



Journal of
**Human Resource and
Leadership**
(JHRL)

*Economic Systems and Youth Participation in County
Governance in Kenya*



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Economic Systems and Youth Participation in County Governance in Kenya

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Accepted: 25th April, 2026, Received in Revised Form: 2nd May, 2026, Published: 28th May, 2026

ABSTRACT

Purpose: The general objective of the study was to examine the influence of economic systems on youth participation in county governance in Kenya.

Methodology: The study was based on Collaborative Governance Theory. A survey research design was adopted in the study. The study population comprised of the estimated 19,456,356 youths from all the counties in Kenya. The sample size for the study was 400 respondents and they were identified to participate in the research using proportionate stratified and simple sampling techniques respondents. Questionnaires and interview guides were used in the collection of relevant data. Data was analysed and presented using the SPSS software and spread sheets. The study collected both qualitative and quantitative data. Qualitative data was analysed using content analysis. The study adopted a descriptive and inferential statistics to analyse quantitative data to establish the relationship between the independent variables and dependent variables. The findings were presented in tables, figures and charts.

Findings: The study findings revealed economic systems had a statistical significance relationship with the youth participation.

Unique Contribution to Theory, Practice and Policy: Kenyan counties should consider implementing reforms in their economic systems to promote economic growth and development. These reforms could include measures to reduce income inequality, increase access to economic opportunities, and stimulate job creation. A stronger and more equitable economy is likely to positively influence youth participation in governance. County governments should develop economic policies that specifically target the needs and aspirations of the youth population. These policies could involve job creation programs, access to credit, and incentives for youth-led enterprises. By tailoring economic policies to address the concerns and goals of the youth, their participation in governance is likely to increase.

Key Words: *Economic Systems, Youth Participation, County Governance Collaboration, Governance Theory*

Background of the Study

This chapter presents the background of the study and defines the statement of the problem. The chapter explains why and how the issue studied is a problem and to whom it is a problem. The study's general and specific objectives, research hypotheses, and scope are also presented in this chapter. Participation is the process through which stakeholders influence and share control over priority setting, policymaking, resource allocations, and access to public goods and services (World Bank, 2015). Participation is widely considered to improve performance, quality, and decision-making effectiveness as it widens the knowledge base, stimulates creativity, and creates social support for policies (Hope, 2014). It asserts that participation is the involvement in a decision-making process of individuals and groups either positively or negatively affected by a planned intervention (a project, a program, a plan, or a policy).

Devolution as a new governance system has played a vital role in restructuring the state to give more power to local governments and empower the citizens to participate in the governance structures of their local areas. Literature review shows that over the last two decades, many countries have embraced decentralization in regions as diverse as the newly independent states of Eastern Europe, Africa, South America, and Southeast Asia. The implementation process has, however, not been as smooth as envisaged, and most of these countries have had many pitfalls along the way (Olatona & Olamola, 2015). Current trends show that fiscal, economic, political, and administrative systems should be implemented simultaneously to empower youths to fight poverty effectively. However, there needs to be conclusive evidence to show that devolved systems would lead uniformly to poverty reduction in all countries. Nevertheless, it would be more successful in countries with the political will to move it forward (CIC, 2014).

Meaningful youth participation in governance is a key ingredient for public reforms that were instituted by the Constitution of Kenya (CoK, 2010). Article 1 (1) of the Constitution vests all sovereign power to the people of Kenya. This power can be expressed through direct participation or indirectly through elected representatives. In addition, various pieces of legislations anchoring devolution highlight the principles of citizen participation. Together, these constitutional and legislative provisions avail various platforms for youth participation in devolved governance. Youth participation is one of the national values and is also one of the principles of public service as articulated in the Constitution in Articles 10 (2, a), Article 35(1) and (3) and Article 232 (1)

The World Bank (2015) and the Institute of Economic Affairs (2015) looked at youth participation as the process by which an organization consults with interested or affected youths, organizations, and government entities before deciding. They further view youth participation as two-way communication and collaborative problem-solving to achieve better and more acceptable decisions (WB, 2015). Youth participation contributes to better projects, development, and collaborative governance. Research has shown that youth participation is advantageous for the speed and quality of implementation of planning decisions (Indeche & Ayuma, 2015). The current study seeks to establish the influence of economic systems on youth participation in county governance in Kenya.

