

**EFFECT OF DEVOLUTION ON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN WAJIR COUNTY, KENYA**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD
OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN PUBLIC POLICY AND
ADMINISTRATION OF KENYATTA UNIVERSITY**

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DECLARATION

This project is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other academic or non-institution.

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Signature.....

Date.....*26/05/2022*

This project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the supervisor.

NAME: DR. FELIX KIRUTHU

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ABSTRACT

For many years, communities in Kenya's marginalized areas, such as Wajir County, have been characterized by poor literacy levels, low retention and transition rates, and limited access to early childhood, primary, secondary, and higher education. With the advent of devolution, previously neglected communities' county governments now have the opportunity to fix the situation and, as a result, reduce inequities in educational access. This study sought to determine the effect of devolution on early childhood education infrastructure development in ECDE centres in Wajir north Sub County, Wajir county, Kenya. This study was guided by the following objectives: to examine influence of devolution on water provision infrastructure in ECDE, to establish the influence of devolution on electricity infrastructure in ECDE centres and to establish the effect of classroom infrastructure in ECDE centres in Wajir north Sub County, Wajir county, Kenya. The study was guided by agency theory. The research used the descriptive research design. The target population included County Education Director (CED), ward administrators, sub-county administrators, MCAs, Directors of ECDE centres and head teachers in Wajir North Sub-County. The study used questionnaires for collecting data. Quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques were used. The purpose of qualitative data analysis was to explain the information acquired from the questionnaire's open-ended questions. In quantitative analysis, numeric metrics were used to determine the scores of the responses supplied. With the use of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences, this entailed generating descriptive statistics following data collection, estimating population parameters from the statistics, and drawing inferences based on the statistical findings. (SPSS). The results presents that the number of schools connected with electricity power have increased and the ECDE centres have adopted use of generators to supply alternative power supply. The study found that the relevant administrators have embarked on establishing new ECDE centres in Wajir North sub-county. The study presented that the ECDE centre do not provide safe drinking water and insufficient piping of water was evident. The study established that there was no equitable distribution of water pumps in wajir sub county. It was evident that classes are few to accommodate the increasing number of kids. The findings show that local money and resources have been ineffectively mobilized, and instructors in pre-primary education have not been adequately rewarded for their efforts. The results presents that there are policies and guidelines which guide the management of ECDE centres. Policies and standards have supported the growth of pre-primary education, and policies that have been enacted increase community engagement in the management of early childhood programs. The study recommended that there is need for the government to revisit the models that guide the implementation of devolution. For effective implementation of devolution, the state of infrastructure in the county should be put into consideration. The stakeholders should come up with measures to increase supply of water and electricity in the county. The resource allocation should be enough to cater for ECDE needs for water in the county. Devolved funds through county governments as well as other funds such as the youth, women and constituency development fund can be used to facilitate such initiatives.