

**FACTORS INFLUENCING YOUTH ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT
PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MINISTRY OF EAST
AFRICAN COMMUNITY, LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION,
NAIROBI, KENYA**

BY

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Requirement for the Award of Degree of Master of Arts in Project Planning
and Management of the University Of Nairobi**

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DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has not been submitted for any award at any other institution.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this research project to my daughters, Abby and Shay, who look upon me for inspiration.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AGPO	Access to Government Procurement Opportunities
CBOs	Church Based Organizations
CPPMU	Central Planning and Programme Monitoring Unit
DYA	Directorate of Youth Affairs
EACLSP	East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection
E-mail	Electronic Mail
MODP	Directorate of Youth Development and Empowerment
GOK	Government of Kenya
ICGLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
ILO	International Labour Organization
KKV	Kazi Kwa Vijana
KII	Key Informant Interview
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
KNYC	Kenya National Youth Council
KYEP	Kenya Youth Empowerment Project
LPO	Local Purchase Order
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEACLSP	Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection
MOYA	Ministry of Youth Affairs
MOYAS	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
MSEs	Micro and Small Enterprises
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MTP I	Medium Term Plan I (2008-2012)
MTP II	Medium Term Plan I (2016-2021)
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations'

NYC	National Youth Council
NYES	National Youth Empowerment Strategy
NYP	National Youth Policy
NYS	National Youth Service
OEeD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PAYE	Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment
PPRA	Public Procurement Regulatory Authority
SACCOS	Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies
SCMU	Supply Chain Management Unit
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social sciences
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WEF	Women Enterprise Fund
WPAY	World Programme of Action for Youth
YAGPO	Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities
YEDF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund

ABSTRACT

The Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities is an affirmative action programme launched by the government to economically empower youth among other vulnerable groups. Other targeted groups include women and Persons with Disabilities. This is possible through the implementation of the Presidential Directive that 30% of government procurement opportunities be set aside specifically for these enterprises. This study aimed at investigating the factors that influence youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, Nairobi Kenya. The study focused on the State Departments for Labour and Social Protection. The study determined how communication influences the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities; established how planning influences the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities; assessed how monitoring and evaluation influence the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities and examined the extent to which funding influences the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities . The research design used in this study is a descriptive survey design. The targeted population was the 426 youth businesses prequalified by the 2 state departments to supply goods and services in the areas of ICT services, Professional Services and Consultancy, Small Works and Engineering, Fresh Produce and Agricultural Produce and General Supplies. The study also targeted 3 key informants including the heads of the Planning and Monitoring Unit, Supply Chain Management Unit and the National Youth Council. Both purposive as well as random sampling design was used. A sample of 108 youth enterprises constituting 25% of the population was asked to fill in a questionnaire. Of these, 84 returned the questionnaire. The study established that the factors that mostly influences youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection is funding; communication; monitoring & evaluation and planning in that order. The study recommends that the youth entrepreneurs should have a project plan that demonstrates the aspects of the projects that are carefully thought through and clearly defined plans for project execution and control to be formulated in order for the enterprises to attract funding from banks; financial institutions; LPO financing and grants. The study also recommends that Monitoring & evaluation should be frequent to maintain performance of the enterprises. The study recommends that the youth serving organizations should empower the youth by creating awareness on the procurement opportunities available.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

The Ministry of East African Community (EAC), Labour and Social Protection was formed as a result of re-organization of Government in May, 2013. The Ministry combined the former Ministry of Labour and part of the former Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development. The two former ministries have existed in various forms since independence in 1963. Presidential Circular No. 2 of 2013 which effectively constituted the re-organized government placed the following departments under the Ministry; the Department of Labour, Office of the Registrar of Trade Unions, Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services (DOSHS), Department of Children Services, Department of Social Development, Social Protection Secretariat, National Employment Bureau (NEB), Productivity Centre of Kenya (PCK) and the Directorate of National Human Resource Planning and Development.(Executive Order no 1of 2016)

In 2013, His Excellency the President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta, directed that the procurement rules be amended to allow 30 % of contracts to be given to the youth, women and persons with disability without competition from established firms.(Treasury Circular No. 14/2013). The aim of the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities Program is to facilitate the youth, women and persons with disability-owned enterprises to be able to participate in government procurement. This is a programme of youth empowerment meant to address the youth unemployment problem.

The Ministry of East African Community (EAC), Labour and Social Protection is one of the institutions expected to implement the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities . It is affirmative action aimed at empowering youth, women and persons with disability-owned enterprises by giving them more opportunities to do business with Government.

The Kenya Constitution defines the youth as the collectivity of all persons who have attained the age of 18 years but have not attained the age of 35 years. (Constitution of Kenya, 2010) They are projected to be about 16 million and constitute 33% of our population (KNBS, 2014).

Youth unemployment is essentially a potentially developing problem, a time bomb that calls for urgent action. The government in collaboration with stakeholders must pursue appropriate measures to curb joblessness among the youth. Since Kenya is not well-endowed with natural resources, her people are the nation's most valuable resource. Unemployed youth are an economic burden on the employed and by extension on the government. This has the effect of depressing savings, investments and consequently leads to slow economic growth. (MOYAS, 2009)

1.2 Statement of the problem

Youth Unemployment Statistics from indicate that 60% of the Kenyan population is under the age of 35 and the rate of Kenyan unemployment is approximately 40% while an estimated 64% of unemployed Kenyans are youth. KNBS (2014). This clearly indicates that unemployment in Kenya is a youth problem. Njonjo (2010)

In the past, the government attempted to address youth unemployment in Kenya through policies, programs, and projects such as policy on the development of medium and small business enterprises. However, there are a number of emerging challenges faced in the process of implementing employment policies, strategies and programs. These include: High population growth rate among the youth which exerts pressure on available resources: Low economic growth rate: An education system that produces graduates who are neither properly equipped for entry into the job market nor possess the necessary life skills: Lack of adequate resources to run youth programs: Structures and attitudes within public and private sectors that do not provide an enabling environment for the youth to participate in decision-making, planning and implementation process: Lack of harmonization of youth programs and policies carried out by the government, youth organizations and international agencies, leading to duplication of efforts.(MOYAS,2009)

According to reports from the National Treasury, all the Ministries had set aside Ksh. 21,382,976,758 to be awarded to Youth, Women and Persons with Disabilities enterprises in the 2015/2016 financial year. From this amount, a total of Ksh 9,553,656,259 worth of tenders was awarded to these categories representing 44.68% of the performance contract targets. Further, all the ministries, State Law Office, Judicial Service Commission and Parliamentary Service Commission spent Ksh 210,185,874,908 on procurement during the financial year. This means that the special categories were awarded 4.45% of the total procurement spend against the required minimum of 30%. The Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection awarded a total of Ksh 63,998,539 against a total procurement spend of Ksh 963,692,885 representing

6.64%. This not only contravenes the public procurement and disposal act, 2015, but also threatens the success of the youth empowerment programme

In order to realize sustainability of the programme, there is an urgent need to address challenges facing implementation of the Youth Access to Government Procurement. This study therefore seeks to investigate factors that influence Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, Nairobi, Kenya.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study was to investigate factors influencing Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, Nairobi, Kenya.

1.4 Objectives of the study

The following objectives guided the study:-

1. To determine how communication influences Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities.
2. To establish how planning influences Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities.
3. To assess how monitoring and evaluation influence Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities.
4. To examine how funding influences Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities.

1.5 Research questions

The following questions guided the study:-

1. How does communication influence the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities?
2. How does planning influence the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities?
3. How does monitoring and evaluation influence Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities?
4. To what extent does funding influence Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities?

1.6 Significance of the study

This study will be of importance to several stakeholders including the government of Kenya, youth serving organizations, development partners, researchers and scholars. To the Government of Kenya, this study might be of benefit to all government procuring entities in general and the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection in particular. It might inform on the best practices to make the programme successful and sustainable. The Ministry of Public Service, Youth & Gender Affairs may benefit in policy formation governing youth empowerment projects in the country as well as establishing effective systems of controlling and monitoring youth empowerment projects in the country.

To development partners and youth serving organizations, the study may assist in planning for implementation of other youth empowerment programmes by reducing risks and overcoming challenges during implementation. To researchers, the study will suggest

areas for further research to build on knowledge on factors influencing implementation of youth empowerment programmes as well serve as a reference for scholars.

1.7 Delimitations of the study

This study was specifically confined to the State Departments for Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, Nairobi, Kenya. It was carried out at the Ministry headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya. The scope of the study was youth enterprises.

1.8 Limitations of the study

The YAGPO is a small component of youth empowerment programme. The Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection has offices across the country where procurement of goods and services takes place. The study was only limited to the State Departments for Labour and Social Protection Headquarters and may therefore be limited in scope considering the study wanted to get a picture of the entire programme. Limited time to carry out the research by the researcher and the resistance by government officers to reveal the required information were other limitations. To counter these limitations, the researcher looked for research assistance in order to collect data within the limited time. The researcher also assured respondents confidentiality as well as explained the value of the study so that officers and other stakeholders would give the required information.

1.9 Assumptions of the study

This study assumed that:-

1. The sample was a representative of the population the study wished to make inferences to.
2. The respondents were truthful in answering the questions.

1.10 Definition of significant terms used in the study

Government Procurement Opportunities: It is affirmative action programme aimed at empowering youth, women and persons with disability-owned enterprises by giving them more opportunities to do business with Government.

Communication: Communication in this study refers to the flow of information between youth firms and government players including, MEACLSP, PPOA, DYA and the National Treasury. It refers to awareness by youth enterprises on guidelines for them to successfully take up the programme

Funding: Funding in this study is the amount of money reserved for the AGPO programme, resources allocated for sensitization and startup capital for youth. It also includes sources of financing for youth enterprises.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Monitoring is the routine collection and analysis of information on the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities programme in order to track progress, check compliance with the regulations to make informed decisions on management of the programme. Evaluation in this study is the systematic assessment of the design and implementation of YAGPO to determine fulfillment of objectives

Planning: Planning in this study is the process where MEACLSP defines the YAGPO intervention's intended objectives, inputs and activities needed to accomplish them. It includes planning how the program will be managed, identifying a management team for their enterprises where possible, ensuring clear roles, establishing policies and procedures, undergoing business training and developing a financial plan.

Youth –All individuals, male and female, in the Republic of Kenya who have attained the age of eighteen years but have not attained the age of thirty five years.

Youth access: the value in Ksh of tenders allocated to youth.

Youth empowerment– Young people are empowered when they acknowledge that they have or can create choices in life, are aware of the implications of those choices, make an informed decision freely, take action based on that decision and accept responsibility for the consequences of those actions. Empowering young people means creating and supporting the enabling conditions under which young people can act on their own behalf, and on their own terms, rather than at the direction of others.

Youth Enterprise: A youth enterprise in this study refers to a legally registered business, with a registration certificate from the National Treasury in the form of a sole-proprietorship, partnership or registered company. For both the partnership and the registered company, the ownership in form of capital invested or shares owned should be at-least 70% for the youth.

1.11 Organization of the study

This research proposal is organized in five chapters with chapter one featuring the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study and objectives of the study. This chapter also explains the research questions, significance of the study, limitations and delimitations of the study, critical assumptions as well as definition of significant terms used in the study. Chapter two captures literature review and conceptual framework of the study. The chapter also highlights the literature gaps as well as the summary of the review.

