

## Effects of Social and Community Issues in Inter-Ethnic Conflicts on Economic Growth in Selected sub-counties in Kenya

<sup>1</sup>Jacob Asige Chavulimu & <sup>2</sup>Godrick Bulitia Mathews

<sup>1</sup>Division of Academics and Students Affairs,  
The Murang'a University of Technology,  
P.O.Box 75-10200, Murang'a, Kenya  
Email: chavusija11@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup>Division of Academics and Students Affairs  
Masai Mara University, P.O. Box 861 - 20500,  
Narok, Kenya

### Abstract

*The Government efforts in mitigating the vice has borne no fruits as the number of deaths keeps on rising from an estimate of 7, 9 and 13 people in 2012, 2014 and 2016 respectively. The main purpose of the study was therefore to assess the effects of social and community issues in inter-ethnic conflicts on economic growth in Muhoroni and Tinderet Kenya. Karl Marx's Conflict theory was adopted. A correlational study was conducted using a population of 1051 from which simple random sampling was used to obtain a sample of 220 respondents. Questionnaires were the main tools used for data collection. The collected data was analysed using both descriptive and inferential methods which entailed frequency counts and percentages, means and standard deviations and regression models respectively. A response rate of 80.7% was realized thus affirming the significance and relevance of the data. The findings revealed that social issues had a negative effect with significant contribution to the economic growth ( $\beta = .666, p < .05$ ) while community issues had a slightly weaker significant effect ( $\beta = .198, p < .05$ ). Social and community issues of Inter-ethnic Conflicts had an effect on economic growth and accounted for 58.1% significant variance in economic growth ( $R^2 = .581, F(2, 217) = 261.296, p = .000$ ). The study concluded that the inter-ethnic conflicts in Nyando, Muhoroni and Tinderet sub-counties were the root causes of the stagnated economy. The study recommended various approaches namely enactment of legislation that can enforce punitive actions against the perpetrators; adopting multiagency approach in curbing the vice; stakeholder involvement and engagement in finding a lasting solution to inter-ethnic conflicts; the national government, lands commission and the members of the community explores ways to deal with matters land.*

**Keywords:** Community Issues, Inter-Ethnic Conflicts, Economic Growth, community conflicts

### 1. Introduction

In many situations, ethnic polarization generates conflicts that could eventually lead to political instability and civil wars with long-lasting economic effects. In other cases, the potential conflict represented by an ethnically polarized society can affect negatively the rate of investment and induce rent-seeking behaviour that increases public consumption. These situations armed

conflicts, reduced investment, or higher government consumption have been shown to have a negative effect on economic development (Nirola & Sohini, 2019). Pelle and Ola (2012) shows that a high level of ethno linguistic diversity implies a lower level of investment. Tom Kirk, Danelle and Annette (2018) suggest that ethnic diversity is one of the factors explaining the quality of government.

Civil wars kill people directly and immediately. They also destroy property, disrupt economic activity, and divert resources from health care. Huge refugee flows put people into crowded conditions without access to clean water and food; refugees become trans-border vectors of infection. Crime and homicide rates rise in wars and may remain high afterwards in a culture accustomed to violence. Many of these effects last for years after the fighting. Some articles reviewed the public health literature on both immediate and long-term effects (Knerr, Gardner & Cluver, 2013). Blattman, and Miguel (2010) document that there were war-related deaths from tuberculosis during the war in Wang et al, (2017) report war-derived disease deaths in Congo during the war as 6 times greater than those from direct violence. In regards to Stevens, Bisno, Chambers, Dellinger, Goldstein and Wade (2014), effects beyond the war period are less clear, though the longer term risk from tuberculosis, respiratory infections, and malaria is well-recognized.

Polachek and Sevastianova (2010) find that the effect of conflict on economic growth is greater for high-intensity conflicts as well as for non-democracies, low-income countries and countries in Africa. The findings of Polachek and Sevastianova (2010) further suggest that conflict depresses growth more significantly in the short term, as economies recover from the adverse effects in the long run. It is also clear that wide-spread civil wars cost five times more than narrowly fought internal conflicts. Francesco Amodio and Michele Di Maio (2018) also show that various sectors of the economy are differentially impacted by conflict. He argues that capital-intensive sectors like manufacturing, construction etc. tend to contract at a faster rate than GDP as whole, whereas labour-intensive sectors like subsistence agriculture tend to expand.

