

**FACTORS INFLUENCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FREE
PRIMARY EDUCATION STRATEGY WITHIN KASARANI DISTRICT
IN NAIROBI COUNTY**

BY

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS), SCHOOL OF EDUCATION,
MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY**

OCTOBER, 2014

ABSTRACT

The topic of this study was to examine factors influencing the implementation of free primary education strategy within Kasarani district in Nairobi. The research objectives were to examine how political and governance factors influence free primary education strategy within Kasarani district in Nairobi and to examine the effect of lack of capacity building to key stakeholders in the implementation of free primary education strategy. The researcher was guided by Systems theory of organization development in carrying out this research which views organizations not as single units, but systems of interacting factors, individuals, entities and facilities. Effective management of a complex organization, such as a school system, requires all key players – teachers, parents, education officers and political leaders to work as a team towards the common goal of FPE delivery for all school age children. This research was modeled on a case study methodology which is deemed to be a powerful form of qualitative analysis and involves careful and complete observation of a social unit be it a person, family, cultural group or an entire community and/or institution. An interview guide was used for data collection. The researcher combined stratified random sampling and purposeful approaches in selecting the respondents. Fifty respondents were interviewed representing 91% of the response rate. Secondary data was collected from the District's documentaries such as progress reports and strategic plan. The collected data was analyzed and interpreted by content analysis techniques, descriptive statistics and using description and explanation of what was observed on the ground. Key findings included, lack of initial preparation for the FPE implementation strategy, inadequate human resources for performance, politics at all levels of the governance system impeaching implementation process. Leadership challenges and communication also are a stumbling block to FPE strategy. There are also no clear policies to address emerging issue in FPE while lack of integrity has led to mismanagement of FPE funds. Crime is also a major challenge as most schools are inside or adjacent to slums and this limits services delivery. The study recommends that; education officers, managers and parents be taken through semi-annual training on the implementation of FPE to improve on capacity to deliver on the strategy. An arrangement to support private and non-formal schools would help to streamline governance in the implementation of FPE strategy. The researcher recommends that a programme on safer cities be rolled out in Kasarani district to allay effects of insecurity. Effective communication coupled with a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system and policy on integrity are fundamental to ensure integrity and for a speedy achievement of FPE.