



## East African Journal of Arts and Social Sciences

[ejass.eanso.org](http://ejass.eanso.org)

Volume 6, Issue 1, 2023

Print ISSN: 2707-4277 | Online ISSN: 2707-4285

Title DOI: <https://doi.org/10.37284/2707-4285>

**EANSO**

EAST AFRICAN  
NATURE &  
SCIENCE  
ORGANIZATION

Original Article

### Empowerment as a Tool in Public Participation and Socioeconomic Development

Kirui Tony Kipkemoi<sup>1\*</sup> & Dr. Edna Jemutai Moi, PhD<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Kenyatta University, P. O. Box 1100 – 20300 Nairobi, Kenya

\* Correspondence Email: [tonnykirui@gmail.com](mailto:tonnykirui@gmail.com)

Article DOI : <https://doi.org/10.37284/eajass.6.1.1263>

**Date Published: ABSTRACT**

23 June 2023

Keywords:

*Empowerment,  
Public Participation,  
Development,  
Socioeconomic.*

The constitution of Kenya 2010 has given public participation prominence. Non-State and State Actors acting in the interest of the public should be involved in all public affairs. The 2010 Constitution of Kenya emphasises citizens' participation. This background prompted this study, whose main objective was to examine the effects of empowerment on socioeconomic development in Kericho County. Participatory democratic theory guided this study. It targeted 550 employees working for the County Government of Kericho. Primary and secondary data collected using interviews and semi-structured questionnaires were key research tools. Enquiries of different types and surveying of facts about phenomena were the pillar of the study hence descriptive research design was deployed. A Target population of 224 officers and a sample of 144 was selected using a stratified sampling technique. Information obtained was checked for completeness, its clarity investigated, dressed and their organisation on the research instruments and analysis followed. Measures of association and descriptive statistics. The study used a regression model to test the effect of public participation on socioeconomic development. The outcome was presented in the form of subjects such as tables. The finding indicated that the county used public meetings, gatherings and Barraza to enhance empowerment. The study found that equitable allocation of resources, self-help group funding and training assist in public empowerment. Therefore, public empowerment had a significant positive effect on socioeconomic development ( $P < 0.05$ ). This was achieved through public-private, foreign, and national government collaboration in projects. Empowerment programs done using public meetings had the lowest positive significant effect on socioeconomic development ( $P < 0.05$ ); public participation had a significant positive effect on the socioeconomic development of the county government. The study recommends that the county should employ sufficient researcher assistance as well as consider youth, women and persons living with disability enterprise in 30% preference and reservation in procurement.

#### APA CITATION

Kipkemoi, K. T., & Moi, E. J. (2023). Empowerment as a Tool in Public Participation and Socioeconomic Development. *East African Journal of Arts and Social Sciences*, 6(1), 378-388. <https://doi.org/10.37284/eajass.6.1.1263>

#### CHICAGO CITATION

Kipkemoi, Kirui Tony and Edna Jemutai Moi. 2023. "Empowerment as a Tool in Public Participation and Socioeconomic Development". *East African Journal of Arts and Social Sciences* 6 (1), 378-388. <https://doi.org/10.37284/eajass.6.1.1263>.

#### HARVARD CITATION

Kipkemoi, K. T., & Moi, E. J. (2023) "Empowerment as a Tool in Public Participation and Socioeconomic Development"., *East African Journal of Arts and Social Sciences*, 6(1), pp. 378-388. doi: 10.37284/eajass.6.1.1263.

#### IEEE CITATION

K. T., Kipkemoi & E. J., Moi, "Empowerment as a Tool in Public Participation and Socioeconomic Development"., *EAJASS*, vol. 6, no. 1, pp. 378-388, Jun. 2023.

#### MLA CITATION

Kipkemoi, Kirui Tony & Edna Jemutai Moi. "Empowerment as a Tool in Public Participation and Socioeconomic Development". *East African Journal of Arts and Social Sciences*, Vol. 6, no. 1, Jun. 2023, pp. 378-388, doi:10.37284/eajass.6.1.1263.