Under the decentralized governance system, state and non-state entities nationwide engage the people in governance matters. According to the World Bank (2015), these players and state institutions have focused on operationalizing the legislative, legal, and regulatory framework of transparency and public involvement and creating effective public engagement platforms. Karunya, Wawire, and Chepngeno (2015) reported that Kenyan county governments have improved stakeholder participation in development, with citizen engagement rising from 15% in 2014 to 46% in 2015 (Transparency International, 2015).

The youth in Kenya (15-34 years) constitute 35.39% of the country's population. Those aged between 0 and 14 constitute 42.92% of the population, and those aged below 34 years constitute 78.31% of the country's population (IEA, 2015). Kenya's youth have remained at the periphery of the country's affairs for decades since independence, and their needs and aspirations have not been recognized. The youth have not been adequately engaged in the designing, planning, and implementation of programs and policies that affect not only them but also the country at large, and as a result, their knowledge, skills, and energy have been underutilized.

Youth ministries, youth policies, and youth programs are receiving more support from governments worldwide, and there appears to be a growing recognition that the next generation of leaders will shape the growth of their nations. Like in many other developing nations, realizing this potential in Kenya's youth is still a long way off. To ensure that policies are developed, and services are delivered in a way that addresses both the needs of the young and the actual concerns of citizens, the recently constituted devolved governments must involve youth in governance and development decision-making. One of Kenya's most significant resources for recently formed county governments is its youth, who may contribute nationally and locally to improving governance (Opiyo et al., 2017).

Youth must mobilize and organize to meaningfully engage in governance. National and county leaders can encourage youth participation by fostering a supportive environment. The realization by youth that they are essential agents in community, national, and now county development has led them to engage in development initiatives and reshape political processes in their constituencies and nationally, primarily through youth organizations. These deliberate efforts to restructure teenage social roles and responsibilities have led to an assertive youth discourse (IEA, 2015).

Statement of the Problem

Globally, there is a growing push for devolved systems to increase youth involvement in the devolved states (Olatona & Olomola, 2015). According to the Institute of Economic Affairs (2015), there is a direct correlation between youth engagement in devolved governance and devolved systems. The World Development Report (2017) provided further evidence that devolved institutions acknowledge the contributions of youth and successfully enforce devolved states' performance. According to Gitegi and Iravo (2016), decentralized systems that work well encourage young involvement in Kenyan county administrations. According to the World Bank (2015), industrialized nations, including the United Kingdom, the United States,

India, and South Africa, have successfully implemented devolved systems encouraging youth engagement.

However, there needs to be more young involvement in county governance in Kenyan counties (World Bank, 2015). Transparency International's (2016) research shows that more than 53% of people are unhappy with devolved administration, particularly with Kenya's low youth participation rate in county governance. The 2016 report by the Society for International Development demonstrates that youth participation in county governance needs to be improved despite several issues resulting in inefficient devolved systems. Despite excellent devolved institutions, Gitegi and Iravo (2016) found that youth engagement in county governments still needs to be improved.

Based on the studies mentioned above by Olatona and Olomola (2015) and the United Nations (2012), a positive correlation has been established between devolved systems and youth involvement in devolved governance. However, contrasting evidence from local studies (Gitegi & Iravo (2016); Khaunya et al. (2015) suggests that there is no association between devolved systems and public participation in county governance in Kenya. This contradiction necessitates re-evaluating the impact of economic systems on youth participation in county governance in Kenya.

General Objective

The general objective of the study was to examine the influence of economic systems on youth participation in county governance in Kenya.