Chapter three expounds on the research methodology which includes: research design, target population, sample size and sample selection. In addition, the chapter covers procedures of data collection, techniques of data collection as well as operational definition of variables. Methods of data analysis and ethical considerations are also discussed. Chapter four presents the data analysis, presentation, interpretation and discussion while chapter five gives a summary of the findings. It also features discussions, conclusions and recommendations. The chapter also highlights areas for further research.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter contains related literature to the present study. It focuses on brief overview of the management of youth empowerment programmes, overview of the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO), role of youth empowerment programmes in tackling youth unemployment and the factors that influence implementation of the Youth Access to Government Opportunities which include planning, communication, monitoring & evaluation and funding.

2.2 Overview of the youth empowerment in Kenya

According to the national youth and adolescent survey, 2015, it has been revealed that a strong, dynamic and empowered youth is critical in catalyzing the social, political, economic and cultural as well as policy transformation of a nation particularly in the developing countries. Based on the experience of the Asian tigers, an empowered youthful population with fewer dependants above 65 years and below 15 years is achievable by 2050. (NCPD, 2015) A strong, dynamic, responsive and empowered youth is critical in catalyzing and driving the transformations envisioned in the Constitution and the *Kenya Vision 2030*. The Kenya Housing and Population Census Report of 2009 (KNBS, 2010) estimates the population of youth in Kenya at 35.4% of the national population.

Youth face a myriad of challenges, key among them being unemployment, lack of professional skills demanded by the job market, high dependency levels that lead to slow

economic growth, increasing poverty levels and rising crime. (NYP, 2009) These and many others negatively impact on the overall objectives of the Constitution of Kenya, the Kenya Vision 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Since independence, youth issues in Kenya have been handled by different ministries. The former Ministry of State for Youth Affairs (MOYA) was established on 7th December, 2005 to represent and address youth concerns in Kenya. This was necessary against the reality that despite their numerical strength, youth were not well represented in the national, political and socio-economic development processes. Upon inception, the ministry coordinated and mainstreamed youth issues in the national development agenda. In order to integrate and harmonize issues affecting youth in Kenya, the government through the Presidential Circular no. 1 of 2008 reorganized the ministry to include the department of sports to become the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Under its strategic plan (2007-2012), MOYAS made significant achievements towards youth empowerment.

Through the executive order no. 2 of May 2013, the Government prioritized the implementation of youth empowerment functions through the Directorate of Youth Affairs under the Ministry of Devolution and Planning. However, sports and youth polytechnics functions were transferred to the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Arts and the Ministry of Education respectively. In November 2015, the President of the Republic of Kenya His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta reorganized Government and State Organizations and placed the Directorate of Youth Affairs under the Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs (Executive Order no1 of 2016).

Kenya's youth unemployment rate was estimated at 35 per cent in 2005/2006 compared to about 10 per cent for adults (KNBS, 2006). The youth unemployment also vary across age, sex and regions with the younger youths facing more severe unemployment than the older youths, the female youth facing about 50 per cent unemployment rate compared to about 30 per cent for male youth, and youth in the urban areas contending with higher rates of unemployment than those in the rural areas. The youth are also hardest hit by poverty with 56 per cent of the youth being poor as of 2009, and are more vulnerable with higher reported cases of early marriages, engagement in crime and violence, and drug and substance abuse. (KNBS, 2010)

According to the National Youth Empowerment Strategy (2015), the Kenya Government in collaboration with the private sector, civil society organizations and development partners have, over time, taken a number of policy, institutional, legal and programmatic measures to respond to the challenges facing the youth. The interventions have variously targeted promotion of youth development and empowerment through building of entrepreneurial and leadership capacities, enhancement of employable and life skills, and promotion of creativity and innovation among others. However, a number of challenges have been registered which have contributed to increased marginalization of youth excluding them from full participation in development.

2.3 Overview of Youth Empowerment Programmes in Kenya.

Kenya has a generally youthful population. The youth constituted 35.4 per cent of the population in 2009 up from 30.4 per cent in 1969. The youth to adult population ratio increased from 62.7 per cent of the adult population in 1979 to 66.7 per cent of the adult population in 2009. The high proportion of the youth to adult population signifies that

Kenya is facing a youth bulge. The youth bulge offers opportunities for economic, social and political development while at the same time poses challenges of risk and threat to the country's social cohesion and stability. (NYES, 2015)

Youth empowerment, which includes gender empowerment, is an integral component of the economic, social, cultural and political transformations that Kenya aspires to achieve. A major focus of the Kenya Government is a youth empowerment strategy that integrates attitudinal, structural and cultural processes through which youth gain the ability, authority and agency to make decisions, implement change in their own lives and the lives of other people, including peers and adults. (NYES, 2015)

As a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, Kenya is a signatory of the Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment (PAYE) 2007-2015 which provides a blueprint for youth development. Along with other United Nations Member States, the Government of Kenya also subscribes to the vision enshrined in the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY). WPAY provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of youth. It focuses on measures to strengthen national capacities in the field of youth and to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities available to youth for full, effective and constructive participation in society. (United Nations, WPAY 2010)

The political commitment of African governments to address the youth situation is also reflected in the adoption of the African Youth Charter (2006) and the Decade Plan of Action for Youth Development and Empowerment (2009-2018). The African Youth Charter serves as a political and legal framework for action that takes stock of the current

situation of youth in Africa. It comprehensively takes into account education, employment and issues affecting African youth, as well as youth participation in regional, sub-regional and national institutions. For instance, during a Special Summit held in Kenya in July 2014, the Heads of States and Governments of the 12 Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) adopted a Declaration in which they considered “The youth unemployment crisis as a disaster that can undermine our economies, threaten the peace and destabilize our institutions if it is not addressed (<http://icglr.org/index.php/en/homepage/135-laast-news/476-declaration-special-summit-on-youth-unemployment>)

The Government commitment to youth empowerment is anchored on Article 27 of the Constitution. This accords every person, including the youth, the right to equality and freedom from discrimination. Similarly, Article 43 grants every person economic and social rights while Article 55 compels the Government to take measures to promote youth empowerment. In this respect, the Government is required to take measures, including affirmative action programmes to ensure that the youth access relevant education and training; have opportunities to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, economic and other spheres of life; access employment and are protected from harmful cultural practices and exploitation (The Constitution of Kenya, 2010).

In an effort to enhance Youth empowerment the government is implementing a transformative youth empowerment program through the 5-Point Vision under the National Youth Service (NYS) that is prioritized as a flagship project of the *Kenya Vision 2030* and the Medium Term Plan II (2013-2017). In this respect, the *Kenya Vision 2030* and the Medium Term Plan II (2013-2017) seeks to promote transformative youth

empowerment through skills and talent development and exploitation of the entrepreneurial potential of the youth. The Government aims to achieve this by rebranding and redefining the role and mandate of the NYS. This will involve increasing intakes and promoting youth social movements which are guided by the principles of regimentation, rituals for bonding, livelihoods, identity and significance. The main goal will be to promote youth savings, community service, peace building and leadership skills. (<http://www.mygov.go.ke/?p=28>)

2.4 The AGPO programme

In 2013, His Excellency the President Uhuru Kenyatta directed that the procurement rules be amended to allow 30 per cent of contracts to be given to the youth, women and persons with disability without competition from established firms. (Treasury Circular No. 14/2013) The Public Procurement Directorate under the Ministry of Finance is in charge of the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) initiative which was launched at KICC on June 29th 2012. The Director of the Public Procurement Directorate was tasked with spearheading this initiative to enable youth, women and people with disability access 30% of Government Tenders.

The aim of the AGPO Program is to facilitate the youth, women and persons with disability-owned enterprises to be able to participate in government procurement. This will be made possible through the implementation of the Presidential Directive that 30% of government procurement opportunities be set aside specifically for these enterprises. It is affirmative action aimed at empowering youth, women and persons with disability-owned enterprises by giving them more opportunities to do business with Government. (<http://www.agpo.go.ke/pages/about-agpo>)

For the purpose of benefiting from preference and reservations schemes, an enterprise owned by youth, women or persons with disabilities shall be a legal entity that is registered with the relevant government body; and has at least seventy percent membership of youth, women or persons with disabilities and the leadership shall be one hundred percent youth, women and persons with disability, respectively. (<http://www.agpo.go.ke/pages/about-agpo>)

The public procurement and disposal act, 2015 Part XII, has laid out the rules for all accounting officers to reserve a prescribed percentage, not less than 30% to the disadvantaged groups who include the youth. What started as a presidential directive is now law. (The Government Printer, Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 207 (Acts No. 33))

2.5 Factors influencing youth access to government procurement opportunities

Under this section, past knowledge on communication, planning, monitoring and evaluation, and funding are explained on how they influence youth access to government procurement opportunities programme. Ethics and integrity has also been explained and how it can influence implementation of the programme.

2.5.1 Communication and the youth access to government procurement opportunities

The word “communication” according to McCutcheon, Schaffer and Wycoff (1994) originated from the Latin word “communis” which means “common”. Communication generally entails trying to establish common understanding with someone or a group of people. It is the process of transferring and understanding (the intended message) from one person or group (sender) to another person or group of people (the receiver), for effective response.

The thing to be communicated may be knowledge, value, a skill, an idea, belief or understanding concerning some action which the sender wants the receiver to perform or realize. Koontz (1998) defines communication as the means by which organized activity is verified. It may be looked upon as means by which social inputs are fed into social systems. It is also the means by which behavior is modified, change is effected, information is made productive and goals are achieved. In the light of the youth access to government procurement opportunities programme, effective communication will ensure the youth in project identification, design and planning, financing, ensuring they take full advantage of the opportunities.

One of the most crucial success factors in AGPO programme implementation is effective communication. If the various stakeholders such as The National Treasury, the Public Procurement Oversight Authority, and the Directorate of Youth Affairs do not know what their tasks are, the programme is likely to fail. The implementing team must maintain interactions with all stakeholders in the AGPO programme. Identification of appropriate channels of communication especially to the vulnerable youth groups will influence success of the programme.

2.5.2 Barriers to communication and the youth access to government procurement opportunities

Communication within organizations experiences obstacles which include among others expectations and perceptions, misunderstanding, selectivity and distractions. Koontz (1998) In expectations and perceptions, the youth expect to be fully involved in the planning of all programmes that affect them. However this is not always the case as top government officers design the programmes without their involvement. This makes the

youth to see little stake for themselves in a programme design in which they are not personally involved. Such lack of involvement has been a major drawback in the implementation of youth empowerment projects and this affects the programme in a negative way.

Misunderstanding in many cases affects communication within organizations. This creates divisions among the players. Similarly, where misunderstanding occurs in a youth project, this affects the way the project is implemented. For example, the way the programme managers communicate to the stakeholders is quite paramount. If for instance they decide to communicate any form of information through media then it has to be done in a language that all stakeholders will understand. Unfortunately, not all stakeholders understand the language used in the media and this may have a serious negative effect on project implementation. According to Werner (1995) distractions such as ringing phones, scheduled meetings and unfinished reports all contribute to the problem of hurried and sometimes misunderstood communications. In youth projects, if such distractions are experienced, they can be a major drawback to project implementation.