It is estimated that in West Africa particularly in Nigeria when there were conflicts, the production in the agricultural growth dropped to an average of 12.3% (Kimenyi et al., 2014). In the same way, studies have also looked at how conflicts in Kenya affected the production and exportation of flowers negatively or rather the flower industry (Ksoll, Macchiavello & Morjaria 2010). Inter-ethnic conflicts lead to a total waste of resources and material that could enhance economical milestone. According to the 2005 – 2006 unemployment statistics, young people aged 15 to 19 and 20 to 24 years fall in the category of 25% and 24% rate respectively of unemployment. People in this bracket are the most vulnerable, energetic and easily influenced to take part in inter-ethnic conflicts (Munga & Eldah, 2014). It is a fact that a big number of people, both young and old, have lost lives in various inter-ethnic conflicts in Africa. In that respect, (Shirley, 2015) confirmed that the unprecedented loss of lives in areas of inter-ethnic conflicts is in turn taking away the skills, talents, and potentials that have to steer economic growth.

The fact that the top contenders for the position of president always have most of their votes from the community they come from show that most of the voters believe that only someone from their community should hold the highest positions in government. Alternatively it could be perceived that the only guarantee for maximization of the community's interest in government is when one of its own is in power. In this framework, any disputes in election results become an ethnic issue leading to violence against each other as was the case in 2007/2008 post-election violence. Just as in the case of the raids among the pastoralists, the election related conflicts also leave many dead, property destroyed, grabbed or lost to looters, displacements of people from their homes and gross violation of human rights (Human Rights Watch, 2016).

In the northern Kenya, conflicts have led to degradation of the rangelands as mobility is constrained and the institutions that traditionally ensure their sustainable use are rendered ineffective (Odhiambo, 2012). Due to insecurity, grazing of livestock, even in times perceived to be peaceful, is restricted to a radius of 15 kilometres for fear of raids and the concentration of livestock in limited places results in overgrazing and general degradation of the environment. The concentration of people and livestock lead to overuse of resources with exposure to soil erosion and increased scarcity of pasture and water which poses a potential source of new conflict. While this happens, other areas with pastures and water remain unutilized. For instance, in the year 2009, the rangelands south of Loya, located between the Turkana plains and the highlands of Pokot, which are rich in pasture were not being accessed by either of the communities because of insecurity (Schilling *et.al.* 2012). The under-utilization of pasture bares the risk of encroachment of certain species which deplete the pasture or make it inaccessible and the unused water sources present opportunities for livestock poisoning (Huhoe *al.* 2009).

There are cases where violent conflicts even lead to closure of trading (market) centres, schools and dispensaries. Apart from the fact that costs of essential commodities soar up as a result of high costs of business (transport, security etc.) as well as exploitation by individuals who know the people have limited alternatives (Odhiambo, 2012). He further posits that the communities also experience reduced prospects of higher human development due to closure of schools and dispensaries which impede equality in quality educational achievements as well as access to health services. As children in the conflict affected areas remain out of school, their counterparts in other areas continue with their learning. The women are also forced to assume additional responsibilities beyond the traditional ones of providing for the family. The coping mechanisms are undermined thereby engendering general economic decline (*ibid*, 2012).

The other impact that ethnic polarization has on the economy is the effect on the real GDP and the per capita because of the opportunity cost of the rebellion aspect of the violence. This means that as the masses go to the street to protest and fight, the same people ought to be involved actively in economic activities which contribute to the GDP of a nation. Therefore failure to work means reduced per capita income. This is more so when there are two major ethnic groups fighting each other and the government is intervening. According to Elain K. Denny and Barbara F. Walter (2014), the opportunity cost and the cost to the economy is far much less if the conflict is between an ethnic group (the rebels) and the government- in which case the government is the

other ethnic group. On their part, Keferer and Knack (2008) agrees with Easterly and Levine that polarization of an ethnic cause always destabilizes all social, political and economic institutions which may hence reduce economic growth. The mistrust generated by from the ethnic divisions and clashes does not allow the building of cohesive institutions. Without these cohesive institutions, then economic growth and development is barred.

Montalvo and Reynal (2017) establish that ethnic diversity leads to bad policy, which, in turn, decelerates growth, both effects being quite powerful. Indeed, much of Africa's slow growth is attributable to its ethnic diversity. Ethnic diversity has also been shown to contribute to government dysfunction in several areas of economic policies, both in developed and in developing countries alike. For example, local or central governments in ethnically diverse societies tend to under-spend on public goods and education, produce low quality of services, generate greater political instability (Alexander, 2017); or misuse foreign aid and divert it into corruption (Kono & Montinola, 2013). Africa specific literature based on survey data, also finds evidence of dysfunction in government and civil society organizations. For example, United Nations Discussion Paper (2014) found that employment in the public sector in ethnically diverse Ghana was determined by patronage, not merit.

