issue of double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals.

An interviewed individual in the Haki na Sheria documentary echoed this sentiment, stating:

“Watoto wakiona chakula na kukimbia, hata mimi bado kuingia kidole yangu bado kuingiza huko. Ukavu siku hyo. Iko ukavu mingi sana. UN ndo inaleta hapo, kwa mahali sisi tunakaa, wanaleta chakula. Watu wanaingia, hata huwezi itishwa kipande. Wanaandika jina yao, ndo waliingia namna hyo. Kama mimi naweza jua, Watoto yangu wanaweza kufungika hapo, siwezi kubali. Lakini hata Watoto hawajui. Na mimi sijui, niliona chakula, kwa faida ya chakula,” (Sheria, 2022).

The translation of the above sentiments was as follows after a further analysis:

“My children went to the refugee camp because of food rations being given. Personally, my fingerprints are not in the UNHCR database. The drought was intense during that time. The UN brought food to our homes and many people registered, they did not ask for identification, they distributed food, and registered beneficiaries’ names and that is how they became refugees. If I knew my children would be registered as refugees, I would not have allowed it. We did not know, we just needed the food because of hunger,”

This testimony highlights the desperation brought on by the 1991 drought, which forced many to register as refugees without fully understanding the long-term consequences. Hunger, the primary motivator, led to unintentional refugee status registration, especially among minors who lacked knowledge of their actions’ future implications.

These findings align with the report by Haki na Sheria (2021), which noted that the integration of the UNHCR refugee database with Kenya’s national registry, including biometric data, contributed

to double registration cases. The 1991 drought drove individuals to seek refugee status for basic survival, leading to long-term complications in their legal status. Additionally, Ibrahim (2012) highlighted how logistical challenges, including language barriers and infrastructural deficiencies, further complicated the registration process, resulting in inaccuracies and the unintended registration of Kenyan Somali citizens as refugees. This emphasizes the critical role the 1991 drought played in the prevalence of double registration in Garissa County.

The analysis of the table and figures in this section reflects the extent of the drought’s impact, with respondents unanimously acknowledging its role in fueling this widespread issue.

Table 4.4: Respondents’ views on whether the 1991 drought in Garissa County led to increased vulnerability and subsequent cases of double registration among Kenyan Somali National

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
Yes	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0
No	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

4.3.5 Effects of double registration on individuals

In response to an open-ended question, the researcher gathered insights on how double registration affected Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County, particularly within Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties. Thematic analysis of respondents’ answers revealed recurring themes such as denial of opportunities, restricted access to education, employment, and services, identity dilemmas, and

legal complications. These issues were consistent across the two sub-counties, signaling the pervasive impact of double registration on individuals' socio-economic well-being.

One key informant elaborated on the profound legal and social challenges faced by individuals registered as both citizens and refugees, stating:

"The majority of people who are double registered face numerous problems. From legal challenges to barriers in accessing employment and basic services, the Kenyan system is highly formalized. Access to services requires critical documentation, including birth certificates and identification cards, which many double-registered individuals lack." (I.I, 2024)

This assertion is corroborated by an empirical study conducted by Nyamwasa (2022), which emphasized the inability of double registrants to obtain national identity cards, a key requirement for accessing essential services in Kenya. Nyamwasa highlighted that without an ID card, individuals are barred from traveling, opening bank accounts, and subscribing to communication service providers, which exacerbates their marginalization within society.

The analysis of the table and figures in this section underscores the direct link between double registration and the denial of fundamental rights and services. Respondents from both sub-counties consistently reported similar experiences, emphasizing that the issue of double registration perpetuates socioeconomic and legal exclusion significantly affecting the quality of life for those involved. The findings highlight the urgent need for legal reforms and interventions to address the systemic barriers faced by double-registered individuals.

4.4 Consequences of double registration of Kenyan Somali in Garissa County

4.4.1 Personal or known experience with double registration issues

The study aimed to assess participants' awareness of the issues surrounding double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County, particularly in Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties. As shown in **Table 4.5**, the majority of respondents across both sub-counties reported personal or second-hand experience with double registration issues.

In Fafi, out of 127 respondents, 117 individuals (92.1%) indicated they had either experienced or were aware of someone experiencing double registration issues, while 10 respondents (7.9%) reported having no such experience. Similarly, in Dadaab, 123 respondents (96.9%) affirmed awareness of such issues, while only 4 respondents (3.1%) had no personal or known experience.

When the data is combined, a total of 94.5% of respondents across both locations reported having direct or indirect exposure to double registration issues, with only 5.5% indicating no awareness.

This overwhelming majority suggests that double registration is a well-recognized issue within these communities. The consistent responses from both sub-counties, as represented in **Table 4.5**, further underscore the ubiquity of this problem, reflecting its widespread impact and highlighting the need for targeted interventions to address the root causes and consequences of double registration. The near-unanimous response in both sub-counties indicate a significant public awareness of the issue, which may reflect the personal, social, and legal challenges faced by individuals affected by double registration in these regions.

Table 4.5: Respondents’ views on whether they have personally experienced or know someone who has experienced issues related to double registration

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
Yes	117	92.1	123	96.9	94.5
No	10	7.9	4	3.1	5.5
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

4.4.2 Challenges in employment due to double registration

To assess the extent to which double registration has impacted employment opportunities for Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County, the researcher asked respondents about their personal experiences or those of individuals they knew. The findings, as presented in **Table 4.6**, reveal a significant association between double registration and employment challenges.

In Fafi, 122 out of 127 respondents (96.1%) reported that double registration had impacted employment to a large extent, while 5 respondents (3.9%) indicated that it affected them to a moderate extent. Notably, there were no reports of respondents indicating “no extent” or “do not know.” Similarly, in Dadaab, 125 respondents (98.4%) cited a large extent of impact on employment, with 2 respondents (1.6%) reporting a moderate extent, and again, no respondents expressed uncertainty or indifference regarding the issue.

When combining the data from both locations, 97.3% of the respondents indicated that double registration affected employment opportunities to a large extent, and 2.7% to a moderate extent, demonstrating a clear pattern of employment discrimination tied to this issue.

The high percentage of respondents acknowledging the impact of double registration on employment is consistent with the insights gathered during focus group discussions and other qualitative responses. One respondent shared frustration over being unable to obtain a Teachers Service Commission (TSC) number due to his ongoing listing in the UNHCR database as a refugee. This status prevented him from obtaining the necessary documentation to pursue his career fully. Similarly, an interview in a documentary by Haki na Sheria revealed the frustrations of individuals who were teachers but were unable to gain employment because they were double registered (Sheria, 2022).

“I am a teacher, but I cannot be employed by the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) because I am double registered (Sheria, 2022).”

Furthermore, a report by the Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC) (2018) corroborates these findings, highlighting that double registration has led to workplace discrimination. The study, involving over a thousand employees in Garissa County, revealed that individuals with double registration were more likely to face barriers to employment, exclusion from promotions, and even job termination. Employers often perceived double registrants as potential fraudsters, contributing to discriminatory practices in hiring. Moreover, the study pointed out that individuals from nomadic communities, who were frequently affected by double registration, were often stigmatized as outsiders, further compounding their exclusion from employment opportunities.