2.6 Planning and the youth access to government procurement opportunities

Planning is the process used by managers in organizations to identify and select goals and courses of action for the organization. The organizational plan that results from the planning process details the goals to be attained. According to Haughey (2000) the key to a successful project is in the planning. Creating a project plan is the first thing one should do when undertaking any kind of project. Often project planning is ignored in favour of getting on with the work. However, many people fail to realize the value of project plan

in saving time, money and many problems (Haughey 2000). Saleemi (2007) also points out that most projects are poorly defined or the project plans contain too many details, most of which are irrelevant. According to him the understatement of time, major activities and costs can be a major hurdle in project management.

2.6.1 Role of Plans in the youth access to government procurement opportunities programme

Like it has earlier been noted, any project which will be successful must have a plan. Writing the project plan provides a structured framework for thinking about how the project will be conducted and for considering risks. Project plan forces the players to think through their approach and make decisions about how to proceed. It also provides a vehicle to facilitate executive and customer review. It should make major assumptions explicit and provide a forum for communicating the planned approach and for obtaining appropriate approvals.

Project plan describes roles and responsibilities of the various organizational entities. It can also be used to communicate management systems and procedures to be used throughout the project. A project plan should tell us how, when, by whom and for how much (Chapman, 1997). It should demonstrate that all aspects of the project have received careful thought and that clearly defined plans for project execution and control have been formulated.

Similarly, in youth empowerment projects, planning is of paramount importance. All the project players should be brought on board and make the decision on how the project

shall proceed. If planning is ignored or not thoroughly done, the project is likely to be affected negatively.

The AGPO programme is based on government procurement plans. At the beginning of every financial year, Ministries, Counties, Departments and other government agencies draw out a procurement plan which is approved by the accounting officers. It is on the basis of these plans that the 30% procurement reservation is determined. However, it is quite uncommon to have these plans adhered to the letter by all the procuring entities.

2.7 Monitoring and evaluation and the youth access to government procurement opportunities

According to UNFPA (2004) monitoring is an ongoing process by which information is gathered concerning the implementation of a project or a program. It involves designing of activities to keep track of resources available, used and the quantity and quality of the operation carried out during each phase of the program so that its objectives will be met. Bamberger (1999) defines monitoring as "an internal project activity designed to provide constant feedback on the progress of a project, the problems it is facing, and the efficiency with which it is being implemented". Pamela, Joe and Nay (1994) asserts that monitoring in its general sense is used to describe a systematic framework to collect and analyze information on events associated with implementation of a policy with a view to improving their management.

Monitoring is a continuous management function that aims primarily at providing programme managers and key stakeholders with regular feedback and early indications of progress or lack thereof in the achievement of intended results. It tracks the actual

performance against what was planned or expected according to predetermined standards and it generally involves collecting and analyzing data on programme processes and results and recommending corrective measures. UNFPA (2004)

According to Handy (1993) the purpose of having effective monitoring systems may be to assist future planning process, to facilitate learning about controllable variances, to maintain performance within certain parameters or to continuously motivate people to achieve better results in the future. Monitoring information should be collected at specific time interval either; daily, monthly or quarterly. This information should be brought together so that it can answer questions such as; how well is the project doing? Is the staff doing the right things? What difference is the project making?

The main purpose of monitoring is to track all major programs variables - cost, time, scope and quality of deliverables. The overall objectives being; track and review actual projects accomplishment and results to projects plans; revision of the project plan to reflect accomplishment thus far and to revise the plan for the remaining work needed; provision of visibility into progress as the program proceeds so that the teams and management can take corrective actions early when projects performance varies significantly from original plans (Cordingley, 1995).

Project evaluation has been defined as an activity aimed at assessing the extent to which the project produced the intended impacts and the distribution of the benefits between the target different groups (Bamberger, 1999). According to McNamara, (1998), program evaluation involves carefully collecting information about a program or some aspects of a program in order to make necessary decision about the program.

Program evaluation can include any or a variety of at least thirty five different types of evaluation such as for needs assessment, accreditation, cost benefit analysis, effectiveness, efficiency, formative, summative, goal based, process, outcomes etc. the type of evaluation you undertake to improve your program depends on what you want to learn about the program (OEED, 1999). According to Eggers (1998) proper planning of an evaluation reduces the risks of the evaluation focusing on the wrong concerns, drawing wrong conclusions and provision of recommendations which will not be useful for the intended users of evaluation results. Guiding questions would include: Who wants the evaluation? Why do they want it? How do they intend to use it?

Ouchi and Johnson (1998) states that monitoring and evaluation are control systems intended to assess the performance of people, organizational units, and interventions and motivate people in order to improve their performance. They may relate to outcome, or to the behaviors required to produce outcome. According to Flamholtz and Tsui (1985) the key design features of monitoring and evaluation systems includes; Goals or standards on each dimension of performance for which an individual or unit is held responsible, measures of actual performance, evaluation, feedback and rewards.

According to Imboden (1998) the setting up of an M&E system for an agency or a project requires the following analysis: Determination of the information needs for an agency or project, determine what sort of information system a particular agency/project needs and how to collect it" determine what information should be available for the agency or project and then determine what information can be collected, determine who needs the information, determine what degree of confidence is needed and finally the choice of an evaluation system available.

M&E systems can be an effective way of providing constant feedback on the extent to which the projects are achieving their goals, Identify potential problems at an early stage and propose possible solutions, Monitor the accessibility of the project to all sectors of the target population. Monitor the efficiency with which the different component of the project are being implemented and suggest improvements, Evaluate the extent to which the projects is able to achieve its general objectives, Provide guidelines for the planning of future projects, Influence sector assistance strategy, improve project design, incorporate views of stakeholders and show need for midcourse corrections (Bamberger, 1999)

World Bank (1980) noted that Government institutions mandated to carry out monitoring and evaluation of projects are weak. Report noted that it is caused by internal inefficiencies and corruption. This then has made it difficult to measure efficiency of projects in Africa in meeting both the budget and the schedule.

In the AGPO programme, monitoring and evaluation is done at the ministry level by the public procurement oversight authority, the national treasury, the ministry in charge of youth issues as well as the central planning and monitoring unit. Any gaps in the performance of these organs of their M&E roles will influence the success of the programme.

2.8 Funding and the youth access to government procurement opportunities

According to the KNBS survey basic report on Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises (MSME) of 2016, funding is one of the major constraints of the medium, small and micro

enterprises. The enterprises cite lack of collateral for credit, high taxes and high license fees, very expensive loans as some of the challenges.

Several Youth Financing Models and Entrepreneurship financing models exist in Kenya. The Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) was established by the Government in 2006 to provide loans for on-lending to youth enterprises. It also aims at promoting youth entrepreneurship and facilitating youth employment abroad. The Women Enterprise Development Fund (WEDF) was established in 2007 to provide women with access to alternative financial services. UWEZO Fund was launched in 2013 to provide youth and women access to grants and interest free loans. It also provides mentorship opportunities to enable the youth and women take full advantage of the 30 per cent government procurement preference for youth, women and persons with disability. The UWEZO Fund also seeks to promote gainful self-employment among the youth and women, and to model an alternative framework for financing community-driven development. (<http://www.uwezo.go.ke/about-uwezo-fund>)

According to the National Youth Empowerment Strategy, 2015 (NYES), both the YEDF and the UWEZO Fund are not yet fully accessible to the youth. This is mainly due to the stringent requirements and the lengthy application and processing procedures, and the centralized nature of the decision making mechanisms of the Funds. They also do not have inbuilt mechanisms to deal with the challenges of accessibility, affordability and capacity that are inherent in youth financing systems in the country.

Effectiveness of the Funds in addressing youth financing and entrepreneurship may also be undermined by the central role played by the government as many youths may

consider it as a gift and not necessarily an instrument of empowerment. Youth-targeted entrepreneurship training, facilitated by different organizations, is going on at county and national levels. However, these trainings are uncoordinated hence undermining their effectiveness and quality (NYES, 2015).

2.9 Ethics and Integrity and the youth access to government procurement opportunities

According to Meredith and Mantel (2009), selecting a good project manager is not a simple task. The complex nature and multifaceted range of activities involved in managing projects precludes easily identifying managerial talent and continually stretches the capability of talented project manager. These are two contradictory viewpoints of a good project manager. One perspective prescribes a set of personal characteristics necessary to manage a project (Archibald, 1976). Such personal attributes include; aggressiveness, confidence, poise, decisiveness, good negotiator, resolution, entrepreneurship, toughness, integrity, versatility, multidisciplinary and quick thinking.

Romen (1985) noted that it would take an extra-ordinary individual to have all these critical personal characteristics. A more practical solution will be to determine critical problems faced by project managers and to select a person who can handle such difficulties. The shortcomings of this second perspective as argued by Slevin (1989) are that the primary problems of project managers are not really technical ones. The reason why managers fail at managing projects, he contends, is because they lack critical skills.

In 2003, the then Finance Minister David Mwiraria sent top civil servants on compulsory leave to streamline state procurement procedures. All procurement officers in job group

H and above and supplies officers were required to leave office within 10 days. The officers were accused of procurement of substandard goods and authorizing payment of undelivered goods and services. Corruption within procurement of public goods and services had gone beyond boundaries.(<http://www.network54.com/Forum/204096/>)

In a national call to action against corruption, H.E. the President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta on 23rd November 2015 declared corruption a national security threat. He urged both public officers and companies doing business with government to conduct themselves with the highest standards of ethical behavior and lead by example as required (Zimmerman, 2000)widely publish its periodical price list for goods and services (<http://www.president.go.ke/2015/11/23/statement-by-his-excellency-hon-uhuru-kenyatta-c-g-h-president-and-commander-in-chief-of-the-defence-forces-of-the-republic-of-kenya-on-a-national-call-to-action-against-corruption-state-house>).

For the AGPO programme to succeed both suppliers and public officers must be persons of integrity. Procurement is shrouded in corrupt dealings and mega scandals as witnessed in other youth empowerment programmes like the NYS empowerment programme and Youth Fund.

2.10 Theoretical Framework

The study is based on the youth empowerment theory (Zimmerman, 2000). The Empowerment Theory provides a unique conceptual framework for developing programs to enhance positive youth development, become motivated to actively apply skills and knowledge to become agents of positive change for themselves and in their communities (Zimmerman, 2000). Thus, programs based on Empowerment Theory focus

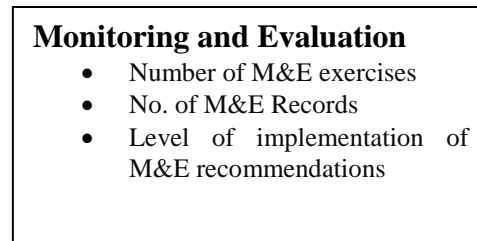
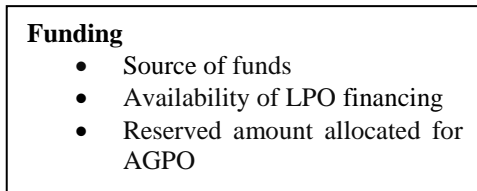
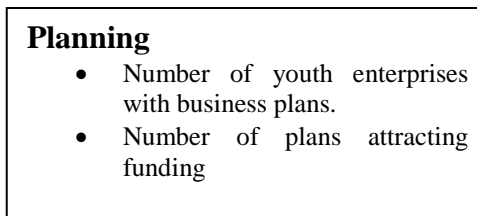
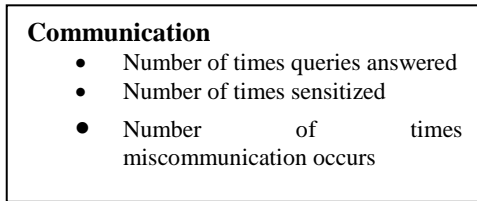
on building positive assets, connecting youth with local resources and adult role models, and engaging youth in community service activities.

