ABSTRACT

There has been a lot of pressure for developing countries to increase their level of IPR. Intellectual Property Rights are said to influence innovation and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Kenya has in the past 20 years increased the levels of IPR. At the same time, economic growth has also changed. The link between IPR and economic growth in Kenya is hitherto unexplored. The main objective of this study is to determine the relationship between economic growth and the levels of IPR in Kenya. Data used was sought from secondary sources: the Kenya Industrial Property Institute and the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. The variables included GDP per capita, International Trade Volumes and School enrollment at Tertiary Institutions. For statistical analysis, R-Program Version 10 was used. The model used is regression with dummy variables to find regression coefficients. The main findings of this study are that an increase in the level of Intellectual Property Rights protection decreases the level of economic growth and innovation. Thus, policies to increase the level of IPR protection in Kenya have negative effects on economic growth and development at this level of development.