THE EFFECT OF MACRO-ECONOMIC VARIABLES IN THE PROVISION OF LOW COST HOUSING BY THE GOVERNMENT IN KENYA (1981-2010)

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ABSTRACT

The study investigates the problems and challenges faced by the government in the delivery of housing units. The purpose is to look at the macroeconomic factors that affect the provision of low cost housing by the government and what measures can be taken to improve housing provision in the country. Approximately 50% of the Kenyan population lives below the poverty line hence there is high government expectation from its people to provide affordable housing. The NHC which is the government body in charge of provision of housing in the country has shown fluctuations in its housing developments with no steady trend. Macroeconomic variables discussed in this paper such as interest rate, inflation rate and GDP affect the supply and demand of housing in the country. An understanding of how these factors affect the availability of affordable housing either singly or via interaction, is one step closer to achieving better living standards for everyone and thereby improved productivity on their part. The investigation indicates that the above mentioned macroeconomic variables have a bearing on the availability of affordable housing. The analysis results concur with the expectations of the research and the necessary policy recommendations have been put forward as the remedies to the effects of the variables.
FACTORS INFLUENCING DEMAND FOR DOMESTIC TOURISM IN KENYA

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A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF XEA 402: RESEARCH METHODS

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ABSTRACT

The tourism industry in Kenya is the second largest source of foreign exchange revenue after agriculture. The main tourist attractions are the wildlife in their natural habitats and photo safaris through the 19 national parks and game reserves. Other attractions include the renowned scenery of the Great Rift Valley; a view of Mt. Kilimanjaro, across the border into Tanzania; and the white sand coastal beaches along the Indian Ocean. Since the late nineties, the travel and tourism sector is the largest export earner in the world and generates foreign exchange that exceeds those from products such as petroleum, motor vehicles, textiles and telecommunication equipment (Eita, Jordaan, Jordaan, 2010. Tourism is a labour intensive industry, employing about 100 million people around the world which accounts for 8.3 % of world employment. The World Travel and Tourism Council indicated that tourism accounts for about 10 % of World Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The objectives of the study are to examine the effect of disposable income on domestic tourism demand in Kenya; to find out the effect of cost of tourism services on domestic tourism demand in Kenya; to examine the effect of awareness levels on the same and to find out the effect of infrastructure development on the same.
THE EFFECT OF FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT ON ECONOMIC GROWTH: THE KENYAN CASE

ABSTRACT
This research was about assessing the effect of financial development on economic growth; case study on Kenya. As a justification, the research was focused on bringing out a clear understanding of the relationship between financial development and economic growth in the country's economy. The literature review emphasized on the various theories explaining the effect of financial development on economic growth. Lastly, the research adopted a time series research design that helped to come up with data for analysis and the results were used to draw conclusions and recommendations.
ABSTRACT

The research study studies the extent to which the major working capital management items affect the performance of the Kenyan insurance industry. Efficient management of working capital is important to any organization. This study examines the degree to which the three working capital management items (management of cash, management of debtors and management of inventories) affect the performance (profitability) of the sampled insurance companies in Kenya. The population of the study comprises of all the 45 insurance companies in Kenya. The time frame considered is a three-year period (2009-2011).

Summary statistics and regression analysis are used for analysis and interpretation of data. The findings reveal that the three working capital management items affect the performance of the Kenyan insurance companies. The extent to which the major working capital management items affect the performance of the Kenyan insurance industry is 15.4%.

It is recommended that for any company to better its performance, it should ensure that the three major working capital management items (cash management, debtor management and inventory management) are efficiently managed. Other items of various financial statements such as fixed assets, capital, premiums, commissions earned, commissions payable and insurance contract liabilities should also be efficiently managed since they too affect the performance of a company.
ABSTRACT

The research project ventilated the effect of monetary policy on economic growth. The maintaining of economic stability is intertwined with the changes of interest rate and treasury bills at a given a given period.

Economic growth is crucial in a developing nation like Kenya as different sectors of the economy stabilizes impacting directly or indirectly on the living standard of the people. As the economy fluctuates it sends a mixed signal to the market for adjustment. Therefore, important players of these economic developments needs to consider those variables that will positively impact on the required growth.

The Central Bank of Kenya plays a key role in economic growth; also different stakeholders like the private sector contribute in building a stable economy that will alleviate the ordinary citizen form poverty.

Continuous assessment of the relevant variables like the interest rate and the Treasury bill is inevitable for economic gains. More so, the dynamic nature of the market will impact directly on the different sectors of the economy. Therefore the Central Bank of Kenya’s intervention in times of inflation is necessary.