Zimmerman summarizes the theory simply: “Empowerment theory connects individual well-being with the larger social and political environment, and suggests that people need opportunities to become active in community decision making in order to improve their lives, organizations, and communities.” A Youth Empowerment Model is the theory of youth empowerment, not only aiding in the development of youth, but also helping to create generations of civically minded youth that take strategic actions to improve their communities. (Zimmerman, 2000)

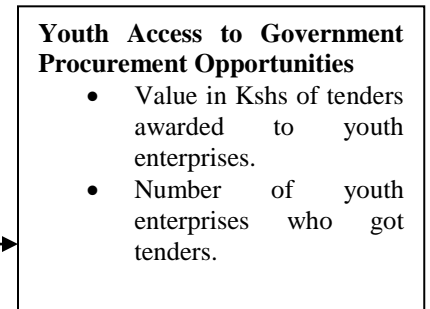
The youth access to government procurement opportunities aims at empowering the youth to become active members of the community by starting up business enterprises rather than wait for government to provide white collar jobs for them.

2.11 Conceptual Framework

Independent Variables



Dependent Variable



Intervening Variable

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

From the conceptual framework, implementation of youth empowerment projects (dependent variable) is affected by independent variables namely planning, funding, communication, monitoring and evaluation. The four variables are independent of each other but they jointly influence implementation of youth empowerment projects and programmes. Apart from the independent variables, the success of the programme also depends on ethics and integrity of implementers. Even if all other factors were held constant, ethics and integrity issues will count on how well the project will be implemented.

2.12 Summary

From the literature reviewed, it is evident that communication, planning, funding, monitoring and evaluation could influence the implementation of youth empowerment programmes. A study to determine if these variables influence the Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities Programme in The Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection has not been conducted. It would also be necessary to expand the methods of data collection by interviewing key stakeholders in the implementation of the programme.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter focuses on the research design which the study adopted, target population, sample and sampling procedures used, research instruments applied, data collection procedures and methods of data analysis.

3.2 Research Design

The research design used in this study was a descriptive survey design to investigate the factors influencing implementation of youth empowerment projects with specific focus on access to Government Procurement Opportunities Programme in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection. Kothari (2010) describes the descriptive survey design as studies which were concerned with describing the characteristics of a particular individual, or a group, whereas diagnostic research studies determine the frequency with which something occurs or its association with something else.

This type of design was appropriate for gathering information, summarizing, presenting and interpreting it for the purpose of clarification (Orodho & Njeru, 2004). The descriptive design was one of the most commonly used methods in behavior science. The method was appropriate for the study because it assisted the researcher to produce statistical information on factors that influence Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999).

3.3 Target Population

This study was carried out in the State Department for Labour and the State Department for Social Protection. The study targeted the heads of planning, supply chain management unit and head of the national youth council. There were 426 prequalified firms by youth enterprises who had expressed interest to do business with the State Departments. The firms were registered as per the regulations by the National Treasury and classified into 5 categories as shown in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Distribution of population summary – category of prequalified firms and the numbers (2015/2016 Financial Year)

Category	No. of Firms prequalified
General supplies	323
ICT services	69
Professional services & consultancy	18
Small works and engineering	12
Fresh Produce and Agricultural Products	4
Total	426

Source: MEACLSP (2016)

3.4 Sample Size

According to Trochim (2006), sampling is the process of selecting units (people, organizations) from a population of interest so that by studying the sample we may fairly

generalize the results back to the population from which they were chosen. A total of 108 firms were expected to fill questionnaires as shown in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2: Target population and sample size

Population Category	Population size	Population ratio	Sample size
General supplies	323	0.25	81
ICT services	69	0.25	18
Professional services & consultancy	18	0.25	5
Small works and engineering	12	0.25	3
Fresh Produce and Agricultural Products	4	0.25	1
TOTAL	426	0.25	108

Note: Data adapted by author from MEACLSP (2016)

3.4.1 Sampling Procedure

This study used both purposive sampling as well as simple random sampling. Purposive sampling is a technique that allows the researcher to use cases that have the required information with respect to the objectives of his or her study (Mugenda, 2003). Purposive sampling can be very useful for situations where you need to reach a targeted sample quickly and where sampling for proportionality is not the primary concern. With a purposive sample, you are likely to get the opinions of your target population, but you are also likely to overweight subgroups in your population that are more readily accessible.

Simple random sampling is the basic sampling technique where we select a group of subjects (a sample) for study from a larger group (a population). Each individual was chosen entirely by chance and each member of the population has an equal chance of being included in the sample. The researcher selected at least 25% of each category.

3.5 Research Instruments

In order to investigate the factors that influence implementation of AGPO programme in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, the researcher used:

3.5.1 Questionnaires

Questionnaires according to Sapsford and Japp (2006) are a method used to collect standardized data from large numbers of people -i.e. the same information is collected in the same way. They were used to collect data in a statistical form. Researchers usually use questionnaires or surveys in order that they can make generalizations; therefore, the surveys are usually based on carefully selected samples. Questionnaires consist of the same set of questions that were asked in the same order and in the same way in order that the same information can be gathered.

The advantages of questionnaires in conducting this research is that it was a practical method, large amounts of information was collected from a large number of people in a short period of time and in a relatively cost effective way. The method can be carried out by the researcher or by any number of people with limited effect to its validity and reliability. Equally, the results of the questionnaires can usually be quickly and easily quantified by either a researcher or through the use of a software package.

Questionnaires were given to the selected respondents from various youth enterprises. The questionnaire was divided into sections to cover information about the respondent. The other part covered research objective specific questions as well as recommendations of the respondent.

3.5.2 Key Informant Interviews

The researcher also used personal interviews to collect data from key informants. Key informant interviews were qualitative in-depth interviews with people who know what is going on in the community. The purpose of key informant interviews is to collect information from a wide range of people including community leaders, professionals, or residents—who had firsthand knowledge about the community. These community experts, with their particular knowledge and understanding, provide insight on the nature of problems and give recommendations for solutions. (https://www.wcasa.org/file_open.php)

The Head of the Supply Chain Management Unit (SCMU) in the State Department floats quotations and advertises tenders. The researcher expected this interview to provide an in depth information on the procurement process. The Head of Central Planning and Programme Monitoring Unit (CPPMU) in the State Department was expected to provide in depth answers on the planning and monitoring systems that addressed the research question.

The Kenya National Youth Council is a statutory organ; a body corporate established pursuant to the Kenya national youth council act number 10 of 2009 as an advisory, research and policy institution for youth affairs in the country. Among its functions is to

promote and popularize devolved funds targeting the youth as may be established from time to time. The head of the secretariat of the national youth council was approached to give views on the implementation of the AGPO programme.

3.5.3 Reliability of the Research Instrument

Reliability is the extent to which results are consistent over time and an accurate representative of the total population of a study. The results of a study are said to be reliable if they are reproducible under similar methodology, (Nahid 2003). Mugenda and Mugenda, (2003), define reliability as a measure of the degree to which a research instrument yields consistent results or data after repeated trials. The split-half method was used to test reliability of the tool. The sample was split into two, tests administered to the two halves using same tool, and the coefficient was computed using Spearman's Rank Correlation method. The reliability index was realized at 0.86 against a threshold of 0.75 that the research aimed at. This is good reliability according to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003)

3.5.4 Validity of the Research Instrument

Validity on the other hand is concerned with establishing whether the questionnaire content was measuring what it was supposed to measure. The researcher consulted the supervisor and other experts from the University of Nairobi to ascertain that the instrument measured the variables in the study.

3.6 Data Collection Procedures

A pilot investigation was conducted to assess the quality of the data collection instrument. The results were helpful in revising the questionnaire to make it more

appropriate for the study. The researcher then booked appointments with various respondents and explained the purpose of the research. The questionnaires were then distributed to various respondents. The researcher also conducted personal interview with the Head of the Supply Chain Management Unit, Head of Central Planning and Monitoring Unit- State Department for Labour and the State Department for Social Protection and Head of the National Youth Council Secretariat. Secondary data was also collected from documented literature in form of AGPO reports from the National Treasury and the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, as well as other publications.

3.7 Data Analysis

Data analysis is a process of inspecting, cleaning, transforming, and modeling data with the goal of discovering useful information, suggesting conclusions, and supporting decision-making. Data analysis has multiple facets and approaches, encompassing diverse techniques under a variety of names, in different business, science, and social science domains. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data_analysis). The researcher analysed both qualitative and quantitative data.

3.7.1 Quantitative Data Analysis

The quantitative data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics. This enabled the researcher to meaningfully describe a distribution of scores or measurements using a few indices or statistics (Mugenda, 2003). This method was preferred because it helped to show status quo, frequencies, mean and mode among the variables. It gave a perspective on communication, planning, monitoring and evaluation systems, funding and how they

affect the implementation of youth empowerment projects. It also used correlation. This was a technique that was used to analyze the degree of relationship between two variables. The researcher also used Pearson's correlation (r) in order to correlate the strength of relationship between the dependent variable and independent variables.

Data collected was coded, scored and then keyed in the computer for analysis by the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). It was also tabulated into means, percentages and frequencies. To make reliable inferences from the data, the correlation was subjected to a test of significance at the level of 0.1.

3.7.2 Qualitative Data Analysis

Qualitative data derived from the key informant interviews was subjected to qualitative data analysis. The qualitative data was related to concepts, opinions values, behaviours and experiences of people in a social context (www.socialresearchmethods.net/kb/qualdata.php). The qualitative data analysis was the range of processes and procedures whereby we moved from the qualitative data that had been collected into some form of explanation, understanding or interpretation of the people or situations we are investigating (http://onlineqda.hud.ac.uk/Intro_QDA/what_is_qda.php). The data was analyzed for emerging trends, themes and associations in regard to the research questions.

3.8 Ethical Issues

The researcher committed to ensuring the highest quality and integrity of the research. Before embarking on data collection, the researcher obtained a research permit from the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation. Before administering the data collection tools, the researcher sought informed consent. Confidentiality and

anonymity of the research respondents was observed. No respondent was coerced into participating in the research.

3.9 Operational Definition of Variables

In this section, the researcher identified behavioural dimensions, indicators or properties by the main variables under the study in order to make them measurable. The measurements were both objective and subjective.

Table 3.3 shows the operational indicators which was used during the investigation on factors influencing implementation of AGPO programme in the State Department for Labour and the State Department for Social Protection.