## INTRODUCTION

Mutisya (2018) gave an elaborate understanding of the concept of public participation using the construction of the Cathedral in Florence, Italy, between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries, where public participation took place. As Brucker recounts, in the construction effort, the entire community provided most of the funding for the project delegated the responsibility to the appointed supervisors from citizens with specialised skills and organised a referendum on building plans in which citizens were invited to take part. This construction effort provides good ideas of what public participation is about; it gives an instance of the public participation concept being implemented (Berman, 2016).

A shift to reinvent the government to be more entrepreneurial, citizen focus was pushed for by the Americans; this was due to the clamour by voters for less taxation but more quality services, and less bureaucracy, that is to do more with less (Nthiga & Moi, 2021). The populace needs better government services through collectively solving people's problems. A reinvented government has some characteristics, which are catalytic government, communally owned government, competitive government, and result-oriented government.

Cornish *et al.* (2023) identified five of its main defining features of initiating participatory management, encouraging teamwork, championing

institutions through empowering institutional, employee investment and decentralisation of authority in government corporations. In consequence, public participation falls under the strategies Kenya's government adopted for it to be more entrepreneurial in enhancing effectiveness, efficiency and productivity whilst lessening the resource expended (Opiyo, 2017).

Around the globe, throughout any self-ruled Country, the trust of the public in the government is degenerating (Weymouth & Hartz-Karp, 2019). Some of the causes of this enormous mistrust are fraud, scandals in the government, selfishness, irrational anticipations, and deterioration of government expenditure on common goods. As a result, there has been an upsurge in public unresponsiveness as well as myriad voter apathy. Additionally, the presence of violent political public rallies planned by disillusioned and frustrated citizens has occurred. Kenya is one of the countries that have shown this tendency, improving the associations between citizens and government officials, according to Naidoo & Ramphal (2018), as one of the solutions to these problems is via public-government engagement and the participation of citizens in key government decision. In order to avoid the vagaries of coping with the dissatisfaction of citizens, participating citizens in decision-making processes have been identified as one of the methods in which it can be

achieved (Nielsen, Nielsen & Bisgaard, 2021). Therefore, the public is required to contribute to the process of decision-making by giving their views on issues that directly or indirectly affect them. De Oliveira (2017) posits that public participation is an inherent part of human civilisation. In Brazil, participatory decision-making concept was originally adopted successfully then it spread across the world. Public participation at the end of the 1960s became a vital subject where academics and citizens questioned authority and its influence in the decision-making process. Cohen-Rimer (2023) noted that participation had sparked the hopes and imagination of policymakers, lawmakers, and practitioners alike. Public participation, according to Hao, Nyaranga and Hongo (2022), is interpreted as methods in which decisions are reached through the involvement of nationals who consider and engage in numerous fundamentals encompassed during sharing of natural resources of the country as well as augmentation and executing essential services of the public. Through methods of government and citizen participation, citizens are presented with an opportunity to take part in decision-making regarding the choice and use of the country's natural resources. Prudent choice and use of natural resources can boost the social and economic statuses of the citizens. As a democratic right, public participation, as Opongo (2022) observes, has widely gained acceptance in both centralised and devolved governments. The phenomenon is seen to improve service delivery through enhanced civic consciousness.

The promulgation of the Constitution 2010 heralded the adoption of a devolved government, which to many, remains perhaps the most important aspect of the Constitution (Timboi, 2020). Many countries have devoured control of wealth by the central government to lower levels of supervision regardless of status, especially economic status; therefore, Kenya is not the first to roll out decentralisation (Ngaruiya, 2019). Numerous research findings have shown that there is a relationship between relentless poverty together

with disparity and frail governance. Weak governance is known to advocate for inefficiency and disparity in investments of the public as it hampers the environment of investments; further, it emasculates job creation. Devolution was therefore to address the inequalities that have long stood in the way of growth and economic development (Wanyande & Wanyande, 2016).