Theoretical Review

A theoretical framework is a collection of interrelated concepts. It guides research to determine what things to measure, and what statistical relationships to look for (Defee, Randal, Thomas & Williams, 2010). Bryman (2016) emphasis that good research should be grounded in theory. This study was built on the underpinning theories, including Collaborative governance Theory

Collaborative Governance Theory

A collaborative governance theory is also pertinent for institutional arrangements of devolved governance. Powell and DiMaggio (2012), March and Olsen (1983), North (1991 and Ostrom (1990) are the proponents of collaborative governance, which they presented as part of new institutionalism (Emerson *et al.*, 2015). Ostrom (2009), in Emerson *et al.* (2015), states that collaborative governance is informed by systems context. The system context of collaborative governance is multifaceted with embedded conditions of services, policy imperatives and intergovernmental relations framework, together with the externally based drivers, pressures, enablers, constraints, and lobbies, which are referred to as collaborative governance regimes (Emerson *et al.*, 2015). Governance theory is premised on the regulation of actions of political authorities as they execute and manage the development programs for their people (Tonin&Vlasapolous, 2015). According to Indeche and Ayuma (2015) governance signals how the informal authority of networks supplements and supplants the formal authority of

the government by exploring the changing boundary between the state and the society. The theory assumes that the government should focus on the formulation of political systems to enhance service delivery

The assumption is that the more the separation of power from the policy formulation, the more the participation by different groups in the execution process, and the more the realization of efficiency on the process outcomes. Application in the study is that, in the co-operation between national government and county governments will result in synergies, information and knowledge sharing, leveraging on each other's strength to generate more innovative ways and better products in service delivery (Fillipetti & Sacchi, 2013; Kipyego & Wanjare, 2017). Complementarities with between national government and county governments, clear assignment roles as well as enforcement of good management strategies is more likely to lead to improved devolved service delivery (Shen & Zou, 2015). The above theory facilitated informed the understanding of economic systems as an element of efficient youth participation in county governance in Kenya.

Conceptual Framework

Brown-Jeffy & Cooper (2011) define a conceptual framework a hypothesized model identifying the model under study and the relationship between the dependent and independent variables. The theoretical base of this paper is founded by reviewing the literature. In the literature, causal linkages have been identified among youth participation, economic systems. The conceptual framework is as shown in Figure 2.1. Previous studies showed that devolved systems are a key ingredient for public participation and has been found to lead to good governance (Gitegi, 2016; Sakurai, 2015; Siala, 2015; Kimathi, 2016). Figure 2.1 presents the conceptual framework of the study to be undertaken. The variables are extracted from the studies conducted by the following scholars and reports: (Harouvi, 2012; Wagana, 2017; Ile, 2010; Zulu, 2014; Wambua, 2010; Pieterston, 2017; Finch & Omolo, 2015; Muriu, 2013; Macharia *et al.*, 2014).

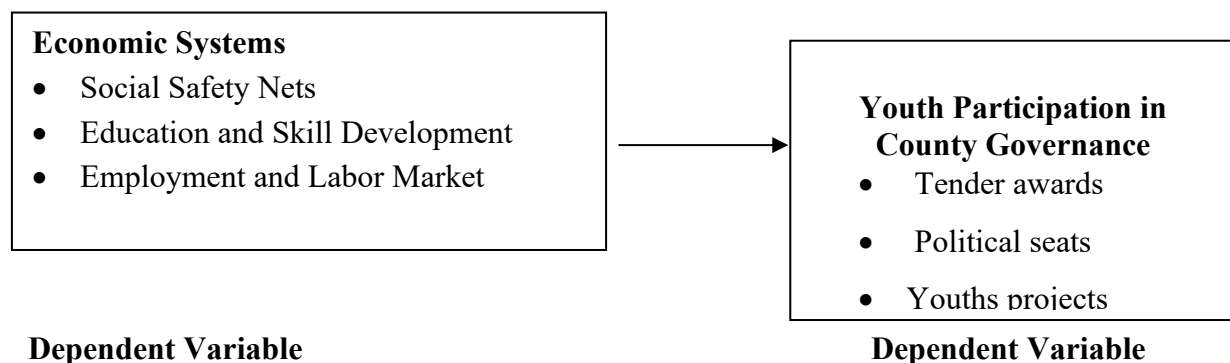


Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework

Economic Systems

Economists commonly assume a better match between local government outputs and local preferences under devolution, and consequently rate local provision of services as more efficient, unless this situation is outweighed by spill overs or other efficiencies (for example, economies of scale) in central government provision (Neyapti, 2013). Salmon (2013), argues that decentralization is a vehicle to fulfil highly heterogeneous demand that may arise from different local governments through stakeholder participation. Economists also examine the efficiency argument supporting economic systems from the perspective of consumers' gains due to allocative efficiency and producers' (for example., government) gains in technical efficiency in delivering goods and services.