Table 3.3: Operational definition of variables

Objective	Variable	Indicators	Measurement scale	Tools of analysis
To determine how communication influences Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities	<u>Independent</u> Communication	Level of awareness Barriers to communication Effectiveness of the communication	Ordinal Nominal Ordinal	Measurement of central tendencies, mode, mean and average for descriptive statistics and ANOVA for inferential statistics
To establish how planning influences Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities.	<u>Independent</u> Planning	Types of planning Effectiveness in planning Barriers to effective planning	Nominal / ordinal Ordinal Nominal	Measurement of central tendencies, mode, mean and average for descriptive statistics and ANOVA for inferential statistics

To assess how monitoring and evaluation influence Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities.	<u>Independent</u> Monitoring and Evaluation	Number of M&E exercises M&E Records on monitored and evaluated projects Level of implementation of M&E recommendations	Ordinal Ordinal Ordinal	Measurement of central tendencies, mode, mean and average for descriptive statistics and ANOVA for inferential statistics
To examine how funding influences Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities.	<u>Independent</u> Funding	Amount of money received for total procurement Reserved allocation for AGPO Sources Categories of goods sought Availability of LPO financing	Ordinal Ordinal Nominal Nominal Ordinal	Measurement of central tendencies, mode, mean and average for descriptive statistics and ANOVA for inferential statistics
Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities	<u>Dependent</u>	Uptake of the programme Increased sources of income Impact of the programme	Ordinal Ordinal Ordinal	Measurement of central tendencies, mode, mean and average for descriptive statistics and ANOVA for inferential statistics

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter is a presentation of results and findings obtained from field responses and data. The data is presented in tables interpreted and discussed based on the variables investigated: communication; planning; monitoring & evaluation; funding and access.

4.2 Response Rate

From the data collected, out of the 108 questionnaires administered to the prequalified firms by youth enterprises, 84 were filled and returned. This represented a 77.8% response rate, which is considered satisfactory to make conclusions for the study. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) a 50% response rate is adequate, 60% good and above 70% rated very good. This is also in line with Bailey (2000) assertion that a response rate of 50% is adequate, while a response rate greater than 70% is very good. This implies that based on this assertion; the response rate in this case of 77.8% is very good. The response rate is presented in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Response Rate

	Frequency	Percentage
Returned questionnaires	84	77.8%
Unreturned questionnaires	24	22.2%
Total	108	100%

This high response rate can be attributed to the data collection procedures, where the researcher followed-up the respondents by phone call and pre-notified the potential

participants to send in their response via emails. The list of the enterprises that participated is attached as Appendix V.

4.3 Demographic Information

The study sought to determine the demographic information of the respondents on the name of the enterprises that participated in the study; sex; age bracket; highest academic level; business enterprise; registration; category of goods and county situated.

4.3.1 Gender Distribution of Respondents

The study established the gender distribution of the respondents. The findings are presented in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Gender Distribution of Respondents

Category	Frequency	Percent
Male	40	47.6
Female	44	52.4
Total	84	100.0

The findings revealed that 52.4% of the respondents were females while 47.6% of the respondents were males. The findings showed that both men and women had equal chances of being registered as youth enterprises and accessing tenders.

4.3.2 Age bracket of the respondents

The study investigated the age bracket of the respondents. The findings are presented on Table 4.3.

Table 4.3: Age bracket of the respondents

Category	Frequency	Percent
26-35 years	51	60.7
35 years and above	33	39.3
Total	84	100.0

The findings established that 60.7% of the respondents were aged between 26 and 35 years while 39.3% of the respondents were 35 years and above. The study established that a few of the enterprises include persons above the age of the youth category. The youth must however be the majority shareholders for the enterprise to be registered as such.

4.3.3 Highest Academic Level

The study established the highest academic level of the respondents. The findings are presented in Table 4.4.

Table 4.4: Highest Academic Level

Category	Frequency	Percent
Certificate	11	13.1
Diploma	19	22.6
Bachelor's degree	39	46.4
Master's degree	8	9.5
Others	7	8.3
Total	84	100.0

The findings revealed that the majority of the respondents 46.4% had attained bachelor's degree; 22.6% had attained diploma; 13.1% had attained certificates; 9.5% had attained

master’s degree and 8.3% had attained other professional qualifications such as CPA in accounting. The findings established that the respondents were highly educated and had knowledge on the factors influencing youth access to government procurement opportunities. This could also be interpreted as increased innovation by graduates to address high unemployment and underemployment.

4.3.4 Business Enterprise

The study established the kind of business enterprise that the respondents manage. The findings are presented in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5: Type of Business Enterprise

Category	Frequency	Percent
Sole proprietorship	34	40.5
Partnership	50	59.5
Total	84	100.0

The findings revealed that 59.5% of the respondents were in partnership business enterprise while 40.5% of the respondents were in sole proprietorship business enterprise. The findings deduced that majority of the respondents had partnered with other colleagues to form a partnership business enterprise. The partnerships included partnering with non- youths though the youth had majority shares.

4.3.5 Registration by the National Treasury for the AGPO programme

The study sought to establish whether the business enterprises are registered by the National Treasury for the AGPO programme. The findings revealed that all the prequalified firms by youth enterprises were registered by the National Treasury after

meeting the necessary requirements. This was deduced to mean that the registration process is simplified to suit the needs of the youth.

4.3.6 Category of Goods sold by the Enterprises

The study established the category of goods sold by the enterprises. The findings are presented on Table 4.6.

Table 4.6: Category of Goods

Category	Frequency	Percent
General supplies	71	84.5
ICT services	8	9.5
Professional services & consultancy	3	3.6
Small works and engineering	1	1.2
Fresh Produce and Agricultural Products	1	1.2
Total	84	100.0

The findings reveal that the category of goods that are sold by the enterprises was general supplies. This accounted for 84.5% of the respondents. 9.5% of the firms provide ICT services; 3.6% of the firms provide professional services and consultancy while 1.2% of the firms provide small works and engineering and fresh produce and agricultural products respectively. Majority of the youth enterprises were registered under the General Supplies to increase their chances of getting a job from a wide variety of supplies.

4.3.7 Location of the Enterprise

The study established the location of the business enterprises. The findings are presented in Table 4.7.

Table 4.7: Location of the Enterprise

Category	Frequency	Percent
Nairobi County	78	92.9
Others	6	7.1
Total	84	100.0

The findings revealed that 92.9% of the respondents were situated in Nairobi County while other business enterprises were situated outside Nairobi County. The study deduced that majority of the prequalified firms by youth enterprises were situated in Nairobi County. The findings were also interpreted to mean that youth enterprises outside Nairobi were not given a fair chance to do business with the national government at the headquarters.

4.4 Communication

The study sought to determine how communication influences Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities. The following subsections were investigated:

4.4.1 Sensitization on government procurement

The study sought to investigate whether sensitization was carried out to create awareness for government procurement. The findings revealed that all prequalified firms by youth

enterprises were sensitized on how to carry out government procurement. This might have taken place during the time of registration or while delivering quotations.

4.4.2 Medium of Communication

Further the study sought to determine the medium of communication used by the prequalified firms of youth enterprises. The findings revealed that the prequalified firms of youth enterprises were sensitized through a one on one sensitization forum. The study deduced that the reason behind this medium of communication is that it took place when the respondents were applying for these opportunities at the Ministry.

4.4.3 Communication Flow

The study sought to rate the communication flow from following institutions as far as the AGPO programme is concerned. The findings are presented in Table 4.8.

Table 4.8: Communication Flow

Category	very good	good	Fair	Poor	Mean	Std. Dev.
Treasury	26	31	15	12	2.15	1.024
MEACLSP	3	16	46	19	2.96	0.752
Youth Directorate	7	23	39	15	2.74	0.852
PPRA	8	10	37	29	3.04	0.924

The findings in Table 4.8 reveal that the majority of the respondents indicated that communication flow from the treasury is good with a mean of 2.15; the respondents rated that communication from the MEACLSP was fair with a mean of 2.96; the respondents also noted that communication from the youth directorate was fair with a mean of 2.74

and lastly, the respondents indicated that communication from PPRA was fair with a mean of 3.04. Generally the study deduced that communication flow from key stakeholders was not very efficient.

4.4.4 Response Rate of the Stakeholders

The study sought to determine whether the stakeholders respond to queries immediately as required. The findings are presented in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9: Response Rate of the Stakeholders

Category	Frequency	Percent
Yes	10	11.9
No	20	23.8
At times	54	64.3
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.9 reveals that 64.3% of the respondents indicated that the stakeholders respond to queries at times; 23.8% of the respondents indicated that the stakeholders do not respond to queries while 11.9% of the respondents indicated that the stakeholders do respond to queries. This indicates that communication flow with key stakeholders was not very effective as many queries regarding AGPO were not addressed.

4.4.5 Wrong Information with Regard to AGPO

The study sought to determine whether the respondents have received wrong information with regard to AGPO. The findings are presented in Table 4.10.

Table 4.10: Wrong Information with Regard to AGPO

Category	Frequency	Percent
Very often	2	2.4
Often	2	2.4
Fairly often	38	45.2
Rarely	18	21.4
Not at all	24	28.6
Total	84	100.0

The findings in Table 4.10 reveal that majority of the respondents at 45.2% indicated that they fairly often receive wrong information with regards to AGPO; 28.6% indicated that they do not receive wrong information with regards to AGPO; 21.4% indicated that they rarely receive wrong information with regards to AGPO; 2.4% indicated that they very often and often receive wrong information with regards to AGPO respectively.

4.5 Planning

The study sought to establish how planning influences Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities.

4.5.1 Previous Business

The study sought to determine whether the respondents were in business before introduction of the AGPO programme. The findings are presented in Table 4.11.

Table 4.11: Previous Business

Category	Frequency	Percent
Yes	23	27.4
No	61	72.6
Total	84	100.0

The findings in table 4.11 reveal that 72.6% of the respondents were not in business before introduction of the AGPO programme while 27.4% were previously in businesses. This finding deduced that the YAGPO programme presented opportunities for startups of new businesses.

4.5.2 Motivation to try government procurement business

The study sought to investigate the motivation behind the respondents to try out government procurement business. The findings are presented in Table 4.12.

Table 4.12: Motivation to try government procurement business

Category	Frequency	Percent
Self-Motivation	34	40.5
Friends	26	31.0
Media	23	27.4
Others	1	1.2
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.12 reveals that 40.5% of the respondents indicated that self-motivation was the reason for majority respondents to try out government procurement business; 31% indicated their friends; 27.4% indicated the media created awareness about government

procurement business and hence they were motivated. Moreover, 1.2% of the respondents indicated that they were motivated by other reasons such as opportunities opened; education and their families.

4.5.3 Business Plan

The study sought to determine whether the respondents have a business plan. The findings are presented in Table 4.13.

Table 4.13: Business Plan

Category	Frequency	Percent
Yes	69	82.1
No	15	17.9
Total	84	100.0

The findings presented in Table 4.13 reveal that 82.1% of the respondents indicated that they do have business plans while 17.9% indicated that they do not have business plans. The study deduced that the majority of the prequalified firms by youth enterprise do have business plans. This finding was interpreted to mean that some of the enterprises were not prepared to do business.

4.5.4 Raising Capital

The study sought to determine in the event the respondents get a job to supply some goods or services to the Ministry, whether they have planned on how to raise the capital. The respondents overwhelming indicated that they do have a plan on how to raise the capital.

4.6 Monitoring and evaluation

The study sought to assess how monitoring and evaluation influence Youth Access to government procurement opportunities.

4.6.1 Visitation of Officials

The study sought to determine the times the given officials visit or call to monitor the AGPO programme. The findings revealed that officials from the Treasury; MEACLSP (Labour Ministry); youth directorate and PPOA did not visit or call any of the any of the business enterprises.

4.6.2 Monitoring Team Visitation

The study sought to determine whether the monitoring team visited their office/ business premises. The findings are presented in Table 4.14.