These findings, coupled with the data in **Table 4.6**, underscore the pervasive and detrimental impact of double registration on employment prospects for Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. The responses clearly indicate that this issue affects not only individual livelihoods but also contributes to broader patterns of social and economic marginalization.

Table 4.6: Respondents’ views on the extent to which double registration affects employment opportunities

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
Moderate extent	5	3.9	2	1.6	2.7
Large extent	122	96.1	125	98.4	97.3
No extent	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Do not know	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

4.4.3 Experience of discrimination or prejudice

The researcher sought to understand the extent of discrimination or prejudice faced by Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County due to their status as double registrants. This was explored through an open-ended question, and the responses revealed a significant prevalence of discrimination, particularly in accessing government services, education, and employment.

The findings, supported by **Table 4.7**, highlighted that many respondents faced challenges in obtaining essential documents such as national identity cards (IDs) and birth certificates, which are crucial for accessing services. For example, one respondent shared:

"Yes, for me, I can't even get a temporary job due to lack of ID and birth certificate. My children can't be admitted in school without parental ID or parental birth certificate," (Q.R, 2024).

The challenges highlighted in this testimony align with Khurshid's (2018) argument, which suggests that the nomadic lifestyle in Garissa County often results in multiple registrations for pastoralist communities, making it difficult to obtain the necessary documentation for school

enrollment. Khurshid emphasized that the absence of these key documents leads to exclusion from educational opportunities, a theme also identified in the current study.

The researcher contends that despite education being a basic right for every Kenyan citizen, it remains an elusive goal for individuals affected by double registration, especially in the Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties. This notion is further supported by a report from **Haki na Sheria (2021)**, which indicated that the lack of freedom of movement—stemming from the inability to acquire travel documents—also impedes access to education. A respondent reflected on their personal experience during a focus group discussion, stating:

"I started my classes in 2015 at Mount Kenya University. From 2015 to 2017, there was a problem with the travel documents because of lack of ID. Every now and then, the police had to hold me for almost four, three, six, or even two hours. After that struggle, I decided to stop the classes because I cannot continue without an original ID. All my colleagues have completed the class, and now they are doing their internship," (F.G.D, 2024).

This respondent's experience mirrors Ndung'u's (2016) study, which highlighted the negative impact of double registration on students, including increased absenteeism, lower attendance rates, and reduced academic engagement. The challenges for refugee students, in particular, were exacerbated by the need to attend multiple schools, navigate complex administrative processes, and manage the added stress of their uncertain identity status.

While the Constitution of Kenya (2010) guarantees the right to freedom of movement under **Article 39**, which states that "Every person has the right to freedom of movement, including the right to reside in any part of Kenya, and to travel within Kenya," individuals with double registration often find this right unfulfilled. The difficulties they face in obtaining travel

documents, such as national identity cards or passports, prevent them from enjoying the same freedoms as other Kenyan citizens (HSI, 2021). A respondent noted:

"Yes, my people were subjected to do not vote, not to move, or seek medical services beyond remote villages as other Kenyans do," (Q.R, 2024).

Hassan (2023) further argued that double registration has led to social exclusion and stigmatization, particularly within Somali communities in Garissa County. This stigmatization portrays double registrants as untrustworthy or disloyal, contributing to their marginalization. Hassan's argument is echoed in the current study, where respondents described a sense of isolation, lack of belonging, and a diminished sense of social support due to their double registration status. The discrimination faced by double registrants extends beyond employment and education. According to **Haki na Sheria (2021)**, individuals with disabilities are particularly stigmatized, limiting their opportunities to participate fully in the community. A respondent in a documentary by Haki na Sheria (2022) shared:

"I feel bad that both of my parents have an ID card, birth certificate, and passport, and I, who was born in Kenya, have none. I am discriminated against because of double registration."

In conclusion, the responses analyzed from **Table 4.7** and the qualitative accounts provided suggest that double registration in Garissa County has led to widespread discrimination. These individuals are systematically excluded from opportunities in education, employment, and basic services due to the bureaucratic challenges surrounding their status. Despite constitutional guarantees, their inability to access identification documents and enjoy freedom of movement highlights the significant barriers they face in their daily lives.

4.4.4 Impact on access to government services

The researcher aimed to investigate whether double registration affected the ability of individuals to access government services or participate in community activities. The responses were overwhelmingly consistent across both Fafi and Dadaab, as all participants (100%) confirmed that double registration significantly impacted their ability to access government services, as reflected in **Table 4.7**.

A participant during a focus group discussion shared their personal experience, stating:

"It is true, personally, I can't access government services in Kenya. I can't get a National Identity Card or, anyhow, I can't travel within the country," (F.G.D, 2024).

This account aligns with the findings presented in the **Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR, 2007)** report, which highlighted the disenfranchisement faced by individuals affected by double registration. The report emphasized that these individuals were systematically excluded from essential services, including participation in electoral processes. Despite voting being a constitutional right, those with double registration were denied access to education programs, candidate forums, and voting. Moreover, the report revealed that these individuals often faced intimidation, violent threats, and social ostracism when attempting to engage in any electoral process, a finding corroborated by the current study's findings.

The data from **Table 4.7** thus underpins the broader social and political implications of double registration in Garissa County. The inability to access basic services such as the national identity card and the right to travel freely severely limits individuals' participation in both public and private spheres, thereby exacerbating their marginalization.

In conclusion, the unanimous responses from participants in both sub-counties underscore the gravity of the issue, confirming that double registration significantly impedes access to critical government services, and further perpetuates exclusion from key community activities and electoral participation. This analysis also highlights the intersectionality of legal, social, and political barriers faced by individuals with double registration in Garissa County.

Table 4.7: Respondents’ opinion on the impact on access to government services

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
True	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0
False	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

4.4.5 Effect on political participation and electoral processes

The researcher sought to determine whether double registration impacted political participation and the ability to engage in electoral processes. The findings, as summarized in **Table 4.8**, reveal that a majority of respondents believed that double registration negatively influenced political participation and access to electoral processes.

In Fafi, out of 127 respondents, 50 individuals (39.4%) strongly agreed, 52 individuals (40.9%) agreed, and 25 individuals (19.7%) remained neutral. No respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed. Similarly, in Dadaab, 58 individuals (45.7%) strongly agreed, 52 individuals (40.9%) agreed, 16 individuals (12.6%) were neutral, and only 1 respondent (0.8%) disagreed, with no respondents strongly disagreeing. When combining the data from both locations, **42.6%** of

respondents strongly agreed, **40.9%** agreed, **16.1%** were neutral, and **0.4%** disagreed, with no strong disagreement.

This analysis clearly indicates that the majority of respondents across both sub-counties (Fafi and Dadaab) believe that double registration undermines political participation and restricts access to electoral processes. These results suggest a significant perception of disenfranchisement among the individuals affected by double registration. The near consensus from respondents indicates that double registration contributes to the erosion of democratic principles, creating a barrier to the fundamental right to vote and participate in political activities.

Furthermore, the near absence of disagreement underscores the strength of the consensus on the negative impact of double registration on political access. It highlights the importance of addressing this issue, as it not only affects individual rights but also perpetuates feelings of marginalization and disempowerment among affected communities.