Public participation, as argued by Nyong'a & Gachanja (2021), ensures a democratic process of social values and an improved process of planning, which in turn endeavours to fulfil the needs of the public. Additionally, public participation as an educative process instils know-how in citizens on issues regarding the development of government programs whose aim is to improve the livelihoods of the citizens both socially and economically (Mubita, Libati & Mulonda, 2017). Social and economic development has a potential impact on personal or social changes, which incorporates diversity in public interests; hence according to people, the right to participate in decisions affecting their lives (Kumar *et al.*, 2019). Social and economic development not only refers to means by which the health of the people is affected but also includes the ability to fund training and education. Coupled with a discontinued improvement of the welfare of a population, economic underdevelopment can pose immeasurable negative consequences to any population. Although participation by the public is seen to open gates of enhanced delivery of services, a sizeable number of researchers have concentrated on the role public participation plays in relation to the socioeconomic development of citizens (Gu, 2016).

Mutua and Kiruhi (2021) researched the effect of participation by the public on the effective distribution of resources. From his study, he discovered that the resultant effect on the devolved service delivery was negligible. According to Granier and Kudo (2016), several researchers have concentrated on participation by the public in relation to the general delivery of service, while

therefore there exists a strong impetus on the issue of public participation in service delivery, and this study aims at investigate and understanding the phenomenon of public participation and socioeconomic development and the role it in plays in influencing the phenomenon.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Theoretical Framework

#### *Participatory Democratic Theory*

It was pioneered by Jean-Jacques Rousseau in the 18th century and later promoted by John Stuart Mill and G. D. H. Cole. The argument from it is that of involvement of citizens of a state to participate in its day-to-day running. It shows the captivation of dogmatic sociology with stable political group significance of the functional concept. The model offers confines of links between the residents and the country within a societal way of life. It gives four crucial principles of the Participatory Democratic Theory. Notable, this theory shows that individuals' capacity, proficiency, and exceptionality are interlocked with types of governmental organisation, for example, participation. In other words, citizens realisation to be part of the whole process by being in independent systems.

Furthermore, this is a situation of independence on issues forming the shared distinct role and political life autonomous similarly as an individual in their personal lives or personnel in public in general. Further, substantial participatory democratic theory occurs where there is a need to facilitate a participatory approach as a way of life. To finish, the required disparities are structural in general. It necessitates the rearrangement of tyrannical socio-political organisations which hold back involvement functionalities. This model is applicable to the research in explaining community contribution to the end results of delivery of service. The ideology indicates a link concerning support

and delivery of services once citizens take part in making decisions.

### Empirical Review

The paper reviewed the literature on empowerment that was woven to build the study topic from other scholars and accordingly appreciated the source of that information.

#### *Empowerment*

According to Santos, Neumeyer, and Morris (2019), empowerment is the degree of sovereignty and self-determination in individualistic cultures, as shown via acting on one's own authority to express one's interests in a responsible manner. One grows stronger and more self-assured when one takes charge of their life and asserts their rights. Self-empowerment process in relation to individuals' professional support allows them to overcome their sense of powerlessness.

Lubuulwa (2021) steered an inquiry in Uganda to investigate the level in which citizens partake and the consequence in the execution of LGDP II, a program of development planned as a replacement course of action that rolled out LGDP I starting the tenth month of 2000 to the sixth month 2003. LGDP II was intended to contribute to CAS's goal of enhancing basic utility supply to encourage economic progress improvement and eradication of poverty and expand the homegrown administration institutional efficacy as far as decentralisation and sustainability are concerned in line with the government's policy of devolution. The outcome revealed that people's being part of administration and socioeconomic advancement debates were emphasised as an arsenal for facilitating the capacity of the destitute in the rural areas in efforts to get rid of insufficiency of basic goods and services through sound leadership.