Table 4.14: Monitoring Team Visitation

Category	Frequency	Percent
Yes	26	31.0
No	58	69.0
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.14 reveals that the respondents indicated that the monitoring team did not visit their office/ business premises. This accounted for 69% of the respondents. 31% indicated that the monitoring team did visit their office/ business premises. The finding indicates that the monitoring was not carried out in most of the enterprises and this could have negatively affected the performance of the firms.

4.7 Funding

The study sought to examine how funding influences Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities. The findings were presented as follows:

4.7.1 Source of Funds

The study sought to determine the sources of funds for the business enterprise. The findings are presented in table 4.15.

Table 4.15: Source of Funds

Category	Frequency	Percent
Self	15	17.9
Family	33	39.3
Bank loans	18	21.4
Others	18	21.4
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.15 illustrate that 39.3% of the respondents indicated that their source of funds is from family support; 21.4% of the respondents indicated that their source of funds is from banks loans; microfinance loans; shylocks; youth funds; women group funds; Chama group funding; table banking among other sources of funds. 17.9% of the respondents indicated that they fund their own business enterprises.

4.7.2 Supply of Goods to Government Institution

The study sought to determine whether the business enterprises have ever supplied goods to any government institution. The findings are presented in Table 4.16.

Table 4.16: Supply of Goods to other Government Institutions

Category	Frequency	Percent
Yes	27	32.1
No	57	67.9
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.16 illustrates 67.9% of the respondents indicated that they had not supplied goods to government institutions while 32.1% of the respondents indicated that they did supply goods to government institutions. This was deduced to mean that the opportunities available for supply to government were very minimal and highly competitive.

4.7.3 Type of Goods Supplied:

The study sought to determine the type of goods supplied goods to other government institutions. The findings are presented in Table 4.17.

Table 4.17: Type of Goods Supplied

Category	Frequency	Percent
General supplies	20	23.8
ICT services	4	4.8
Professional services & consultancy	1	1.2
Fresh Produce and Agricultural Products	1	1.2
Those who did not supply goods	58	69.0
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.17 reveals that 23.8% of the respondents supplied general supplies; 4.8% supplied ICT services; 1.2% supplied professional services and consultancy while 1.2%

of the respondents supplied fresh produce and agricultural products. 69% of the respondents accounted for those who did not supply goods to MEACLSP. This was deduced to mean that majority of the youth enterprises that were only engaged in supply of low value goods and services.

4.7.4 LPO Financing

The study sought to determine whether the respondents got LPO financing. The findings are presented in Table 4.18.

Table 4.18: LPO Financing

Category	Frequency	Percent
Yes	60	71.4
No	24	28.6
Total	84	100.0

Table 4. 18 reveals that 71.4% of the respondents indicated that they got LPO financing while 28.6% of the respondents indicated that they did not receive LPO financing for their business enterprises. This can be deduced to mean that LPO financing was not available to all firms.

4.7.5 LPO Financing Institutions

The study further sought to determine from what institution their business enterprises got their LPO financing. The findings are presented in table 4.19.

Table 4.19: LPO Financing Institutions

Category	Frequency	Percent
Youth Enterprise Development Fund	16	19.0
Women Enterprise Fund	7	8.3
Uwezo Fund	31	36.9
Financial Institutions	20	23.8
Others	10	11.9
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.19 reveals the LPO financing institutions that fund business enterprises. 36.9% indicated Uwezo Fund; 23.8% indicated financial institutions; 19.0% indicated Youth Enterprise Development Fund; 11.9% indicated other means of obtaining funding such as friendly loans and 8.3% indicated Women Enterprise Fund Good.

The study further sought to investigate whether they are paid in time. The study found out that the business enterprises were never paid in due time but payments were delayed and classified as pending bills.

4.8 Access

The study sought to examine factors that influence Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities.

4.8.1 Order to supply to the Ministry of EACLSP

The study sought to investigate whether the business enterprises have ever received an order to supply to the Ministry of East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection.

The findings are presented in Table 4.20.

Table 4.20: Order to supply to the Ministry of EACLSP

Category	Frequency	Percent
Yes	63	75.0
No	21	25.0
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.20 reveals that 75% of the respondents indicated that the business enterprises have ever received an order to supply to the Ministry of East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection while 25% of the respondents indicated that the business enterprises have not received an order to supply to the Ministry of East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection. This meant that a prequalification to supply to the Ministry is not a guarantee that the youth enterprises will get jobs.

4.8.2 Type of Goods

The study further sought to investigate the types of goods that are supplied to the Ministry of East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection. The findings are presented in Table 4.21.

Table 4.21: Type of Goods Supplied to the Ministry of EACLSP

Category	Frequency	Percent
General supplies	35	41.7
ICT services	22	26.2
Professional services & consultancy	6	7.1
Those who did not supply	21	25
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.21 reveals that 41.7% of the business enterprises supplied general supplies; 26.2% supplied ICT services and 7.1% of the business enterprises offered Professional services and consultancy. 25% of the business enterprises did not supply goods to the Ministry of East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection.

4.8.3 Value of the Tender

The study sought to determine the value of the tender to supply goods to the Ministry of East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection. The findings are presented in Table 4.22.

Table 4.22: Value of the Tender

Category	Frequency	Percent
Below Ksh 100,000	35	55.6
Above Ksh 100,000	28	44.4
Total	63	100.0

Table 4.22 illustrate that 55.6% of the respondents value of tender awarded was below Ksh. 100, 000 while 44.4% of the respondents was above Ksh. 100, 000. This shows that most of the jobs available for the youth were of low value and hence the profit margins were low.

The study further sought to investigate whether the procurement opportunities in the Ministry had improved their livelihood in any way. The findings are presented in Table 4.23.

Table 4.23: Improved Livelihood of Business Entrepreneurs

Category	Frequency	Percent
To a big extent	20	23.8
To some extent	52	61.9
No improvement	12	14.3
Total	84	100.0

Table 4.23 illustrate that 61.9% of the respondents had their livelihoods improved to some extent; 23.8% of the respondents had their livelihoods improved to a big extent while 14.3% of the respondents indicated that their livelihoods were not improved in any way. This is deduced to mean that if the programme is streamlined it could have a big positive impact to the youth in Kenya.

4.8.4 Respondent's Recommendations

The study sought to determine recommendations from the respondents on improving the youth access to government procurement opportunities.

The respondents gave recommendations that the youth should be given business of profitable value. The respondents indicated that most of the tenders advertised for the youth which are of good value are often cancelled on the closing date and they are never re-advertised.

The respondents recommended that there should be transparency. The processes should be fair also to youth and give them equal opportunities with other. The respondents also recommended that government should do their payment without delay to enable youth to deliver.

The respondents recommended that they should empower youth, women and persons with disabilities through giving them opportunities in government tenders and pay them within a short period of time within a minimum of 30 days. The respondents recommended that they should create more awareness to local leaders and implement efficient access systems.

4.9 Inferential Statistics

The study sought to establish the factors influencing youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection Nairobi, Kenya. The factors investigated were: communication; planning; monitoring & evaluation and funding. The findings are presented in Table 4.24.

Table 4.24: Pearson Correlation Table

	Communication	Planning	M&E	Funding	Youth access to gov't procurement opportunities
Communication	1	.379**	.307*	.441**	.541**
		.005	.024	.001	.001
	84	84	84	84	84
Planning	.379**	1	.363**	.518**	.318**
	.005		.007	.000	.000
	84	84	84	84	84
M&E	.307*	.363**	1	.177	.214**
	.024	.007		.199	.000
	84	84	84	84	84
Funding	.441**	.518**	.177	1	.631**
	.001	.000	.199		.007
Youth access to gov't procurement opportunities	84	84	84	84	84

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

* . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Table 4.24 shows that all the predictor variables were shown to have a positive association between them at a significant level of 0.05 and hence included in the analysis.

There was strong positive relationship between funding and Youth access to gov't procurement opportunities (correlation coefficient of 0.631) and between communication and Youth access to gov't procurement opportunities (correlation coefficient of 0.541).

The Pearson Correlation findings established that the factors that influence youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, Nairobi, Kenya were funding and communication of government procurement opportunities.

A summary of the correlation between the variables is presented in Table 4.25

Table 4.4: Pearson Correlation Coefficients

	communication	planning	M&E	funding	Youth access to gov't procurement opportunities
Communication	1	0.379	0.307	0.441	.541
Planning	0.379	1	0.363	0.518	0.318
M&E	0.307	0.363	1	0.177	0.214
Funding	0.441	0.518	0.177	1	0.631
Youth access to gov't procurement opportunities	0.541	0.318	0.214	0.631	1

Youths in business enterprises are faced with the challenge of getting funding to start, grow and develop their business enterprises. This is then followed by the challenge of communication in government procurement opportunities. These opportunities are given to a few youths in the industry.

4.10 Discussion of the findings

The study observed that Funding contributed the greatest influence to the youth access to government opportunities at a correlation coefficient of 0.631. 39.3% of the respondents indicated that their source of funds is from family support; 21.4% of the respondents indicated that their source of funds is from banks loans; microfinance loans; shylocks; youth funds; women group funds; Chama group funding; table banking among other sources of funds. 17.9% of the respondents indicated that they fund their own business enterprises. With the very expensive loans, majority of the enterprises are unlikely to survive beyond one year. This relates with KNBS 2016 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Survey Basic Report that identified funding as a major constraint for MSME businesses where all the youth enterprises fall.

The study established that communication flow between the youth enterprises and government agencies was not very smooth. 64.3% of the respondents indicated that the stakeholders respond to queries at times; 23.8% of the respondents indicated that the stakeholders do not respond to queries while 11.9% of the respondents indicated that the stakeholders do respond to queries.

This relates with Koontz (1998) definition of communication as the means by which organized activity is verified. It is also the means by which behavior is modified, change is effected, information is made productive and goals are achieved. When some queries from the youth go unanswered, the communication chain is broken. In as much as the planning unit is supposed to train and sensitize the youth enterprises on the available opportunities, no resources are allocated for this, and only a small number is reached.

The study established that planning influences YAGPO to a correlation coefficient of 0.318. 17.9% of the respondents reported that they did not have a business plan. Without a business plan, the youth enterprises are unlikely to win tenders or attract funding from financial institutions. As Haughey (2000) puts it, the key to a successful project is in the planning. Creating a project plan is the first thing one should do when undertaking any kind of project.

Without a business plan, the youth enterprises are neither likely to attract funding for their businesses nor secure government procurement opportunities. The head of planning and monitoring revealed that every year, the Ministry has a procurement plan prepared by all departments guided by their annual work plans. Although the plans are always put down in writing, they are hardly followed up until the end of the year due to reviews in budget allocations as well as reallocations during the time of supplementary estimates. This affects negatively the reserved amount for youth enterprises.

The study observed that monitoring and evaluation influences the youth access to government procurement opportunities at a correlation coefficient of 0.214. It emerged that none of the institutions implementing the YAGPO had ever called or visited the youth businesses to monitor how they were conducting business. The Monitoring unit is supposed to carry out quarterly monitoring of the Ministry's programmes.