In conclusion, the findings presented in **Table 4.8** emphasize the extent to which double registration undermines the political and electoral engagement of Kenyan Somali Nationals in Garissa County, thus exacerbating their social exclusion and increasing their sense of disenfranchisement. The data calls attention to the critical need for reforms in registration processes to ensure fair and accurate representation in political systems.

Table 4.8: Respondent’s opinion on whether double registration measures affect victims’ political participation and access to electoral processes

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
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Strongly agree	50	39.4	58	45.7	42.6
Agree	52	40.9	52	40.9	40.9
Neutral	25	19.7	16	12.6	16.1
Disagree	0	0.0	1	0.8	0.4
Strongly disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

The findings regarding the effect of double registration on political participation were further corroborated by a key informant, who emphasized the implications of double registration on voting rights. The informant stated:

“The effect of double registration extends to voting, where these individuals are conditionally exempted from voting as they lack identification cards, and they are not registered as voters in the existing system. You will notice that this weakens democracy by excluding a segment of the population from participating in crucial civic duties, thus undermining the legitimacy of electoral outcomes and governance,” (I.I, 2024).

4.5 The effectiveness of existing registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali and refugees in Garissa County

4.5.1 Impact of biometric identification systems

The researcher sought to assess whether respondents in Fafi and Dadaab Sub-counties agreed or disagreed with the statement that the current registration systems effectively distinguish between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees in Garissa County. The findings, as illustrated in **Table 4.9**,

show that all respondents in both sub-counties unanimously agreed that double registration significantly impacts access to government services, with **100%** of participants highlighting this issue.

A key informant commented on the role of biometric identification systems in mitigating issues related to double registration:

"With the technological advancements, the current refugee biometric identification systems, by nature, are designed to improve accuracy and reduce instances of fraudulent or duplicate registration as in the cases of double registration in Northeastern Kenya. However, these systems are not without challenges as the humans running them sometimes misuse them, and their unethical conduct is what contributes to the persistence of double registration" (I.I, 2024).

The sentiment expressed by the informant aligns with findings in Weitzberg's (2019) work, which explored the relationship between identity, citizenship, and the difficulties individuals face in obtaining official documentation. Weitzberg's study highlighted the vulnerabilities of bureaucratic systems, especially when corruption and fraud persist, affecting the integrity of biometric technology implementation.

From the analysis of **Table 4.9**, the researcher argued that while biometric systems are effective in distinguishing individuals through unique identifiers like fingerprints, the overall success of these systems is contingent upon the integrity of the individuals operating them. As the key informant pointed out, unethical practices by system administrators may undermine the intended effectiveness of these systems, enabling the persistence of double registration. This underscores the need for continuous monitoring and accountability in the operation of biometric systems to ensure they fulfill their intended purpose of reducing fraudulent registrations.

In conclusion, the findings from both **Table 4.9** and the key informant highlight the importance of not only advancing technology but also ensuring that the human element involved in the registration process is ethical and trustworthy. The researcher contended that, despite the technological advancements, the efficiency of the biometric systems in addressing double registration ultimately depends on the integrity of the personnel running them, as their actions can significantly influence the accuracy of the results.

Table 4.9: Respondents’ views on the impact of biometric identification systems

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
Agree	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0
Disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

4.5.2 Issues with differentiating citizenship and refugee status due to the registration systems

The researcher aimed to determine whether participants, or individuals they knew, encountered problems distinguishing between citizenship and refugee status due to the registration systems. The findings, as shown in **Table 4.10**, revealed notable discrepancies between respondents in Fafi and Dadaab. In Fafi, 98 out of 127 respondents (**77.2%**) indicated that they had faced such challenges, while 29 respondents (**22.8%**) reported that they had not. Similarly, in Dadaab, 112 out of 127 respondents (**88.2%**) affirmed experiencing difficulties, and 15 respondents (**11.8%**) did not. When considering both locations combined, **82.7%** of respondents reported encountering problems differentiating citizenship and refugee status, while **17.3%** did not.

One respondent emphasized the impact of inconsistent data on identity verification:

"Inconsistent data makes verifying an individual's identity problematic, leading to cases where people may be wrongly categorized as refugees or citizens. This misclassification complicates their legal status as citizens and access to rights" (Q.R, 2024).

The issue of inconsistent data was echoed by Osman and Hampson (2017), who noted that the reliance on self-attestation in the UNHCR refugee database often leads to inaccuracies in identifying individuals' true status. They argued that this system is vulnerable to abuse, as individuals may provide false information to gain refugee status and access related benefits. Specifically, they pointed out that the UNHCR database sometimes grants refugee status to individuals who do not meet the necessary criteria, as the system lacks robust documentation to verify claims. This is particularly problematic for Kenyan citizens who, due to fraudulent entries, might be categorized as refugees, complicating their access to rights and services.

The analysis of **Table 4.10** further supports the assertion that the misclassification of individuals' legal status is a widespread issue in both Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties. The high percentage of respondents who reported experiencing such challenges indicates that the registration systems in place are insufficient for accurately distinguishing between citizens and refugees. The inconsistent data and reliance on self-attestation contribute significantly to this misidentification, with profound implications for individuals' legal rights and access to essential services.

In conclusion, the data in **Table 4.10** suggests that the existing registration systems exacerbate the difficulties in accurately differentiating between citizenship and refugee status, leading to significant legal and social challenges for affected individuals. These findings are consistent with the broader literature on the limitations of self-attestation systems in refugee registration (Osman & Hampson, 2017). Thus, the researcher contends that improving the accuracy and integrity of the

data captured in these systems is crucial for ensuring that individuals' legal statuses are correctly recognized and that they can access their rights without hindrance.

Table 4.10: Respondents' views on whether they or knew someone who had encountered issues with differentiating between citizenship and refugee status due to the registration systems

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
Yes	98	77.2	112	88.2	82.7
No	29	22.8	15	11.8	17.3
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

4.5.3 Perception of UNHCR database impact on local population's identification

The researcher sought to explore respondents' perceptions regarding the impact of the UNHCR database on the local population's identification, as shown in **Table 4.11**. Respondents were provided with multiple-choice options to capture a range of views on the issue.

In **Fafi**, 52 respondents (**40.9%**) believed that the challenges associated with the database could make it more difficult for refugees to obtain official documentation. A further 32 respondents (**25.2%**) indicated that the database could lead to the profiling of refugees, while 16 respondents (**12.6%**) thought that it might hinder refugees' integration into their host communities. Additionally, 27 respondents (**21.3%**) selected "all of the above," reflecting the cumulative impact of these challenges.

In **Dadaab**, the responses showed a similar trend. Fifty-eight respondents (**45.7%**) highlighted the difficulty in obtaining official documentation as a significant issue. Twenty-five respondents

(19.7%) pointed to the risk of profiling, 12 respondents (9.4%) identified difficulties related to integration, and 32 respondents (25.2%) selected “all of the above.”

When analyzing the total data from both locations, 43.2% of respondents emphasized the difficulty refugees face in obtaining official documentation, while 22.5% identified profiling as a key concern. 11.0% mentioned challenges related to integration, and 23.3% of respondents believed that these issues collectively impact refugees.

The analysis of **Table 4.11** reveals that the predominant concern among respondents across both Fafi and Dadaab is the difficulty refugees face in obtaining official documentation, with 43.2% of participants citing this as a significant issue. This aligns with the perception that the current registration systems, which may not effectively distinguish between refugees and citizens, hinder refugees’ ability to access essential services and legal recognition. The second most common concern, reported by 22.5% of respondents, is the potential for profiling, which could lead to social exclusion and discrimination.