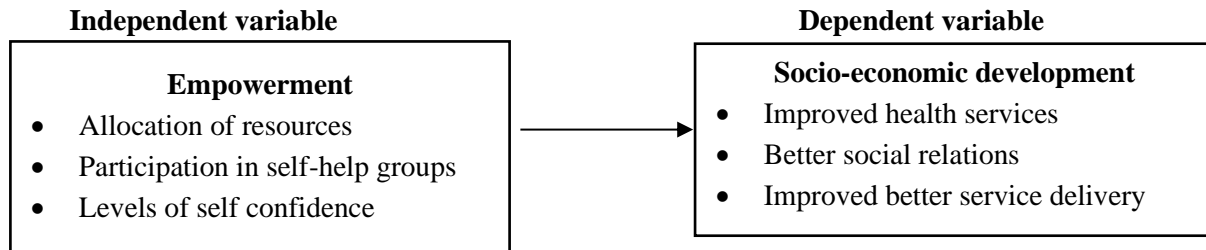
Raje (2022) made an inquiry to look into reasons deterring the involvement of citizens in developing strategies belonging to homegrown government in the constituency of Nsangi local government in the

Wakiso area of Uganda. Their outcomes show that whenever residents belonging to a community are in this classification by integrating their suggestions, many are generally disgruntled as their favourite projects are not put into consideration. The community broadly does not take part in the implementation, management, and valuation of

responsibilities as such. It also revealed that important relative to societal contribution in organising methods in later project accomplishment, logistics lacking, and moment for undertaking such gatherings, very little awareness, and polarisation of such arrangements.

### Conceptual Framework

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework



Source; Researcher (2023)

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study was done in Kericho County with a focus on both the county executive and the County Assembly of Kericho. Kericho County is one of the 47 counties in Kenya. The county seats between longitude 35°02’ and 35°40’ East and between the equator and latitude 0°23’ South with an altitude of about 2002m above sea level.

#### Research Design

A descriptive research design was utilised as it included investigations, fact-finding, and survey explorations of various kinds (Mayer, 2015). As pointed out by (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2014), descriptive survey research highlights how are and attempts to explain such hypotheses as behaviour, principles, and features (Mohajan, 2018). Further, it concerns the question of how and what exists in relation to previous incidents that influences or affect current situation or activities (Kothari, 2004) and also includes formulation and testing of the hypothesis.

#### Target Population

A whole set of objects taking part in a study is referred to as a population, in addition, it has some common apparent features (Lune & Berg, 2017). It is an assembly of elements from which an investigator desires to draw some conclusions (Mohajan, 2020). The study targeted 224 members working for both the County Executive and County Assembly of Kericho.

#### Sampling Procedure

To obtain information from the 144 respondents from County Executive and County Assembly employees of Kericho County a stratified random sampling technique was utilised. Furthermore, a band that is uniform from within but mixed with other strata was considered, this is for the reason that the diverse elements, for example, management level, level of income, life stages, and composition of the group, among others (Nguyen *et al.*, 2021). The following formula by Yamane Taro (1967) was used;

$$\frac{N}{1+Ne^2}$$

**Table 1: Target population and sample size**

County Government of Kericho	Target Population	Sample Size
County Executive	135	87
County Assembly	89	57
Total	224	144

Source; CIDP (2022)

### Research Instruments

Questionnaires and interview schedules were employed in the collection of data Mohajan (2018); the argument goes that the use of a mixture of data sources and a variety of methods of the collection is an endorsing feature that cross-checks data. This combination of methods of collecting data and sources, which are interviewing and use of inquiry form, proliferates the validity and reliability of data as the power of the other technique reimburses for the fault of the other methodology (Turner *et al.*, 2017). Instruments' selection was directed by their ability to satisfy the desired objective as per the set standards. Questionnaires are appropriate for the collection of information from larger respondents as they produce significant outcomes that can be generalised for a larger population. The inquiry form consisted of closed and open-ended questions in a homogenous state for all participants.