Although there is adequate staff to do this, only monitoring for capital projects took place. There was monitoring on the Youth access to government opportunities to determine the value and percentage of tenders awarded. However, no monitoring visits were made to interact with the youth enterprises. Ouchi and Johnson (1998) stresses the

importance of monitoring and evaluation as control systems intended to assess the performance of people, organizational units, and interventions and motivate people in order to improve their performance.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents a summary of the key findings presented in chapter four, conclusions will be drawn based on the findings and recommendations targeted at various stakeholders. This chapter will thus be structured into conclusion, recommendations and areas for further research.

5.2 Summary of Findings

The study examined some of the factors influencing youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection Nairobi, Kenya. The study identified four factors as: communication; planning; monitoring & evaluation and funding.

The study established that communication influences youth access to government procurement opportunities to a great extent. This was indicated by a strong positive correlation coefficient of 0.541. The study established that communication entails the sensitization of government procurement opportunities to the youths through different mediums such as one on one forums; social and electronic media. The study identified that the communication flow from the treasury and the youth directorate was most effective in informing the youths in business enterprise. The study also identified that the stakeholders involved respond to queries sometimes and hence they are not effective.

The study established that planning influences youth access to government procurement opportunities. The study established that majority of the youths (72.6%) were not in

businesses previously. The study identified that the source of motivation to try out government procurement business was self-motivation. The study also established that 82.1% of the prequalified firms by youth enterprise have business plans. Moreover, it was noted that the youths had a plan to raise capital in the event they get a job to supply some goods or services to the Ministry.

The study established that monitoring and evaluation influence Youth Access to government procurement opportunities. The study found out that officials from the treasury; MEACLSP (Labour Ministry); youth directorate and PPOA did not visit or call any of the any of the business enterprises. The study established that monitoring team did not visit their office/ business premises.

The study established that funding is the major factor influencing Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities. The study illustrated a correlation coefficient of 0.631 indicating a strong positive correlation. The study established that the youth business enterprises source their funds from family; self-funding from savings; bank loans; microfinance loans; shylocks; youth funds; women group funds; Chama group funding; table banking among other sources of funds. The study established that 32.1% indicated that the business enterprises have ever supplied goods to any government institution. The goods commonly supplied to government institutions involve general supplies. The study established that LPO financing comes from Uwezo Fund and financial institutions.

The study sought to determine the access of youth business enterprises to supply goods to the Ministry of East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection. The study

established that 75% of the respondents indicated that the business enterprises have ever received an order to supply to the Ministry of East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection. The types of goods supplied were general supplies; ICT services and Professional services and consultancy. The value of the tenders varied, some were worth below Ksh 100, 000 and a few above Ksh 100, 000. The study established that the livelihood of the youths has improved to some extent.

5.3 Conclusions of the study

Based on the study findings, the study identified four factors that influence youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection Nairobi, Kenya. The factor that mostly influences youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection is funding.

Resource allocation among the youths in Kenya is scarce and this poses a big challenge to youth business enterprises. Some of the financial models that exist in Kenya to aid the youths in accessing funds include: Youth Enterprise Development Fund; Women Enterprise Development Fund and UWEZO Fund that was launched in 2013 by the president of Kenya to offer a provision for youth and women access to grants and interest free loans. These organizations provide for not only financial support but also mentorship opportunities to enable the youth and women take full advantage of the 30 per cent government procurement preference for youth, women and persons with disability.

The study also concludes that communication is a major factor influencing youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community,

Labour and Social Protection Nairobi, Kenya. The study identified that sensitizing the youths of the opportunities can create effectiveness in youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community Labour and Social Protection. Monitoring and supervision from stakeholders such as the National Treasury and the Directorate of Youth Affairs can make a great impact in providing insight to the youths in accessing government procurements.

The study concludes that monitoring and evaluation is a factor that influence youth access to government procurement. The study identifies that monitoring and evaluation of the youth enterprises is a function of the treasury; MEACLSP (Labour Ministry); youth directorate and PPOA. These offices are in charge of monitoring visits to the office/ business premises.

The study concludes that planning affects youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry. The study established that majority of the youth enterprises have a business plan but not a structured detailed business plan. This affects the business in that the enterprises are not able to have loans from financial institutions; banks and also the facilitated government organizations that are meant to offer financial aid to the youths.

5.4 Recommendations of the study

1. To the youth enterprises, the study recommends that the firms should have a project plan that demonstrates the aspects of the projects that are carefully thought through and clearly defined plans for project execution and control to be

formulated in order for the enterprises to attract funds from banks; financial institutions; LPO financing and grants.

2. To the government agencies implementing the programme, the study recommends that Monitoring & evaluation should be frequent to maintain performance of the enterprises. M&E offers mentorship to the youths by tracking major programs variables - cost, time, scope and quality of deliverables. The study recommends that M&E should be an effective way of providing constant feedback on the extent to which the projects are achieving their goals, identify potential problems at an early stage and propose possible solutions. Government should equally monitor the accessibility of the programme to all sectors of the target population across the counties.
3. To all youth serving organisations, the study recommends that the youth should be empowered to alienate poverty in the society and also enable them create job opportunities for fellow youths.
4. To the National Treasury, MEACLSP, Youth Directory and PPRA the study recommends that information should be made available to the youths and then determine what information can be collected, determine who needs the information, and determine what degree of confidence is needed and finally the choice of an evaluation system available.
5. To all procuring entities, the study recommends for transparency in availing procurement opportunities to the youth, endeavour to pay them on time, facilitate

credit facilities for the youth with financial institutions where possible and communicate any variations to the procurement plans.

5.5 Suggestion for Further Studies

The study focused on the factors influencing Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, Nairobi, Kenya.

1. The study suggests further studies on how Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities programme is being implemented in other procuring entities like county governments.
2. The study suggests that policies in procurement opportunities both in the public and private sector that enhance the procurement processes to be transparent can be examined.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

James Mwangi Munyu
P O Box 40326- 00100
Nairobi

Dear Respondent,

RE: ACADEMIC RESEARCH

I am a student of the University of Nairobi pursuing a Masters degree in Project Planning and Management. I am conducting an academic research on factors influencing implementation of Youth Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) empowerment programme in the State Department for Labour and the State Department for Social Protection.

The purpose of the attached questionnaire is to gather information for the said research from you. All information given will be treated with confidentiality and for academic purposes only.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

James M. Munyu.

APPENDIX II : QUESTIONNAIRE FOR YOUTH ENTREPRENEURS

Instructions

Kindly answer all the questions in the spaces provided or by putting a tick against the appropriate option. Do not indicate your name.

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Name of the enterprise (Optional) _____

2. Indicate your Sex Male Female

3. Indicate your Age bracket

(a) 18-25

(b) 25-35

(c) 35 and above

4. What is your highest academic level?

(a) Certificate

(b) Diploma

(c) Bachelors degree

(d) Masters degree

(e) Others (specify)

5. What kind of business enterprise do you manage?

(a) Sole proprietorship

(b) Partnership

(c) Limited Company

6. Are you registered by the National Treasury for the AGPO programme?

Yes No

If yes, for what category of goods? Tick appropriately

Category	
General supplies	
ICT services	
Professional services & consultancy	
Small works and engineering	
Fresh Produce and Agricultural Products	

6. County where your business is situated?

Nairobi

Other

SECTION B: OBJECTIVE QUESTIONS

Communication

(i) Have you ever been sensitized on how to carry out government procurement?

Yes No

(ii) If yes, what was the medium of communication?

(a) One on One sensitization forum

(b) Print Media(newspapers)

(c) Electronic Media (TV, Radio)

(d) Social Media (face book, whatsApp)

(e) Phone

(f) Others (specify)_____

(iii) How would you rate communication flow from the following institutions as far as the AGPO programme is concerned?

(Instructions; please place your answer by ticking in the appropriate box)

	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Treasury				
MEACLSP (Labour Ministry)				
Youth Directorate				
PPRA				

(iv) Do the above stakeholders respond to queries immediately as required?

Yes No At times

(v) Have you ever received the wrong information with regard to AGPO?

(a) Very often

(b) Often

(c) Fairly often

(d) Rarely

(e) Not at all

Planning

(i) Were you in business before introduction of the AGPO programme?

Yes No

(ii) Who motivated you to try out government procurement business?

Self-Motivation

Friends

Media

Others (Specify)

(iii) Do you have a business plan?

Yes No

(iv) In the event that you got a job to supply some goods or services to the Ministry, have you planned on how to raise the capital?

Yes No

Monitoring and evaluation

(i) How many times have the following officials visited you or called you to monitor the AGPO programme

Organization	No. of times
Treasury	
MEACLSP(Labour Ministry)	
Youth Directorate	
PPRA	

(ii) Did the monitoring team visit your office/ business premises?

Yes No

(iii) If yes, did they write a report?

Yes No

Funding

(i) What are the sources of funds for your business enterprise?

Self Family Bank Loans Others (Specify)

(ii) Have you ever supplied goods to any government institution?

Yes No

(iii) If yes, what goods? Tick appropriately

Category	Tick \surd
General supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>
ICT services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional services & consultancy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small works and engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fresh Produce and Agricultural Products	<input type="checkbox"/>

(iv) Did you get LPO financing?

Yes No

(v) If yes, from what institution?

(a) Youth Enterprise Development Fund

(b) Women Enterprise Fund Good

(c) Uwezo Fund

(d) Financial Institutions

(e) Others (Specify) _____

(vi) Were you paid in time) Yes No

Access

(i) Have you ever received an order to supply to the Ministry of East Africa Community,

Labour and Social Protection?

(ii) If yes, what goods? Tick appropriately

Category	Tick \surd
General supplies	
ICT services	
Professional services & consultancy	
Small works and engineering	
Fresh Produce and Agricultural Products	

(iii) What was the value of the tender?

(a) Below Ksh 100,000 (b) Above Ksh 100,000

(iv) Has doing business with the Ministry improved your livelihood in any way?

To a big extent To some extent No

Recommendations: What is your recommendation to improve the youth access to government procurement opportunities?

The end

Thank you very much.

APPENDIX III : Key Informant Interview (KII) Guides

1(a) Planning

Introduction

Good morning/afternoon. My name is James Mwangi Munyu and I am with my research assistant_____ to help me take notes. I am a postgraduate student of the University of Nairobi undertaking a Master of Arts degree in Project Planning and Management. We are investigating factors that influence Youth Access to Government Opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection.

Purpose of study: The study is an academic research with the potential of addressing factors that influence implementation of youth empowerment programmes.

Confidentiality: *You have been selected to participate in the survey because you are a key player in the planning and monitoring unit of this ministry. What you say is important and valuable and represents the views of the ministry.*

The information you give will be treated with utmost confidentiality. We will not record your names on the forms, so no one will be able to identify your specific responses. The information gathered will only be used for the study.

Study procedure: *These discussions will take 45 minutes. We will record the discussions by taking notes for the purpose of research only.*

Thank You.

Now we are going to discuss Planning of projects and programmes in the Ministry and pay special focus on planning for youth programmes. This discussion will help us understand the current planning function in the Ministry's programmes.

1. Who decides on the programmes/projects to be undertaken in the Ministry?
2. Who does the planning on how the programme/project will be implemented?
3. (a) Does the Ministry have annual plans?

 (b) Which are these plans?
4. Does the Ministry have procurement plans?
5. Are these plans put down in writing?
6. What cadre of staff approves the plans?

 Who ensures that the projects are being implemented as planned?