Moreover, 11.0% of respondents noted the difficulties refugees encounter in integrating into host communities, pointing to broader social and cultural barriers that extend beyond mere legal identification. The 23.3% who selected "all of the above" suggest that many respondents view these issues as interconnected and collectively problematic for refugees.

In conclusion, the data presented in **Table 4.11** indicates that respondents are highly aware of the negative implications of the UNHCR database on the local population’s identification, with particular emphasis on the barriers to obtaining official documentation. These findings reflect broader concerns in the literature about the challenges faced by refugees in navigating bureaucratic systems, particularly when these systems fail to effectively address their unique status (Osman & Hampson, 2017). Thus, improving the accuracy and effectiveness of the database, and addressing

the issues related to profiling and integration, is crucial for ensuring that refugees are not further marginalized or excluded from essential services.

Table 4.11: Perception of UNHCR database impact on local population’s identification

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
It can make it more difficult for refugees to obtain official documentation	52	40.9	58	45.7	43.2
It can lead to the profiling of refugees	32	25.2	25	19.7	22.5
It can make it difficult for refugees to integrate into their host communities.	16	12.6	12	9.4	11.0
	27	21.3	32	25.2	23.3
All the above	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0
Total					

Source, Author, 2024

4.5.4 Challenges from discrepancies between UNHCR database and Kenya national registration systems

The researcher sought to identify the challenges arising from discrepancies between the UNHCR database and Kenya’s national registration systems. To achieve this, respondents were asked an open-ended question regarding their experiences with these discrepancies. The majority of respondents highlighted the differences between the two systems, especially in terms of the requirements for registration. A respondent shared:

“People’s information may not match in the different databases, making it hard to verify their identity. The difference in both systems opens a chance for exploitation, corruption, denial of rights, and thus lack of services,” (Q.R, 2024).

These concerns were echoed by the key informant, who offered a contrasting perspective:

“The only difference between the two systems are the features in the software used, but the purpose is the same. You will notice that once you are registered with UNHCR, you can be detected in the Kenya national registration database due to biometrics, so you cannot obtain national identification. Even though integrating the two systems was initially an issue, it was resolved. The biggest challenge comes with the deregistration process from the UNHCR database, which takes time before one is officially deregistered as a refugee. With this in place, the issue of double registration affects minors the most,” (I.I, 2024).

While the key informant emphasized the resolution of integration issues between the two systems, the research findings reveal ongoing concerns with the deregistration process. According to **Crisp (2018)**, the lack of harmonization between the UNHCR and national registration systems has led to instances of double registration. He argued that the discrepancies in data collection methods, record-keeping practices, and verification standards between the two entities contribute to the duplication of records. Additionally, delayed deregistration of refugees who voluntarily leave refugee camps exacerbates the problem of double registration, particularly for those transitioning out of the refugee system.

From the analysis, the researcher contended that the integration of the two systems has indeed undergone significant changes over the years, attempting to address the existing gaps. However, the key challenge remains the time-consuming and often inefficient process of deregistration from the UNHCR database. These delays, compounded by inconsistencies in data verification and record-keeping, leave individuals vulnerable to issues such as double registration, which further hinders their access to essential services and rights.

In conclusion, the research highlights that while technological advancements and integration efforts have improved the efficiency of both systems, challenges stemming from the deregistration process, particularly with regard to refugees who voluntarily leave the camps, persist. These challenges continue to impact the accurate identification and registration of individuals, contributing to the broader issue of double registration in Garissa County.

4.5.5 Impact of biometric identification measures

The researcher sought to examine whether the implementation of biometric identification measures affected registration accuracy and the potential for double registration among Kenyans, as indicated in Table 4.12. The findings from the data analysis show a significant consensus on the positive impact of biometric identification on registration accuracy. In Fafi, 120 out of 127 respondents (94.5%) affirmed that biometric identification measures improved registration accuracy and reduced the likelihood of double registration, while 7 respondents (5.5%) disagreed. Similarly, in Dadaab, 125 out of 127 respondents (98.4%) agreed with the statement, while only 2 respondents (1.6%) disagreed.

When the data from both locations are combined, the overwhelming majority of respondents—96.5%—believed that biometric identification measures enhanced registration accuracy and reduced the potential for double registration. Only 3.5% of respondents disagreed with this assertion.

This result suggests a strong perception among the respondents that biometric identification technologies contribute positively to the accuracy of the registration process and help mitigate instances of double registration. The overwhelming agreement across both Fafi and Dadaab implies that the biometric systems are viewed as a significant step toward improving the integrity of the registration process. However, the small percentage of respondents who disagreed—

particularly those in Fafi—suggests that there may be concerns regarding the implementation or operational challenges of the biometric system.

Overall, the researcher contends that while biometric identification measures have made a substantial contribution to improving the accuracy of registrants’ data, there remains a minority that questions their effectiveness, potentially due to issues related to system malfunctions, human error, or misuse of the technology. Further examination into the operational challenges and user experiences with these systems could provide insights into the remaining gaps in the biometric identification process.

Table 4.12: Respondents’ views on the impact of biometric identification measures

Opinion	Fafi	(%)	Dadaab	(%)	Total Percent
True	120	94.5	125	98.4	96.5
False	7	5.5	2	1.6	3.5
Total	127	100.0	127	100.0	100.0

Source, Author, 2024

Osman and Hampson (2017) argued that while the introduction of biometric identification measures, including iris scans, was intended to enhance verification accuracy for second-generation IDs, the implementation faced challenges related to inconsistent standardization. Their study highlighted that the full effect of standardization measures had not been realized, leading to discrepancies in biometric matching. This failure in achieving uniformity across biometric systems has allowed the possibility for individuals to be registered with multiple National Registration System (NRS) IDs.

In light of the analysis presented in Table 4.12, the findings suggest a high level of agreement among respondents in Fafi and Dadaab regarding the effectiveness of biometric identification measures. However, the minor discrepancies noted by 3.5% of respondents could reflect concerns

about the efficacy of the system in addressing biometric inconsistencies. These discrepancies align with Osman and Hampson's observation that incomplete standardization may continue to affect the reliability of biometric data matching.

Thus, while biometric measures like iris scans are perceived as a key advancement in improving the registration process, the lack of full standardization may still present challenges in ensuring the uniqueness and accuracy of each individual's identification. This issue could potentially contribute to the persistence of double registration, as individuals may exploit system inconsistencies. Further investigation into the technical aspects of biometric standardization and data integration across different systems could shed light on the factors contributing to these discrepancies.



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CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This section provides a comprehensive summary of the study's findings, focusing on the specific objectives that guided the research. The main objective of this study was to explore the challenges associated with double registration of Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. The specific objectives included investigating the factors contributing to double registration, identifying the consequences of double registration for Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County, and evaluating the effectiveness of existing registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees.

The study revealed several critical insights about the persistence of double registration, its far-reaching consequences, and the limitations of current registration systems. Below, the findings are organized based on the corresponding research objectives.