Allocative efficiency may arise due to a more fitted bundle (that is., set and composition) of services provided by the local government to their citizens; in other words, through the adjustment that may take place in the proportions of public spending geared to services such as education, health, water provision or others based on local government's response to local claims in a devolved context. Higher technical efficiency is achieved when larger quantities and quality of goods and services are provided with the same amount of resources (Martinez-Vazquez and McNab, 2013). Several economists have argued that the efficiency gains that could be achieved owing to devolution could also be outweighed by other efficiency gains arising from central provision such as economies of scale, ability to attract better personnel, and the like (Salmon, 2013). This indeed is a valid argument, but other scholars have also argued that those gains arising from central provision may also be overestimated (Neyapti, 2013).

Nonetheless, the theory that allocative and efficiency gains could be achieved have important implications for improving public service delivery that need to be evaluated, especially in the context of developing and transition countries (Jones, Clench & Harris, 2014; Mfene, 2013). In this study, economic systems are constituted as investment and expenditure, trade, resource allocation and control. There is paucity of empirical evidence on the influence of economic systems on youth participation in county governance in developing countries (Flippetti & Sacchi, 2013; Germell, Kneller & Sanz, 2013). Existing studies have largely been drawn from developed countries and may not be generalized in local context due to different economic, institutional, regulatory, and cultural factors.

Empirical Literature

Economic Systems

Lawson (2011) looked at the economic systems describes the gamut of activities or interactions that takes place between or among the different levels of government within a country. It covers the combinations and permutations of relationship among them. Nchuchuwe (2015) examined the nature of economic systems and local government in Nigeria. The focus on inter-governmental relations is necessitated by the fact that revenue allocation is an integral aspect of inter-governmental relations in all federation. It is a conflict generating issue, the

management of which is very crucial to the survival and growth of local government in Nigeria. The paper argues that there is need for local government financial autonomy for it to perform effectively, and for it to maintain its status as a third tier of government in Nigeria. It concludes that there is an urgent need to address revenue allocations and tax jurisdictions of the local governments in Nigeria to make it a formidable tool for service delivery at the grass root levels.

Oluwole (2016) examined the various issues and challenges confronting economic and fiscal federalism in Nigeria's Fourth Republic. It argues that there is the need to find a revenue base to maintain the important function of governments at all levels but managing these important government function and the accompanying revenue base has been a major challenge for intergovernmental relations in the current democratic experience. Bojanic (2018) analysed the impact of economic decentralization on accountability, economic freedom, and political and civil liberties in the Americas. The findings indicate that decentralization initially hampers but eventually enhances accountability and political and civil liberties, in line with the hypothesized positive correlation between greater fiscal autonomy and a more inclusive, participatory government.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The study adopted a descriptive survey research design. Descriptive surveys involve data collection from a population, or a representative subset, at one specific point in time and have an advantage over other research designs that only seek individuals with a specific characteristic, with a sample, often a tiny minority, of the rest of the population (Bryman, 2016). Creswell and Creswell (2017) argues that a flexible research design which provides opportunity for considering many different aspects of a problem is considered if the purpose of the research study is that of exploration. When the purpose happens to be an accurate description of a situation or of an association between variables, the suitable design is the one that minimizes bias and maximizes the reliability of the data collected and analysed (Lewis, 2015).

3.2.1. Research Philosophy

The study was anchored on positivist philosophy since it is directly associated with the idea of objectivism. Positivists believe that reality is stable and can be observed and described from an objective viewpoint without interfering with the phenomena being studied (Creswell & Clark, 2017). In this kind of philosophical approach, scientists give their viewpoint to evaluate social world with the help of objectivity in place of subjectivity (Cooper & Schindler, 2011). According to this paradigm, researchers are interested to collect general information and data from a large social sample instead of focusing details of research. True to the positivism paradigm, descriptive surveys ensure that researchers record the information that is present in a population, but do not manipulate variables which enhance objectivity. Through descriptive survey, all population elements are considered ensuring that comprehensive findings are

obtained on the subject matter. The choice of descriptive survey design is justified since the study will deal with many county governments.