### Data Analysis Method

Data were acquired both quantitatively and qualitatively. To facilitate the presentation of findings in the form of tables and graphs, analysis was conducted using mean, standard deviation, percentages, and frequencies (Roever & Phakiti, 2017). Because it was quite effective and covered a wide range of the most popular statistical and graphical data analysis, making more study material easier to read, the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was considered as an analysis tool. The research findings were presented in a clear and simple manner by condensing a large amount of data into a few statistics or into a visual representation like a graph or table. Moreover, inferential statistics and regression technique was employed to find out the relationship between

variables at a 95% significance level, and the conclusion follows. The model was as shown,

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \varepsilon$$

In which; Y= Socio-economic development,  $\beta_0$ =Constant,  $X_1$ =Consultation,  $X_2$ = Empowerment,  $X_3$ = Collaboration,  $X_4$ =Informing,  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$  = independent variables' coefficient

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

### Response Rate

The response rate was 98.6% which was above recommended 80% level. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2014), a response rate above 80% is excellent for statistical analysis.

### Descriptive Analysis

Table 2 indicates that the county empowers citizens to some extent through equitable allocation of resources to all sub-counties (mean of 3.6268). However, there was a high variation in allocation vary among the sub-county (standard deviation of 1.42226). The results showed that the county reviewed the need of each sub-county and allocated resources based on their needs (mean of 4.1761). Its variation was low, as indicated by a standard deviation of 0.68726. This implies that the county government considered the need of each sub-county and distributed the equitable resource based on the requirements of the sub-county.

As per the finding, the county government had empowered self-help groups through funding (mean of 4.1831). Consequently, variation in empowerment across the county is shown by high variation (standard deviation of 1.45192). The county, to some extent, utilised training in empowering the citizen to gain necessary skills

(mean of 3.5704). There was a high variation in empowerment programmes across the sub-counties (standard deviation of 1.60406). On the contrary, youth, women and persons living with disability enterprises were awarded fewer procurement and project opportunities according to a mean of 2.8803.

The distribution of tenders also varied highly (standard deviation of 1.34998). The results implied most empowerment was oriented toward training rather than empowering youth, women and persons with disabilities using procurement opportunities.

**Table 2: Empowerment as a tool in public participation and socioeconomic development**

Statement	N	Min	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.
The county empowers citizens through the equitable allocation of resources to all sub-counties.	142	1	5	3.627	1.422
We review the need of each sub-county and allocate resources based on their needs.	142	3	5	4.176	0.687
County government has empowered self-help groups through funding.	142	1	5	4.183	1.451
The self-groups are empowered through training to assist in imparting necessary skills.	142	1	5	3.570	1.604
Youth, women, and persons living with disability enterprise are awarded	142	1	5	2.880	1.350

Source; Researcher’s Data

The interview response of the involvement of the local public was uniformly agreed upon by the respondents. The results revealed that the locals were mainly involved in consultation and collaboration with local firms. However, the participation only benefits a few who have firms that can competitively participate in tendering.

The study adopted a multiple linear regression model to examine the association between public participation and socioeconomic development. The regression analysis was presented using model summary, ANOVA, and coefficient table. This was adopted in testing the hypotheses or research questions of the study.

**Table 3: Model summary**

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.973 <sup>a</sup>	.948	.946	.18590

a. Predictors: (Constant), Public Information, Public Empowerment,

Source; Research Data (2023)

The results revealed that public participation through public consultation and public empowerment had a high relationship with the socioeconomic development of the county. This

revealed that 94.8% of socioeconomic development was associated with the public participation variable; however, 5.2% is due to other factors which were not examined in the current study.

**Table 4: ANOVA**

Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	85.574	4	21.394	619.068	.000 <sup>b</sup>
Residual	4.734	137	.035		
Total	90.309	141			

a. Dependent Variable: Socioeconomic Development

b. Predictors: (Constant) Public Empowerment

Source; Research data (2023)

Results show that public empowerment had a significant relationship with the socioeconomic development of the county. The results implied that

public participation through empowerment remains to be a very important practice in ensuring a balance socioeconomic development in the county.