5.2.1 Factors Contributing to the Double Registration of Nationals

The study delved into the various factors contributing to double registration of Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. One of the most significant findings was the widespread familiarity of respondents from Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties with the issue of double registration. This issue was not only a personal concern for many but also a community-wide challenge, with most respondents either directly experiencing double registration or knowing someone who had. This extensive familiarity highlighted the deep-rooted nature of double registration within these communities and emphasized the need for collective solutions to address the problem.

A critical factor identified in the study was the historical context, particularly the 1991 drought that led many Somali nationals to seek refuge in Dadaab camps. This event played a pivotal role in the mass registration of refugees by the UNHCR. The biometrics of individuals were captured and stored in the UNHCR database, which, when combined with inconsistent government administrative practices, resulted in multiple registrations. The challenge here was that individuals who initially registered as refugees continued to face issues of misclassification as either refugees or citizens, leading to confusion over their legal status and rights. Furthermore, political dynamics and migration policies exacerbated the situation. The study revealed that government policies toward refugees and Kenyan Somali nationals were at times discriminatory, further contributing to the confusion and double registration.

The socioeconomic context was another significant contributor to double registration. Marginalized communities in Garissa County often faced economic hardship and a lack of basic services. Many individuals sought refugee status to gain access to humanitarian aid and services that they could not obtain otherwise. Respondents indicated that the lack of economic opportunities, coupled with a desire for social services, pushed individuals to register as refugees, despite being Kenyan citizens. These socioeconomic disparities were noted as a key driver of the persistence of double registration in the region.

The study also highlighted that the impact of the 1991 drought had lasting effects. While the immediate crisis caused by the drought had been resolved, the aftermath led to long-term issues related to registration. As many individuals fled the drought-stricken areas to seek refuge in camps, their information was captured by UNHCR and added to the refugee database. However, many individuals later found it difficult to reintegrate or transition out of the camps, with their refugee

status being retained despite their return to their communities. The result was an ongoing struggle with misclassification, which compounded the double registration issue.

5.2.2 The Consequences of Double Registration of Kenyan Somali in Garissa County

The study explored the wide-ranging consequences of double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. A recurring theme throughout the responses from Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties was that individual affected by double registration faced significant barriers in various aspects of their lives. Employment was one of the most significant areas affected by double registration. Respondents from both sub-counties emphasized that double registration severely hindered their ability to secure employment due to the lack of necessary documentation, such as a valid Teachers Service Commission (TSC) number. The inability to obtain identification cards and other official documents meant that many individuals were unable to participate in the formal job market, perpetuating a cycle of unemployment and economic instability.

Discrimination and prejudice were other major challenges associated with double registration. Respondents reported experiencing exclusion and bias, particularly when trying to access essential government services. This discrimination extended to educational opportunities, as many individuals were unable to enroll their children in schools due to the lack of proper parental identification. The nomadic lifestyle of the communities in Garissa County further complicated the situation, as individuals frequently moved between locations, leading to multiple registrations. This mobility resulted in difficulties in acquiring official documentation, further exacerbating the challenges faced by individuals in accessing education and other services.

The study also revealed that double registration significantly impeded access to government services. Many respondents reported challenges in obtaining national identity cards, travel documents, and even basic healthcare services. These obstacles highlighted the widespread

exclusion of double-registered individuals from essential services, contributing to their marginalization and disenfranchisement. Reports from the Kenya Human Rights Commission echoed these findings, revealing that double-registered individuals were often excluded from the electoral process and faced social ostracism, further alienating them from society.

The exclusion from political participation and electoral processes was another consequence of double registration. Respondents overwhelmingly agreed that double registration undermined their ability to engage in democratic processes. The lack of identification cards prevented individuals from registering as voters, effectively excluding them from participating in elections. This exclusion not only disenfranchised individuals but also weakened the legitimacy of the electoral process, as a significant portion of the population was unable to exercise their civic rights. This exclusion from political engagement undermined democratic principles and raised concerns about the fairness of the political system.

Overall, the consequences of double registration were profound and wide-reaching. From significant barriers in employment and education to discrimination, exclusion from government services, and disenfranchisement from political participation, double registration perpetuated a cycle of marginalization and inequality for Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County.

5.2.3 The Effectiveness of Existing Registration Systems in Distinguishing Between Kenyan Somali and Refugees in Garissa County

In examining the effectiveness of the existing registration systems, the study focused on the role of biometric identification systems, issues with distinguishing between citizenship and refugee status, and the challenges stemming from discrepancies between the UNHCR database and Kenya's national registration systems. One of the key findings of the study was that biometric

identification systems were widely regarded as an improvement in reducing double registration. The majority of respondents and key informants affirmed that these systems helped to enhance the accuracy of identity verification and reduce instances of multiple registrations.

However, the study also found that the effectiveness of biometric systems was undermined by several factors. Despite advancements in biometric technology, issues such as human error, misuse, and unethical conduct by system operators continued to pose challenges. System operators sometimes manipulated data or engaged in fraudulent practices, which compromised the accuracy of the registration process. Furthermore, inconsistencies in the application of biometric measures, such as discrepancies in biometric matching, allowed some individuals to register multiple times under different identities. This lack of standardization and uniform application of biometric measures highlighted the limitations of the system in effectively distinguishing between refugees and Kenyan nationals.

The study also explored the issues associated with misclassification of individuals as either refugees or Kenyan citizens. Many respondents reported difficulties in verifying their identity, leading to instances where individuals were wrongly classified as refugees, despite being Kenyan citizens. This misclassification complicated their legal status and access to services, further perpetuating the issue of double registration. The reliance on self-attestation in the UNHCR refugee database was identified as a key vulnerability, as individuals could provide false information to obtain refugee status and associated benefits. This system was prone to abuse, leading to discrepancies in registration data and facilitating the creation of duplicate identities.

Discrepancies between the UNHCR database and Kenya's national registration systems were identified as another major challenge. Respondents noted that mismatched information between the two systems complicated the process of identity verification, opening opportunities for

exploitation and fraud. A key informant emphasized that while efforts had been made to integrate the two systems, the process of deregistering individuals from the UNHCR database remained a significant issue. Delays in deregistration contributed to the continued existence of double registration cases, as individuals who had left refugee camps were not promptly removed from the system. This delay in deregistration created a backlog of individuals who were still registered as refugees, despite having returned to their communities.

In conclusion, while biometric identification systems had improved the accuracy of registration processes, significant challenges remained in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees. Issues such as misclassification, discrepancies between registration databases, and human error continued to undermine the effectiveness of the registration systems. Moreover, the lack of harmonization between the UNHCR database and Kenya's national registration systems further exacerbated the issue of double registration, particularly with delays in deregistration.

5.3 Conclusions

This study aimed to explore the challenges associated with the double registration of Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County, focusing on Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties. The research specifically investigated the factors contributing to double registration, the consequences of such registration, and the effectiveness of current registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali nationals and refugees. The mixed-methods research design enabled the collection of both qualitative and quantitative data, involving 254 respondents from the two sub-counties. The gender disparity in participation, with more male respondents, reflects the cultural norms in these regions that influence survey involvement.