Fluctuating interest rate sends different economic signals to the market as other tools like the treasury bills influence economic growth, therefore determining the price stability. The improvement of the savings behaviour of the customers will lead to increased investment in the country hence the realization of the vision 2030.
Abstract
This research paper is in an effort to unravel the market dynamics there are in the Kenyan mobile-phone industry. From the statistical reports reported by the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK) between the years 2011 and 2012, the market share by subscribers and voice traffic remains at highs of 88.27% for Safaricom Limited, with minimal percentages in the other service providers. The profit figures in the industry also have large profits to Safaricom Limited and losses in the rest of the firms.

The major findings of this research lies in the peculiar spending habits of Kenyan mobile-phone service consumers, and a low level of awareness regarding the market information.

Though this research takes a purposeful case-study approach which is bound to make biased conclusions if generalized to a bigger population, it does make certain conclusions that apply universally. Statistical adjustments have also been used to adjust very small samples.
ABSTRACT
Kenya’s fiscal structure reveals that government expenditure and revenue have maintained consistent growth patterns with expenditures always exceeding revenues. The imbalance between revenue and expenditure results in large fiscal deficits. Even after undertaking tax reforms the taxes have not been as productive as desired.
A poor tax performance, in terms of raising revenue can either mean deficiencies in tax structure or an inadequate effort on the part of the government, both of which are influenced by various factors. The main objective of this study was to establish the macroeconomic determinants of tax revenue shares in Kenya for the period 1980-2010 especially the economic development and structural factors. The study is important because an ability to monitor the economic and structural changes and their impact on tax revenue is crucial to the financial stability of a nation.
Using time series data, empirical studies have shown that poor tax administration and tax structure are the major weaknesses in tax revenue collection and distribution which lead to tax evasion, tax immobilization and embezzlement of collected tax. There is need for prompt Government intervention to be able to curb such vices in order to achieve major economic and developmental goals and to start-off, it is key for government to curb corruption and its perpetrators. There is also call for Computerization of tax administration and collection; expansion of the tax base by bringing more taxpayers in the tax bracket; addressing problems associated with tax revenue leakages such as abolishing unnecessary tax exemptions and strengthening of tax collection by preventing tax evasion and avoidance and also instituting strong legal enforcements in order to punish those engaging in tax evasion, embezzlement of collected taxes and corruption. These and many more should be at the fore in the ongoing tax reforms in Kenya so as to enhance tax revenue collection.
Keywords: Tax, Revenue
FACTORS AFFECTING THE PRODUCTIVITY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

A case study of Kenya

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ABSTRACT
This takes an incisive look at land utilization and tenure from the pre-colonial times through to present. It is an attempt to identify the areas in which land productivity can be enhanced for both subsistence and commercial benefits of the stakeholders in the agricultural sector. Data was obtained primarily from secondary sources that led to specification of a non-linear econometric model.

GRETL computer software has been used to test and analyze the data sampled with the aid of the formulated model, which relates the value of output from arable land (the dependent variable), to the value of inputs invested on agriculture (the independent variables). The results arrived at are more so the anticipated outcome that shows the significance of the variables tested towards improving the productivity of land put on agriculture. Hence with the findings relevant recommendations have been made that will aim to aid the various stakeholders in the agricultural sector in Kenya.
The Effectiveness of the CDF on Poverty Alleviation: A Case Study of Gatanga Constituency.

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ABSTRACT

The Constituency Development Fund (CDF) is a devolved fund initiated by the government that ascended to power after the Kenyan general elections of 2002. The fund was initiated with a view to promote development and eradicate poverty in the rural areas.

A decade after its implementation, the CDF program is yet to fully achieve its founding objectives. This has, thus, led to widespread questioning of its effectiveness in ever achieving its goals. Various researchers and auditors have studied the CDF program from various angles and we felt that it was important to tackle this CDF program question from still different perspective.

We decided to conduct some research with the main objective of establishing whether or not the CDF program has been an effective program in achieving its stated objectives of poverty alleviation and promoting rural development.

The CDF program’s implementation in Gatanga Constituency is where we decided to focus our study. Gatanga constituency has constantly been ranked as one of the best utilizers of the CDF funds: This is the main reason we opted to focus our study there. The rationale behind this is that if we were to correctly meet our main objective, we would be best served by starting from a point where the CDF program faces minimal interference and disturbances. Gatanga’s implementation of the CDF program has been shown to be the least encumbered by such problems as underutilisation, misappropriation, and misuse of funds.

Having opted to focus our study on the CDF program with the least unnecessary hindrances, we believed that we were now more capable of getting a much more accurate result.

The study would mainly entail collecting CDF data concerning the CDF funded projects in Gatanga, analysing the data to determine whether there has been any CDF spurred development. Data and any other information concerning the Gatanga CDF would be collected at the CDF office in Mabanda, Gatanga, and the extensive use of online resources.