**Table 5: Coefficient of independent and dependent variables**

Model	Unstandardised Coefficients		Standardised Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	-1.996	.137		-14.549	.000
Public Empowerment (PE)	.132	.029	.139	4.5517	.005

*a. Dependent Variable: Socioeconomic Development (SED)*

Source; Research data (2023)

The results in the table revealed the following relationship between variables;

$$SEC = -1.996 + 0.132PE + 0.881PI$$

Where SEC is socioeconomic development, and PE is public empowerment. This indicated that a unit increase in public empowerment had a 142.6% and 88.1% impact on socioeconomic development, respectively. This indicated that public empowerment influenced socioeconomic development.

The results also indicated that public empowerment had a significant positive effect on the socioeconomic development of the county government (Beta=0.132, P<0.05). The results showed that empowerment of the community ensured high socioeconomic development. There is a need to improve the empowerment of youth, women and persons living with a disability.

**SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Summary**

Demographic information revealed a gender balance among the respondents, where over 50% come from the age of 38 to 48 years. The bio-data revealed a high literacy level where there are twice as many employees who had gone to university level as those with college level. The summary results of the objective were presented in the following sub-sections.

The results revealed that the county empowers citizens through the equitable allocation of resources across the sub-county. The results also showed that the allocation of resources was based on the need of the sub-county. The county also considered self-help groups through training empowerment which has an impact on the skills. However, the youth, women and persons with disability were not well represented in the wards of tenders and procurement.

**Conclusion**

It was discovered that there was a significant effect of public empowerment on social and economic development. This was attributed to the equitable allocation of resources across the sub-county, where the need for each sub-county was considered in the project implementation. The county also considered self-help groups by funding them. It also considered training self-help groups for the acquisition of appropriate skills. However, there was low consideration of youth, women and persons living with disability in procurement awards.

**Contribution of the Study to the Knowledge**

The study focused on empowerment as socioeconomic empowerment in Kericho. This will be beneficial to the management of the County government in understanding key element that influences socioeconomic development in different regions. The research project variable may be of help to researchers and practitioners in evaluating the most influential socioeconomic development. It



is important to note that previous studies on socioeconomic development have been done in other countries but not in Kericho County.

## REFERENCE

- Berman, T. (2016). Public participation as a tool for integrating local knowledge into spatial planning: planning, participation, and knowledge. Springer.
- Cohen-Rimer, Y. (2023). Participation in welfare legislation—A poverty-aware paradigm. *Regulation & Governance*, 17(1), 83-102.
- Cornish, F., Breton, N., Moreno-Tabarez, U., Delgado, J., Rua, M., de-Graft Aikins, A., & Hodgetts, D. (2023). Participatory action research. *Nature Reviews Methods Primers*, 3(1), 34.
- De Oliveira, O. P. (2017). International policy diffusion and participatory budgeting: ambassadors of participation, international institutions, and transnational networks. Springer.
- Granier, B., & Kudo, H. (2016). How are citizens involved in smart cities? Analysing citizen participation in Japanese "Smart Communities". *Information Polity*, 21(1), 61-76.
- Gu, H. (2016). NIMBYism in China: Issues and prospects of public participation in facility siting. *Land Use Policy*, 52, 527-534.
- Hao, C., Nyaranga, M. S., & Hongo, D. O. (2022). Enhancing public participation in governance for sustainable development: Evidence from Bungoma County, Kenya. *SAGE Open*, 12(1), 21582440221088855.
- Kumar, N., Raghunathan, K., Arrieta, A., Jilani, A., Chakrabarti, S., Menon, P., & Quisumbing, A. R. (2019). Social networks, mobility, and political participation: The potential for women's self-help groups to improve access and use of public entitlement schemes in India. *World Development*, 114, 28-41.
- Lubuulwa, K. B. (2021). Putting Decentralisation Policy into Practice in Uganda: A Participatory Action Research Study of Local Government Empowerment for Local Economic Development.
- Lune, H., & Berg, B. L. (2017). Qualitative research methods for the social sciences.
- Yamane, Taro. (1967). *Statistics: An Introductory Analysis*, 2nd Ed., New York: Harper and Row
- Kothari, C. R. (2004). *Research methodology: Methods and techniques*. New Age International.
- Mayer, I. (2015). Qualitative research with a focus on qualitative data analysis. *International Journal of Sales, Retailing & Marketing*, 4(9), 53-67.
- Mohajan, H. K. (2018). Qualitative research methodology in social sciences and related subjects. *Journal of Economic Development, Environment and People*, 7(1), 23-48.
- Mutisya, M. (2018). The Impact of Public Participation On Makueni County's Development Programs-A Case Study of Ivingoni/nzambani Ward, Kibwezi East Constituency (Doctoral dissertation, University of Nairobi)
- Mutua, J. N., & Kiruhi, T. M. (2021). Village Elders' Participation in Public Governance in Kenya: A Phenomenological Study. *Open Journal of Leadership*, 10(2), 110-128.
- Naidoo, C., & Ramphal, R. R. (2018). The factors that affect public participation for effective municipal service delivery: A case of ward committees. *South African Journal of Industrial Engineering*, 29(4), 82-93.

