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**AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE FACTORS THAT AFFECT THE
PERFORMANCE OF YOUTH GROUP INCOME GENERATING
PROJECTS IN TAITA DISTRICT,
KENYA**

BY

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT FOR
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DECLARATION

This research project is my own original work and has not been submitted for a degree in any other college or university for examination purposes.

Signed 

Date 6/6/2010

Christine W. Mwangombe

This research project has been submitted for examination with the approval of my university supervisors.

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ABSTRACT

The mobilization of youth in Kenya and growth of youth group enterprise projects took centre stage in the last four years with the creation of Ministry of youth affairs and sports in the year 2005. The Department of Youth development was established in January 2007 with an aim of spearheading the general empowerment of the youths with key objectives being; promoting Youth-owned Small and Micro Enterprise (SME) projects, promoting thriftiness and self-reliance among the youth, promoting an entrepreneurial culture among the youth, and promoting marketing of Youth Products and Services. (The national youth policy 2007)

The study aimed at broadening understanding about the factors that influence performance of various youth group income generating projects in Taita district. It also aimed at giving remedial measures to the problems faced by youth group initiated projects so as to improve their performance and realize their goals.

The groups were stratified according to their categories of projects/activity. From the targeted population of 59 youth projects, a random sample of 60% was taken from each category to give a total sample of 35 projects. Only 32 groups filled and returned the questionnaire. Data for the study consisted of primary data collected by use of questionnaires and secondary data based on youth group performance reports submitted to the respective group coordinators to the Provincial director in the Ministry of youth affairs, department of Youth development. The data was analyzed using statistical package of social sciences software and findings were presented in form of tables, charts and figures. Findings showed that training of youth group members, appropriate funding and management, external support from government and Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the nature of projects/activities undertaken affected the performance of the youth groups. Availability of these factors significantly boosted their performance while their deficiency hindered any of their progress both in the long and short term.