Population of the Study

For this study, the unit of analysis was the county government in Kenya which is totaling 47 independent counties integrated under the National government.

On the other hand, the unit of observation which is the unit described by the data that one analyzes. It is an object about which information is collected. Researchers base their conclusions on information that is collected and analyzed, so using defined units of observation in a research or other study helps to clarify the reasonable conclusions that can be drawn from the information collected (Cooper & Schindler, 2016). For this study, the unit of observation was the youths in the different counties in Kenya. According to the constitution of Kenya, youths were citizens aged 18-34 years which is further defined by the unique national identification number. According to the KNBS (2019) on population in Kenya, the number of the total youths in Kenya is 19,456,356 by November 2019. The number of youths (aged 18-34 years) per counties is presented Appendix V.

Sample Size and Sampling Techniques

A simple random sampling which is a subset of a statistical population was adopted because each member of the subset have an equal probability of being chosen. This is good for generalization of the results to the target population. To determine the sample size for the unit of observation (youths) a formular by Slovin's was used. The Slovin's Formula is quite popularly used for determining the sample size for research, especially in thesis in social sciences, where the computation is based almost solely on the population size that is more than 10,000. The sample size of this study is calculated from the Slovin's formula given as:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where: n = Sample size,

N = Total population and

e = Error tolerance (confidence level).

Since the population N = 16,999,910

Error tolerance = 0.05,

The sample size is determined as:

$$n = \frac{19,456,356}{1 + 19,456,356(0.05)^2} = 400$$

The sample size therefore becomes 400. The 400 sampling units were distributed to the conveniently identified population using the proportional stratified sampling and the sample

size of each county of respondents (youths) were sampled using simple random sampling. This is to ensure that the sampling unit from each county had an equal chance in the study.

Data Collection Instruments

The study collected both primary and secondary data. According to Brymann (2016), data collection procedure is the process of gathering pieces of information that are necessary for research process. Primary data present the actual information that is obtained for the purpose of the research study. A questionnaire was chosen as data collection instrument. A questionnaire is a printed self-report form designed to solicit information that can be obtained through the written responses of the subjects. The information obtained through a questionnaire is like that obtained by an interview, but the questions tend to have less depth (Marshall & Rossmann, 2014). Data was collected with the aid of questionnaires to evaluate the participants experience on the selected key devolved systems.

Pilot Study

According to Brymann (2016) a pre-test is a small-scale kind of research projects that collects data from respondents similar to those that will be used in the future survey. The aim of a pre-test is to act as a guide to examine specific aspects of research to see if the selected procedures will work as intended. A pre-test is meant to test for clarity and understanding of questions to test if the questions yield as expected. Cooper and Schindler (2011) concur that the purpose of pilot test is to detect weaknesses in design and implementation and to provide proxy for data collection of a probability sample.

Mayring (2014) reinforces that pilot test is necessary for testing the reliability of instruments and the validity of a study. In this study, data collection instrument was tested on 10% of the sample of the questionnaires to ensure that it is relevant and effective. It is a way of pre-testing the questionnaire and it is done to obtain feedback, to confirm if the questionnaire is effective and well understood by the respondents. In this study, 40 of respondents from the selected population across the country was given the questionnaire to test their validity and reliability. These respondents were not included in the final study sample to control for response biasness.

Data Analysis and Presentation

According to Brymann (2016), data analysis refers to the application of reasoning to understand the data that has been gathered with the aim of determining consistent patterns and summarizing the relevant details revealed in the investigation. According to Cooper and Schindler (2016), data processing involves translating the answers on a questionnaire into a form that can be manipulated to produce statistics. This involves coding, editing, data entry, and monitoring the whole data processing procedure. To determine the patterns revealed in the data collected regarding the selected variables, data analysis was guided by the aims and objectives of the research and the measurement of the data collected.

