

**ASSESSING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CIVIL - MILITARY  
COORDINATION DURING DISASTER RESPONSE OPERATIONS IN  
KENYA: A CASE STUDY OF SOLAI DAM TRAGEDY IN NAKURU  
COUNTY, KENYA**

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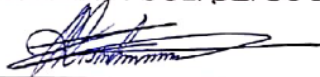
## DECLARATION

**Student:** This project report is my original work and has not been presented for a degree or any other award at Kenyatta University or any other University.

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20-07-2023

**Supervisor:** This project report has been submitted for review with my approval as University Supervisor.

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**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## ABSTRACT

The world has seen a significant rise in both human-made and natural disasters which demands a response from both civil and military organizations. Thus, coordination between civilian and military organizations is vital during disaster response to achieve an efficient and effective response, but unfortunately, coordination between military and civil organizations remains elusive. In Kenya, military and civil organizations have had coordination problems and challenges during disaster response operations which have led to slow responses, high fatality, and mortality rates. The study sought to assess efficacy of Civil-Military coordination during disaster response operations, Solai Dam Tragedy in Nakuru County Kenya. The study was guided by the following objectives; to establish the effectiveness of Civil-Military coordination in resources mobilization during the disaster response operation of the Solai Dam tragedy in Nakuru County; to study Civil-Military coordination effectiveness in communication during disaster response operation of the Solai Dam tragedy in Nakuru County; Analyze the lessons learned on the effectiveness of the Civil-Military coordination for future disaster preparedness in Nakuru County, Kenya; evaluate the moderating effect of disaster management policies on civil-military coordination during disaster response operations in Kenya. This study was informed by general systems theory. The study's target group included 395 respondents from the multi-agency response team and other stakeholders who were involved in the Solai dam accident. A descriptive research design was used. The study's 199 respondents were chosen by stratified random selection, and its major data were gathered through questionnaires, interviews, and focus groups. The researcher sought permission from the relevant authority before proceeding with data collection. A pilot study was undertaken by the researcher to evaluate the questionnaire's validity and reliability. Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS Version 23) was used in the cleaning and recording of data. The qualitative data were analyzed through content analysis while quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive, regression, and correlation analysis. Data presentation was done by the use of percentages, frequency tables, means, and narratives. The research demonstrated a positive and statistically significant impact of Civil-Military coordination in resource mobilization and communication on the effectiveness of disaster response operations in Kenya. Based on the results of the study, it concludes that civil-military coordination in resource mobilization and communication has a statistically and positive significant impact on disaster response operations effectiveness in Kenya. The study recommends for Civil-Military organizations must improve their command and control, understanding, knowledge, and relations to improve coordination in resource mobilization and communication. The study further recommends strict adherence and implementation of the existing policies, legal and institutional frameworks on disaster management.