The study concluded that double registration is a persistent issue in Garissa County, despite the existence of legal frameworks such as international conventions, regional charters, and national

laws. These legal frameworks are insufficient on their own to effectively resolve the issue due to challenges in coordination, limited resources, and inadequate verification methods. These systemic weaknesses hinder the accurate registration of individuals and contribute to the duplication of records. A significant finding from the study was that geographical proximity to conflict zones, such as Somalia, exacerbates identity registration challenges. The historical context, particularly the 1991 drought and the resulting displacement of many Somali nationals into refugee camps, has had long-lasting effects on the registration processes. Many individuals registered as refugees during this period still face challenges in distinguishing their refugee status from their citizenship, which leads to double registration.

The study also highlighted the role of political dynamics and inconsistent policies regarding migration, citizenship, and refugee status. The discriminatory and sometimes contradictory policies of the Kenyan government towards Somali nationals contribute to the confusion surrounding their registration. These policies, combined with the socioeconomic vulnerabilities faced by many Kenyan Somali nationals, drive individuals to register as refugees to access basic services and humanitarian aid, further complicating the registration process. Economic marginalization and lack of access to essential services lead many to seek refugee status in order to receive aid, further exacerbating the issue of double registration.

Both formal and informal systems were found to contribute to the persistence of double registration. The study revealed that bureaucratic inefficiencies, human error, and misuse of registration systems contribute to the duplication of records. Many respondents reported difficulties in acquiring official documentation, and the discrepancies between the UNHCR database and Kenya's national registration system created confusion and duplication. This issue was further compounded by the nomadic lifestyle of many individuals in Garissa County, which

makes it difficult to establish and maintain consistent records. As a result, many individuals remain stuck in a cycle of double registration, unable to fully assert their citizenship or access the services and rights they are entitled to.

The consequences of double registration are far-reaching. Respondents noted that their employment opportunities were severely limited due to their dual status in the UNHCR database and the national registration system. They also faced discrimination when attempting to access government services, education, and healthcare. Double registration often led to exclusion from the electoral process, disenfranchising individuals and limiting their participation in the political system. This exclusion further perpetuates their social marginalization.

In conclusion, the study achieved its objectives by identifying the underlying causes of double registration, the consequences it has on individuals, and the effectiveness of current registration systems. The research underscores the need for comprehensive reforms to improve the registration process and reduce the occurrence of double registration. These reforms should include better coordination between the UNHCR and national registration systems, improved verification methods, and greater resources allocated to the registration process. Additionally, there is a need for policies that address the integration of refugees and Kenyan Somali nationals, ensuring they can access their rights and contribute to their communities without fear of discrimination or exclusion.

5.4 Recommendations

5.4.1 Policy and Academic recommendations

The findings of this study have illuminated the challenges associated with double registration of Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County, particularly in the Fafi and Dadaab sub-counties. The

consequences of double registration are far-reaching, affecting individuals' ability to access essential services, education, healthcare, and employment. The study also highlighted the inefficiencies within the current registration systems and the socio-political dynamics that contribute to the persistence of this issue. Based on these findings, several policies and academic recommendations have been made to address the root causes of double registration and improve the overall registration process.

5.4.1 Policy Recommendations

1. Establishment of a Reliable Coordination Mechanism

The government should create a reliable coordination mechanism between the UNHCR and Kenya's national registration systems. This mechanism should focus on ensuring seamless data integration, minimizing discrepancies between databases, and preventing duplicate registrations. The creation of a unified, centralized database is vital, as it would allow real-time data sharing and verification across agencies. This would significantly reduce the chances of double registration and ensure that individuals are accurately classified as either refugees or Kenyan nationals. A comprehensive coordination framework will promote effective data management and reduce bureaucratic inefficiencies that currently plague the registration process.

2. Investment in Advanced Biometric Verification Technologies

In order to enhance the accuracy and reliability of registration systems, the government and relevant authorities should invest in advanced biometric verification technologies. These technologies will improve identity matching, reduce the chances of human error, and help identify fraudulent registrations. Regular audits of the registration systems should be conducted to ensure data accuracy and prevent misuse. Additionally, authorities should implement

comprehensive training programs for system operators, focusing on reducing human errors and addressing unethical conduct. A more robust and well-maintained system will contribute to the integrity of the registration process and reduce the challenges of double registration.

3. Targeted Socioeconomic Support Initiatives

Addressing the socioeconomic disparities that contribute to the double registration phenomenon is critical. Local and national governments, in partnership with international organizations, should develop targeted socioeconomic support initiatives aimed at marginalized communities in Garissa County. These programs should focus on providing economic opportunities, education, and healthcare services, which will help reduce the dependency on refugee status to access basic services and humanitarian aid. By improving access to these services, individuals will be less likely to seek double registration, thereby mitigating the root causes of the issue. These initiatives will also contribute to long-term socio-economic development and empowerment in the region.

5.4.2 Academic Recommendations for Future Research

While this study focused on the double registration of Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County, it is crucial to explore whether other refugee groups in Kenya experience similar challenges. Future empirical studies should aim to establish if other refugee groups in different regions of the country encounter the same issues with double registration. Such studies would provide a broader understanding of the registration challenges faced by diverse refugee populations in Kenya. Additionally, these studies could help identify common patterns, as well as region-specific challenges that may require tailored solutions.

Furthermore, comparative studies should be a priority for future research. By analyzing registration systems across various regions, counties, and sub-counties that face similar identity

registration challenges, researchers can evaluate the effectiveness of existing systems. This research should also examine the legal frameworks governing registration, the institutional responses to double registration, and technological solutions that could mitigate these challenges. Through the assessment of successful practices and the identification of common challenges, researchers can propose adaptive strategies tailored to specific contexts. These strategies would help enhance the overall effectiveness of registration systems, reducing the occurrence of double registration in various regions.

Additionally, more in-depth studies into the socio-political factors influencing registration patterns, as well as the impact of historical events, would provide a better understanding of the complex dynamics at play. Understanding the broader social, economic, and political context in which registration takes place will offer important insights for developing more effective and equitable registration systems.

This study has shed light on the complex issue of double registration among Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County. By investigating the factors contributing to double registration, the consequences of this issue, and the effectiveness of existing registration systems, the study has provided valuable insights into the challenges faced by these communities. The policy recommendations outlined above emphasize the need for improved coordination, investment in biometric technology, and targeted socioeconomic initiatives. These measures, along with the suggested academic avenues for future research, will contribute to the development of a more effective and inclusive registration system, reducing the incidence of double registration and enhancing the social and political participation of Kenyan Somali nationals in Garissa County.

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Appendices

Appendix I: General questionnaire

The double registration of Kenyan citizens as refugees in Garissa County has resulted in a complex and multifaceted issue that has broad socio-economic and legal consequences for the affected individuals in the society.

This questionnaire seeks to recognize the challenges that come with the double registration of Kenyan Somali in Garissa County. Kindly complete all applicable sections in the space provided. Some questions have multiple choices, while some have spaces to fill in your responses and all answers are assured with confidentiality and strictly used for academic purposes. All your support in this study is highly appreciated.

Section I: Demographic Information

Please provide the following information about yourself in the space provided (tick or write where appropriate)

Name (Optional) []

Date: [] Nationality: [] County: []

Ethnicity: []

Gender

Male
Female

Age (years)

18-25
26-35
36-50
51-65
Above 65

Marital Status

Married
Widowed
Separated
Divorced
Single
Prefer not to say

Level of Education

University	<input type="checkbox"/>
College	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>
None of the above	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section II: Factors contributing to the double registration of Nationals.