After quantitative data was obtained through questionnaires, it is prepared in readiness for analysis by editing, handling blank responses, coding, categorizing and keyed into statistical

package for social sciences (SPSS) computer software for analysis. The choice of SPSS version 24 to other statistical software is that it is user friendly. The statistics generated were descriptive and inferential statistics. The specific descriptive statistics included the percentages and frequencies while the inferential statistics include a multiple linear regression model. Microsoft excel was used to complement SPSS especially in production of diagrams and tables. Additionally, the study conducted diagnostic tests. The data was represented using tables using tables, bar graphs, and pie charts. Frequency distribution tables were used to summarize categorical or numerical data. According to Schreirer (2012) and Garg and Kothari (2014) a frequency table is a table showing how often each value of the variable occurs in a data set. Frequencies and percentages were also used to present the data. Frequency distribution tables are the devices that were used to present the data in a simple form. The tables were numbered and titles given.

RESEARCH FINDINGS, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS

Descriptive Analysis Results

Descriptive Statistics for the Construct Economic Systems

Respondents were requested to indicate their level of agreement with various statements on aspects of economic systems.

The results are as shown in Table 1 below. According to the findings, the respondents agreed that the county government has formulated policies on public-private partnerships engagement with youths ($M=3.874$, $Sd=0.902$). The respondents also agreed that the county government promotes donor funded projects for the youths ($M=3.728$, $Sd=0.682$). The respondents agreed that the county government has initiated programmes to support youths in trade and investment within the county ($M=3.862$, $Sd=0.319$). The respondents also agreed that the county government has established social funds to promote economic welfare of the youths ($M=4.355$, $Sd=1.244$).

In addition, the respondents disagreed that the board of directors considers the moral outcome of management decisions ($M=3.678$, $Sd=0.217$). Further, the respondents agreed with the statement that the county government has established policy on economic regional blocks (economic partnerships with other counties) to promote youth entrepreneurship ($M=3.723$, $Sd=0.429$). The study also established that the respondents agreed that the county government has enacted laws on trade tariffs and barriers for the youth enterprises ($M=3.765$, $Sd=0.169$).

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics for Economic Systems

	SD	D	N	A	SA	M	Sd.
The county government has formulated policies on public-private partnerships engagement with youths	5.0	5.0	7.0	28.1	54.9	3.874	.902
The county government promotes donor funded projects for the youths	7.0	8.1	9.8	56.8	17.3	3.728	.682
The county government has initiated programmes to support youths in trade and investment within the county	3.3	7.0	1.0	43.9	51.8	3.862	.319
The county government has established social funds to promote economic welfare of the youths	5.8	36.3	7.6	54.8	32.8	3.678	.217
The county government has established policy on economic regional blocks (economic partnerships with other counties) to promote youth entrepreneurship	16.8	9.3	4.3	68.8	5.4	3.723	.429
The county government has enacted laws on trade tariffs and barriers for the youth enterprises	4.9	9.4	3.8	23.5	33.8	3.765	.169

Descriptive Statistics for the Youth Participation in County Governance

Respondents were requested to indicate their level of agreement with various statements on aspects of youth participation in county governance in Kenya. It was posited as a one-dimensional construct measured by the five items.

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics for Youth Participation

	SD	D	N	A	SA	M	Sd.
The county government does award tenders to the youths	4.5	4.6	8.7	23.6	58.8	4.098	.436
The county government has enhanced number of youths nominated and elected in the county assembly	12.8	15.8	16.6	20.9	54.8	4.278	.928
The county government enhanced amount of loans given to youth entrepreneurs	3.2	0.0	53.6	43.2	43.6	4.324	.593
The county government enhanced sports events participated by the youths in the county	12.8	15.8	16.6	20.9	54.8	4.278	.928
The county government enhanced number of roles taken by the youths in county leadership	3.2	0.0	53.6	43.2	43.6	4.324	.593
The county government does award tenders to the youths	9.6	10.0	9.0	58.6	12.8	3.987	.627

According to the findings in Table 4.17, the respondents agreed that the county government does award tenders to the youths (M=4.098, Sd=0.436). The respondents also agreed that the

county government has enhanced number of youths nominated and elected in the county assembly (M=4.278, Sd=0.928). The respondents agreed the county government enhanced amount of loans given to youth entrepreneurs (M=4.324, Sd=0.593). The respondents also agreed that the county government enhanced sports events participated by the youths in the county (M=4.278, Sd=0.928). In addition, the respondents agreed that the county government enhanced number of roles taken by the youths in county leadership (M=4.324, Sd=0.593). Finally, most respondents agreed that the county government awards tenders to the youths (M=3.987, Sd=0.627).