 Are the plans always implemented as planned?
7. In the YAGPO programme, is there a plan on how youth enterprises will be

 (a) Trained on the procurement process

 (b) Sensitized on available opportunities
8. In the case of YAGPO programme, has there been a deviation in implementation of its plans? Probe for reasons
7. What would you suggest to improve the planning of the YAGPO programme in the Ministry?

1(b) Monitoring and Evaluation

Now we are going to discuss Monitoring and Evaluation of projects and programmes in the Ministry and pay special focus on M&E for youth programmes. This discussion will help us understand the current M&E function in the Ministry's programmes.

1. Is there a monitoring and evaluation system for programmes and projects in the Ministry?
2. Do you have adequate staff with the relevant training to carry out effective monitoring and evaluation of programmes?
3. How many M&E activities are carried out annually
4. Probe how many for the AGPO programme
5. Do you document reports for the M&E exercises you carry out? Whom are these reports shared with?
6. Do these reports give any recommendation as far as AGPO project is concerned?(Probe for specific areas.)
7. If yes, have your Ministry implemented those recommendations?
8. Who else monitors the YAGPO programme in your Ministry?
9. Who evaluates the projects/programmes after completion?

Key Informant Interview (KII) Guide

2. Supply Chain Management Unit

Introduction:

Good morning/afternoon. My name is James Mwangi Munyu and I am with my research assistant_____ to help me take notes. I am a postgraduate student of the University of Nairobi undertaking a Master of Arts degree in Project Planning and Management. We are investigating factors that influence the Youth Access to Government Opportunities Programme in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection.

Purpose of study: The study is an academic research with the potential of addressing factors that influence implementation of youth empowerment programmes.

Confidentiality: You have been selected to participate in the survey because you are a key player in the Supply Chain Management Unit of this Ministry. What you say is important and valuable and represents the views of the State Department.

The information you give will be treated with utmost confidentiality. We will not record your names on the forms, so no one will be able to identify your specific responses. The information gathered will only be used for the study.

Study procedure: These discussions will take 30 minutes. We will record the discussions by taking notes for the purpose of research only.

Thank You.

Now we are going to discuss the procurement process in the Ministry and pay special focus on the reservation of 30% procurement opportunities for firms owned by minority groups. This discussion will help us understand the current situation of the AGPO programme in the Ministry.

1. In the current financial year, what was the total procurement budget
2. How much was reserved for the AGPO programme
3. Are there specific categories of goods you have reserved for this programme?
4. What are the sources of funds?
5. Is there a fair distribution for the 3 categories ie. youth, women and persons with disabilities
6. If not, what are you doing to address these inequalities
7. Once a youth enterprise is awarded a tender to supply a product or service, is there a mechanism to enable them to supply
8. Probe who funds the youth

Key Informant Interview (KII) Guide

3. National Youth Council

Introduction:

Good morning/afternoon. My name is James Mwangi Munyu and I am with my research assistant _____ to help me take notes. I am a postgraduate student of the University of Nairobi undertaking a Master of Arts degree in Project Planning and Management. We are investigating factors that influence implementation of the Youth Access to Government Opportunities Programme in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection.

***Purpose of study:** The study is an academic research with the potential of addressing factors that influence implementation of youth empowerment programmes.*

***Confidentiality:** You have been selected to participate in the survey because you are a key player in the policy formulation of youth empowerment programmes in this country. What you say is important and valuable and represents the views of the council.*

The information you give will be treated with utmost confidentiality. We will not record your names on the forms, so no one will be able to identify your specific responses. The information gathered will only be used for the study.

***Study procedure:** These discussions will take 30 minutes. We will record the discussions by taking notes for the purpose of research only.*

Thank You.

Now we are going to discuss the youth economic empowerment policies in the country on the reservation of 30% procurement opportunities for firms owned by minority groups. This discussion will help us understand the current situation of the AGPO programme.

1. What are the key organizations that are addressing youth economic empowerment in the county?
2. Probe the role of line Ministries
3. How effective are these organizations in empowering the youth economically?
4. What policies are in place to address youth empowerment issues as far as Government procurement is concerned?
5. How successful have been the implementation of these policies?
6. What challenges are faced while implementing these policies?
7. What can be done to address these challenges?
8. What more needs to be done to improve youth economic empowerment in the county?

APPENDIX IV: LIST OF PREQUALIFIED YOUTH ENTERPRISES

	Frequency	Percent
1. AFRICAN URBAN RACE	1	1.2
2. ALGARVE ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
3. ANEDA GENERAL AGENCIES	1	1.2
4. ASGARD VENTURES	1	1.2
5. AWALE LIMITED	1	1.2
6. Bewanda enterprises	1	1.2
7. BITCOMM TECHNOLOGIES	1	1.2
8. BLESSEM INVESTMENT	1	1.2
9. BONYCE SOLUTIONS	1	1.2
10. CAPITALONE TECHNOLOGY	1	1.2
11. CLIFF SUPPLIES	1	1.2
12. CRIPTOPUS ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
13. DAVIPA AGENCIES	1	1.2
14. DENKIM ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
15. DOKKI ENTERPRISES LTD	1	1.2
16. DYNAMIC (E.A) ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
17. DYNASTY TOURS & TRAVEL LTD	1	1.2
18. Elicom enterprises	1	1.2
19. ELICOM ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
20. EPIC CAPITAL LTD	1	1.2
21. Ernabell Agencies	1	1.2
22. EVLAN ENTERPRISES	1	1.2

23. FAIBA POWERED SOLUTIONS LTD	1	1.2
24. FREYDE ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
25. GAILMA ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
26. GANYA ENTERPRISES KENYA	1	1.2
27. GO INTERSTATE GENERAL SUPPLIES	1	1.2
28. GRAND INFINITE INVESTMENT COMPANY LTD	1	1.2
29. HE AND SHE SUPPLIES	1	1.2
30. Helkan Technology	1	1.2
31. IMAGE DOCTA	1	1.2
32. JAFMOK GENERAL SUPPLIERS	1	1.2
33. JIMMOSKO ENTERPTISES	1	1.2
34. JOANICK ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
35. JUBO INVESTMENT LTD	1	1.2
36. JULIMINAH ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
37. KATHUMBI AGENCIES	1	1.2
38. KELYN ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
39. Kenlyn enterprises	1	1.2
40. Kite Elegant Supplies	1	1.2
41. KOBBY EXPORTERS	1	1.2
42. KUPA CONSTRUCIONS LTD	1	1.2
43. LAURE HILLTOP ENTERPRISES	1	1.2

44. LORAH AGENCIES & STATIONARY	1	1.2
45. LUL ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
46. MEGAS GENERAL SUPPLIES	1	1.2
47. Milahan enterprises	1	1.2
48. MODEST ENTERPRISES LTD	1	1.2
49. MUTS AND COMPANY LTD	1	1.2
50. NIMS GENERAL SUPPLIES	1	1.2
51. NIRVANA TECHNOLOGIES ENTERPRISES LTD	1	1.2
52. NIRVANA TECHNOLOGIES ENTERPRISES LTD	1	1.2
53. NORTHUMBERLAND COMPANY LTD	1	1.2
54. PEBBLE GENERAL AGENCIES LTD	1	1.2
55. PENINJA ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
56. PHINTECH INVESTMENTS	1	1.2
57. PIKIN ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
58. PIPENAH EAST AFRICA	1	1.2
59. PRECISION POINT VENTURES	1	1.2
60. REINDEER VENTURES	1	1.2
61. RILTIME AGENCY	1	1.2
62. RYSE SERVICES	1	1.2
63. SAFCOM TECHNOLOGIES	1	1.2

64. SAGIGA ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
65. Sangatz solutions	1	1.2
66. SANGATZ SOLUTIONS	1	1.2
67. SHANTA GENERAL AGENCIES	1	1.2
68. SHELI ENTERPRISE	1	1.2
69. Skytop agencies	1	1.2
70. SPASH GENERAL MERCHANTS	1	1.2
71. STARGEN SERVICES	1	1.2
72. SUCHEB SUPPLIES & SERVICES LTD	1	1.2
73. SUSELE ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
74. TECHSAVVY (K) LTD	1	1.2
75. TIMLAC SERVICES	1	1.2
76. TOSHIBA MAX LIMITED	1	1.2
77. WAIFAI SOLUTIONS	1	1.2
78. Weruz Ventures	1	1.2
79. WESTMANN AGENCIES	1	1.2
80. WIZDAS INVESTMENTS	1	1.2
81. YABA ENERGY LIMITED	1	1.2
82. YEP INVESTMENT LIMITED	1	1.2
83. ZIMSMART ENTERPRISES	1	1.2
84. ZOE GRAPHIX	1	1.2

APPENDIX V – LETTER OF AUTHORISATION



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Telephone: +254-20-2213471,
2241349, 3310571, 2219420
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Email: dg@nacosti.go.ke
Website: www.nacosti.go.ke
when replying please quote

9th Floor, Utalii House
Uhuru Highway
P.O. Box 30623-00100
NAIROBI-KENYA

Ref. No. **NACOSTI/P/16/98269/14188**

Date:

7th November, 2016

James Mwangi Munyu
University of Nairobi
P.O. Box 30197-00100
NAIROBI.

RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION

Following your application for authority to carry out research on “*Factors influencing youth access to government procurement opportunities in the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, Nairobi, Kenya,*” I am pleased to inform you that you have been authorized to undertake research in **Nairobi County** for the period ending **7th November, 2017.**

You are advised to report to **the Principal Secretary, Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, the County Commissioner and the County Director of Education, Nairobi County** before embarking on the research project.

On completion of the research, you are expected to submit **two hard copies and one soft copy in pdf** of the research report/thesis to our office.


BONIFACE WANYAMA
FOR: DIRECTOR-GENERAL/CEO

Copy to:

The Principal Secretary
Ministry of East African Community,
Labour and Social Protection.

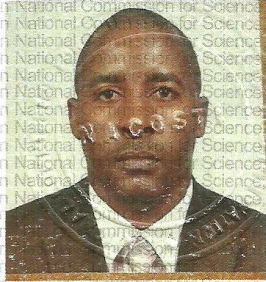
The County Commissioner
Nairobi County.

National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation is ISO 9001:2008 Certified

APPENDIX VI : RESEARCH PERMIT

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT: **MR. JAMES MWANGI MUNYU** of **UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, 0-100 NAIROBI**, has been permitted to conduct **research in Nairobi County** on the topic: **FACTORS INFLUENCING YOUTH ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MINISTRY OF EAST AFRICAN PROTECTION, NAIROBI, KENYA** for the period ending: **7th November, 2017**

Permit No. : **NACOSTI/P/16/98269/14188**
Date Of Issue : **7th November, 2016**
Fee Received : **Ksh 1000**




[Signature]
Applicant's Signature


[Signature]
Director General
National Commission for Science, Technology & Innovation

CONDITIONS

1. You must report to the County Commissioner and the County Education Officer of the area before embarking on your research. Failure to do that may lead to the cancellation of your permit.
2. Government Officer will not be interviewed without prior appointment.
3. No questionnaire will be used unless it has been approved.
4. Excavation, filming and collection of biological specimens are subject to further permission from the relevant Government Ministries.
5. You are required to submit at least two(2) hard copies and one (1) soft copy of your final report.
6. The Government of Kenya reserves the right to modify the conditions of this permit including its cancellation without notice



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation
RESEARCH CLEARANCE PERMIT
Serial No. **A 11646**
CONDITIONS: see back page