1. Are you familiar with the concept of double registration among Kenyan Somali Nationals?

Yes []

No []

2. Do you agree with the statement that historical and political factors influence the occurrence of double registration in Garissa County?

Agree []

Disagree []

3. To what extent do you believe socioeconomic disparities contribute to the prevalence of double registration?

Moderate extent []

Large extent []

No extent []

Do not know []

4. Is it true or false that the 1991 drought in Garissa County led many individuals to opt for refugee status due to harsh conditions, resulting in vulnerability and subsequent cases of double registration?

True []

False []



5. In your view, how does double registration affect individuals or communities in your region or country?

Section III: The consequences of double registration of Kenyan Somali in Garissa County

1. Have you or someone you know experienced issues related to double registration in Garissa County?

Yes []

No []

2. To what extent have you or individuals you know faced challenges in terms of employment due to double registration?

Moderate extent []

Large extent []

No extent []

Do not know []

3. Have you faced any discrimination or prejudice due to your status as a double registrant? If yes, please expound.

4. Is it true or false that double registration affects registrants accessing government services or participation in the community?

True []

False []

5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that double registration measures affect victims' political participation and access to electoral processes?

Strongly Disagree []

Disagree []

Neutral []

Agree []

Strongly Agree []

Section IV: The effectiveness of existing registration systems in distinguishing between Kenyan Somali and refugees in Garissa County

1. Do you agree or disagree that the current registration systems effectively distinguish between Kenyan Somali and refugees in Garissa County?

Agree []

Disagree []

2. Have you or someone you know encountered issues with differentiating between citizenship and refugee status due to these systems?

Yes []

No []

3. How do you perceive the impact of UNHCR's refugee database on the local population's identification? Mark the appropriate answer.

- It can make it more difficult for refugees to obtain official documentation.
- It can lead to the profiling of refugees.
- It can make it difficult for refugees to integrate into their host communities.
- All of the above.

4. What challenges do you think arise from discrepancies between the UNHCR database and the national registration systems?

5. Is it true or false that the implementation of biometric identification measures affected registration accuracy and potential double registration?

True []

False []

Appendix II: Focus group discussions

The issue of double registration of Kenyan citizens as refugees in Garissa County has surfaced as a critical concern with broad socio-economic and legal implications for the affected individuals and society. Today, we are here to discuss the challenges faced by Kenyan Somali who have been impacted by this phenomenon. Your participation in this focus group is crucial in helping us understand the lived experiences of those affected by double registration. Your insights will provide valuable information to inform academic reviews, and policy decisions and advocate for the rights of double-registered individuals.

Please feel free to share your thoughts and experiences openly and honestly. Your responses will be kept confidential and used solely for academic purposes. We appreciate your willingness to contribute to this important research.

1. How has double registration affected the social, economic, and political aspects of life in Garissa County?

2. What specific challenges have you experienced when attempting to access government services due to double registration?

3. How do societal perceptions contribute to the discrimination or stigma faced by those who are double registered?

4. How can we better support and empower individuals who are double registered?

5. What improvements do you believe could be made to registration systems to enable better distinguishing between citizens and refugees in Garissa County?

Appendix III: Interview guide

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this interview. Your insights are invaluable in helping us understand the complex issue of double registration of Kenyan citizens as refugees in Garissa County.

This interview aims to explore the challenges faced by Kenyan Somali in Garissa County due to double registration. Your responses will be kept confidential and solely used for academic purposes.

Please feel free to elaborate on your experiences and share your perspectives on the following questions:

Demographic Information

Name (Optional) [_____]

Date: [_____] Name of the Organization: [_____]

Position in the Organization: [_____]

1. What factors do you think contribute to the persistence of double registration?

2. How can we address the challenges faced by double registrants in obtaining official documentation?

3. What role can the government and non-governmental organizations play in addressing the issue of double registration?

4. What are your expectations for the future of double registrants in Garissa County?

5. What improvements do you believe could be made to registration systems to better distinguish between citizens and refugees?

Thank you for your participation.