Correlational Analysis

The correlation coefficient is valuable for assessing the relationship between two or more statistical variables. Its value can range from -1 (indicating a negative correlation) to +1 (indicating a positive correlation). As Creswell (2017) reported, a coefficient of 0.00 suggests no correlation, while a value close to .70 suggests a strong positive correlation. The product-moment correlation (r), the most used of Karl Pearson's coefficients, requires that the analyzed variables have at least an interval scale.

Table 3: Correlational Analysis Matrix

		Youth Participation	Economic Systems
Youth Participation	Pearson Correlation	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)		
	N	321	
Economic Systems	Pearson Correlation	.584**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	321	321

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

X1= Economic Systems, Y= Youth Participation (Dependent Variable). The findings also revealed a statistical positive significant relationship between Economic Systems and Youth Participation in Kenyan Counties ($r_{xy} = .588, n = 321, p = 0.000 < 0.05$).

Regression analysis on Economic Systems and youth participation in county governance in Kenya

A regression analysis was undertaken to measure the influence of economic systems on youth participation in county governance in Kenya. The analysis focused on the dependent variable, which was youth participation in county governance in Kenya. The findings were presented in Table 4. below;

Table 4: Regression model summary on economic system and youth participation in county governance in Kenya

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.588 ^a	.346	.343	.653	1.926

From the findings on table 4, the correlation coefficient of 0.693 implies that political system had a positive statistically linear relationship with youth participation in county governance in Kenya. Also, political system had an R squared=0.346 which implies that 34.6% variations youth participation in county governance in Kenya is explained by economic system. The remaining unexplained 65.4% variations in youth participation in county governance in Kenya is explained by other devolved systems of governance which were not included in the model.

Table 5: ANOVA^a Statistics for economic system and youth participation in county governance in Kenya

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	71.757	1	71.757	168.404	.000 ^b
	Residual	135.927	319	.426		
	Total	207.684	320			

The results presented in the ANOVA table 4.35, indicates that the economic system had a significant impact on youth involvement in Kenyan county governance. This means that the economic system is a significant statistical measure of the success of youth participation Kenyan Counties, F (1,319) = 168.404 p<0.05.

Table 6: Regression Coefficients for economic system and youth participation

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	1.458	.190		3.678	.000
	X4	.637	.049	.588	11.977	.000

From the findings on table 6 of regression coefficient showed that the unstandardised beta coefficient for economic system was 0.637. This implies that a unit increase in economic system accounted for 0.637 units increase in youth participation governance in Kenyan counties. The T value for political system is also significant; T (321) = 11.977; β= 0.637; P<0.05.

$$Y = 1.458 + 0.637X_4 + 0.190.....\text{Equation 4}$$

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.3 Conclusion

The study findings suggest that economic systems play significant roles in influencing youth participation in county governance in Kenya. These results provide valuable insights for policymakers and stakeholders in Kenya looking to enhance youth involvement in county governance.

Recommendations

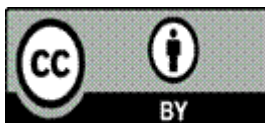
Kenyan counties should consider implementing reforms in their economic systems to promote economic growth and development. These reforms could include measures to reduce income inequality, increase access to economic opportunities, and stimulate job creation. A stronger and more equitable economy is likely to positively influence youth participation in governance. County governments should develop economic policies that specifically target the needs and aspirations of the youth population. These policies could involve job creation programs, access to credit, and incentives for youth-led enterprises. By tailoring economic policies to address the concerns and goals of the youth, their participation in governance is likely to increase.

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