

FACTORS AFFECTING MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY

TRANSFER FUND PROGRAMS IN KENYA

A survey of Local Authorities in the Greater Meru Region

JACOB KIRARI

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ABSTRACT

This research Thesis focused on the factors affecting the management of LATF programs in Local Authorities. The objectives of the study were to identify and document how management style, government policies, capacity of implementation and monitoring and evaluation affect effective management of LATF programs in local Authorities in the greater Meru region. The Author used descriptive research design and the target population of interest in this study was employees from 8 local authorities in the greater Meru region who are directly involved in the management of LATF programs. There was a population of 63 officers who were involved in LATF programs from the selected local authorities. The targeted population of the respondents is therefore 63 officers and this study used census in data collection. Primary data was gathered using a structured questionnaire and the completed instruments were assembled and the information analyzed. Qualitative data presented through thematic analysis. Quantitative data was analyzed using SPSS software and Ms Excel and presented using descriptive distribution tables, to help in describing and explaining the study results. Leadership Styles have no significant influence on the effectiveness of LATF management programs. The co-efficient critical value of Government Policies have a significant influence on the effectiveness of LATF management programs, Capacity of Implementation has no significant influence on the effectiveness of LATF management programs and the Monitoring and Evaluation has a significant influence on the effectiveness of LATF management programs. On leadership and management the employees should be presented with opportunities to develop innovative methods besides the policies to innovate the management of LATF. Secondly it would be more helpful if the policies were county specific to facilitate a higher level of effectiveness on the management of the LATF funding. There is also need to sponsor the staff for higher studies as majority are diploma holders which is low considering that the requirements even for elective office has been raised to graduate status. Further study is recommended on the recruitment policies of LATF management Employees and why specifically majority have Diploma level as their highest education while the opportunities and Government policies are for graduate managers.