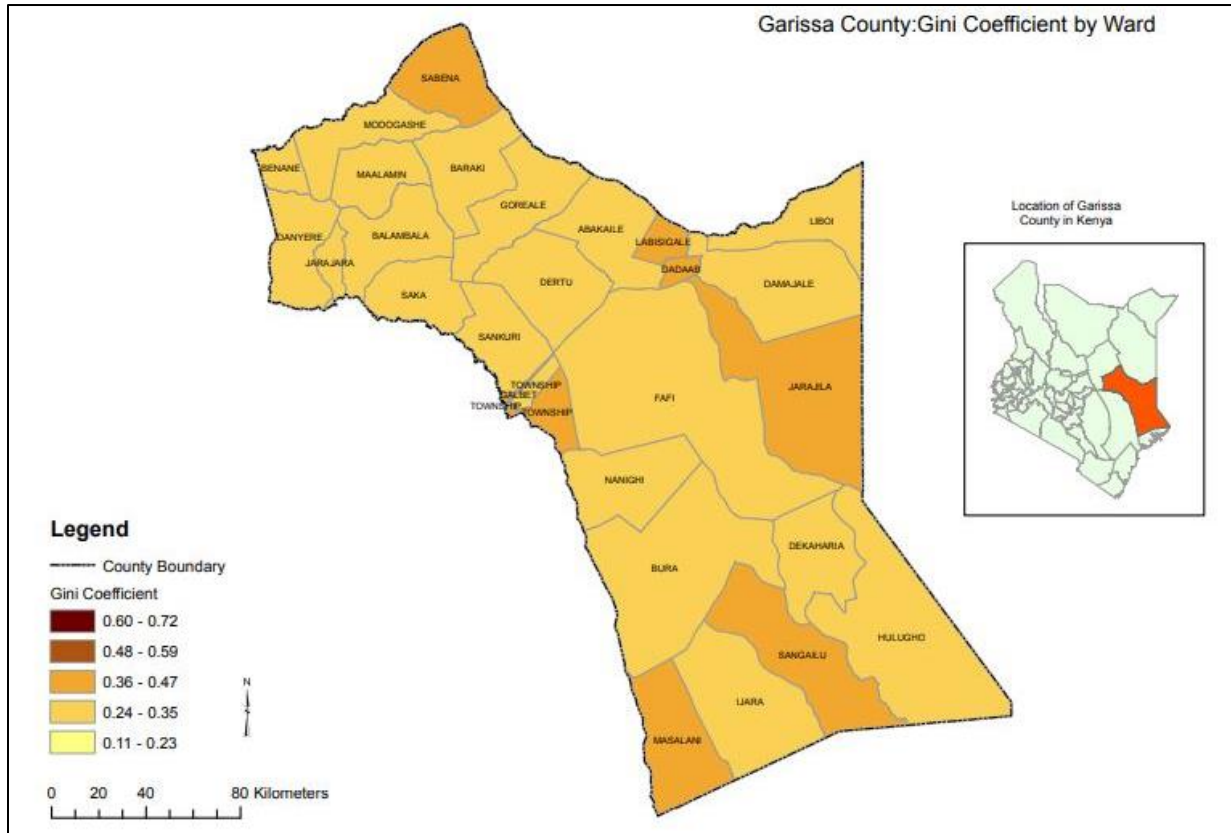


Appendix IV: Research budget

Activity	Research input	Units	Unit cost	Subtotal
Reconnaissance	Daily subsistence and transport around the County	3 days	10,000	30,000
Literature review	Library	Subscription	5,000	5,000
	Purchase of journals	10	1,000	10,000
	Internet bundles	10	1,000	10,000
Training and pre-testing of research tools	Printing of proposal copies 7-pgs	10	1,000	10,000
	Binding of proposal copies	10	100	1,000
	Stationeries			2,500
	Transport cost			15,000
	Printing of questionnaires	30	10	300
	Photocopying questionnaire	60	5	300
	Subsistence allowance-Researcher	4-days	2500	10,000
Data collection	Car hire	10 days	6,000	60,000
	Printing of questionnaires	162	10	1,620
	Photocopying questionnaires	200	5	1,000
	<i>Subsistence allowance</i>			
	Researcher (1)	10 days	2,500	25,000
	Research Assistant (1)	10 days	1,500	15,000
Data analysis	Printing papers	1 ream	800	800
	Data entry and analysis			20,000
Project writing	Printing of final report	10	1,000	10,000
	Binding of report (hand binding)	10	700	7000
	Sub total			234,520
	Contingency (10%)			23,452
	Grand total			257,972

Appendix V: Map of Garissa

Map of Garissa



Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, (2017)

Appendix VI: Consent form for respondents

Dear participants

I, Amin Ismail Salat, am a Master's student in International Relations and Diplomacy at Mount Kenya University. I'm conducting a research project on *"Harmonizing Identities: Mitigating Double Registration Challenges Among Kenyan Somali in Garissa County."* Double registration, where individuals appear in multiple government databases, creates complex problems with social, economic, and legal consequences for those affected. This research aims to understand these challenges and contribute valuable knowledge to both academic studies and policy development.

As a study authorized by Mount Kenya University, you may be invited to complete a questionnaire, participate in an interview, or join a focus group discussion. All information collected will be kept confidential, and your name and other identifying information will not be included in any reports or publications. Interviews and focus group discussions may be audio-recorded with your permission, but recordings will be anonymized and securely stored. You have the right to withdraw from the study at any point without penalty.

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and understood the provided information about this study. You are also indicating your voluntary participation in the research project. A copy of this form will be given to you for your records. Please sign below to indicate your consent to participate. Confidentiality is highly considered; therefore, do not write your contact information on the questionnaire.

In case of complaints, please feel free to contact the Chairperson, **Mount Kenya University, P.O. Box 342-0100, THIKA.**

For the respondent

Signature:

Date:

Appendix VII: Research License from NACOSTI


REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Ref No: **949398**

RESEARCH LICENSE



This is to Certify that Mr.. Amin Ismail Salat of Mount Kenya University, has been licensed to conduct research as per the provision of the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 (Rev.2014) in Garissa on the topic: The Impact of Double Registration on Kenyan Somali Nationals in Garissa County for the period ending ; 15/March/2026.

License No: **NACOSTI/P/25/34604**

949398
Applicant Identification Number


Director General
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Verification QR Code



NOTE: This is a computer generated License, To verify the authenticity of this document, Scan the QR Code using QR scanner application.

See overleaf for conditions

Appendix VIII: Ethics Review Committee from Mount Kenya University

Mount Kenya University



REF: MKU/ISERC/3546
TO: AMIN ISMAIL SALAT

Date: 28 March 2024

REG: MIRD/2021/43019

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: HARMONIZING IDENTITIES: MITIGATING DOUBLE REGISTRATION CHALLENGES AMONG KENYAN SOMALIS IN NORTHERN KENYA

This is to inform you that **Mount Kenya University** has reviewed and approved your above research proposal. Your application approval number is **2590**. The approval period is **28/03/2024 - 27/03/2025**.

This approval is subject to compliance with the following requirements;

- i. Only approved documents including informed consents, study instruments, MTA will be used
- ii. All changes including amendments, deviations and violations are submitted for review and approval by **Mount Kenya University**
- iii. Death and life-threatening problems and serious adverse events or unexpected adverse events whether related or unrelated to the study must be reported to **Mount Kenya University** within 72 hours of notification
- iv. Any changes, anticipated or otherwise that may increase the risks or affect the safety or welfare of study participants and others or affect the integrity of the research must be reported to **Mount Kenya University** within 72 hours
- v. Clearance for export of biological specimens must be obtained from relevant institutions
- vi. Submission of a request for renewal of approval at least 60 days prior to expiry of the approval period. Attach a comprehensive progress report to support the renewal
- vii. Submission of an executive summary report within 90 days upon completion of the study to **Mount Kenya University**

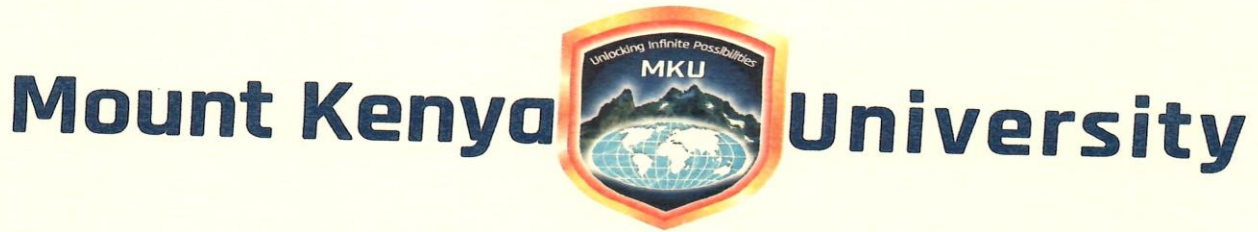
Prior to commencing your study, you will be expected to obtain a research license from National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) <https://research-portal.nacosti.go.ke> and also obtain other clearances needed.

Yours sincerely,

→ The Chairman
Mount Kenya University
Ethics Review Committee
P.O. Box 342-01000, Thika

Dr. Alfred Owino, PhD
Chairman, Mount Kenya University ISERC

Appendix IX: Introduction Letter from Mount Kenya University



DIRECTORATE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

MIRD/2021/43019

4th April, 2024

National Commission for Science Technology & Innovation (NACOSTI)
Off Waiyaki Way, Upper Kabete,
P.O Box 30623- 00100
NAIROBI, KENYA

Dear Sir/Madam,


RE: AMIN ISMAIL SALAT - REGISTRATION NO. MIRD/2021/43019

The purpose of this letter is to introduce the above named student who is pursuing **Master of Arts in International Relations and Diplomacy** in the **Institute of Security Studies, Justice and Ethics** in the school of **Social Sciences**.

The title of the research is **"Harmonizing Identities Mitigating Double Registration Challenges Among Kenyan Somalis in Northern, Kenya."** It has been cleared by the University's Ethics Review Committee (Certificate attached) and now has to proceed to the field to collect data between **April 2024, and June 2024**.

Any assistance accorded to the student will be highly appreciated.

Thank you.


Dr. Samuel M. Karenga, Ph.D.
Director, Graduate Studies
Enc.

Mount Kenya University
P. O. Box 342 - 01000, THIKA
Office of the Director
Graduate Studies