- Nguyen, T. D., Shih, M. H., Srivastava, D., Tirthapura, S., & Xu, B. (2021). *Stratified random sampling from streaming and stored data*. *Distributed and Parallel Databases*, 39(3), 665-710.
- Nielsen, V. L., Nielsen, H. Ø., & Bisgaard, M. (2021). Citizen reactions to bureaucratic encounters: Different ways of coping with public authorities. *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, 31(2), 381-398.
- Nthiga, G. K., & Moi, E. (2021). Public Participation Effects on Prioritisation of Constituency Development Fund in Makueni County, Kenya. *Journal of Public Policy & Governance*, 5(1), 45-56.
- Nyong'a, E. M. M., & Gachanja, P. M. (2021). Public Participation in the Policy Making Process: An Evaluation of Makueni County, Kenya. *International Journal of Current Aspects*, 5(2), 36-49.
- Mubita, A., Libati, M., & Mulonda, M. (2017). The importance and limitations of participation in development projects and programmes. *European scientific journal*, 13(5), 238-251.
- Mugenda, O. M. & Mugenda, A. G. (2014). *Research Methods: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches*. African Centre for Technology Studies Press: Nairobi, Kenya.
- Opiyo, S. A. (2017). Role of Public Participation on Performance of Devolved Governance Systems in Kenya (Doctoral dissertation, COHES-JKUAT).
- Opongo, E. O. (2022). Democracy, Citizen Participation and Peace Economics in Kenya: Interrogating the Social Change Processes. *The Journal of Social Encounters*, 6(1), 62-83.
- Raje, C. (2022). Perspectives and Problems of Developing Nations: Volume 3.
- Roever, C., & Phakiti, A. (2017). *Quantitative methods for second language research: A problem-solving approach*. Routledge.
- Santos, S. C., Neumeyer, X., & Morris, M. H. (2019). Entrepreneurship education in a poverty context: An empowerment perspective. *Journal of Small Business Management*, 57, 6-32.
- Timboi, S. (2020). *Devolved Governance and Economic Security in Selected Counties in Kenya (2010-2018)* (Doctoral dissertation, University of Nairobi).
- Turner, S. F., Cardinal, L. B., & Burton, R. M. (2017). Research design for mixed methods: A triangulation-based framework and roadmap. *Organisational Research Methods*, 20(2), 243-267.
- Wanyande, P., & Wanyande, P. (2016). Devolution and territorial development inequalities: The Kenyan experience. *Territorial Cohesion for Development Working Group*, Rimisp.
- Weymouth, R., & Hartz-Karp, J. (2019). Participation in planning and governance: closing the gap between satisfaction and expectation. *Sustainable Earth*, 2(1), 1-15.