Conflict threatens Kenya tourism. It was noticed that the post-election violence affected the tourism sector which is a major income for Kenya. This conflict time was the peak season for the service industry and evidently, hotels and parks remained empty whereby the booking and occupancy mainly by the foreigners went down by over 60%. According to Capital News on 28th January 2008, over 1 billion shillings was lost in the flower industry in the two months of post-election violence. Ochieng' and Maxon (2012) avowed that the post-election violence of 2007-2008 together with the global financial crisis reduced the economic growth of Kenya to a GDP growth of 1.7%. In 2012, Gaye (2013) mentions that the economy was still at 5% even with the same weak global economy.

Ethnic polarization brings about violence that in so many cases could generate into a big civil war which in most cases will have serious economic consequences Gaye (2013). In the wake of inter-ethnic conflicts, people of the same tongue that is in offices employ and promote the less qualified tribes mates who serve them. Because of this tribalism, the level of economic growth slumps because the employment is not of qualified people. Collier et al. (2013) asserts that conflicts results to development in reverse while in the report by the Daily Nation (January 24, 2005: 1), the infrastructure in general has also been the target hence being destroyed by the conflict and not forgetting that many projects stall due to conflict.

Erkan (2012) observes that ethnic conflicts can affect the rate of investment negatively and bring in the so called rent-seeking behaviour which in turn will lead to increased public consumption. There is also loss and destruction of property which involves burning of homes and subsequent displacement of people as they seek to be in more secure places (Schilling *et. al.*, 2012). In the report by the African Development Bank, (2008), the massive deaths of young men who engage in the violent raids reduces the productive capacity of communities.

Many economic problems are generated by conflicts such as insecurity of food, disruption of manpower and labour on the farms/firms and loss of land. Besides that, breakdown in communication, diversion of resources, allocation, and miss-allocation in terms of unexpected expenditure, destruction of the established infrastructure, unstable pricing of commodities, and environmental degradation becomes the norm of the time (Oucho, 2010). In view of this report by (Oucho, 2010), one of the far-reaching economic consequences in this area of research was food shortage. This was because production dropped as a result of failure to get an adequate supply of raw material meant for agro-based firms such like cereals, coffee, sugar, tea and other inputs. These subjected clash victims to starvation in the wake of famine that necessitated an appeal for food relief from international organizations. According to Detges (2014), the effects of clashes include and not limited to fertility and mortality – whereby temporal marital dissolution is realized when the displacement of the people take place in the time of inter-conflict thus halting reproduction and family formation. Inter-ethnic conflicts also rock the foundation of nationhood, render the existing administrative structures respect less, and derail to a big extend the spirit of national cohesion and integration.

Kimenyi et al., (2014) and Ksoll, Macchiavello and Morjaria (2010) also indicated a negative effect of ethnic conflicts on growth of flower industry. From these and other studies reviewed, it can be deduced that inter-ethnic conflicts can negatively affect economic growth of the clash prone areas. However, these studies fall short of the social and community issues as indicated in the current study. The study therefore intended to examine the effects of social and community issues in inter-ethnic conflicts on economic growth in Nyando, Muhoroni and Tinderet sub counties in Rift valley in Kenya.

## **2. Methodology**

Correlational research design is the most appropriate design for exploring relationships among variables. Onono et al, (2016) affirm that in order to clearly establish whether there is relationship between two variables, pearson product moment correlation is more appropriate to answer this question.

Households that are directly affected by the conflicts more often as per sub regions are: Nyando Sub County (391), Muhoroni Sub County (340) and Tinderet Sub County (320) totaling to 1051, (Local Capacities for Peace International, 2015). However, consideration various variables such as education, age and availability, only 550 households were eligible for the study.

The sample size of the households was done using Krejcie and Morgan (1970; cited in Sekaran, & Bougie, 2016) sample size Table. According to this Table, a sample of 220 subjects was arrived at. Therefore simple random sampling was used to collect data from the eligible households. These entailed 82 respondents' from Nyando, 71 from Muhoroni, and 67 from Tinderet.

Data collection instruments entailed questionnaires, interview guides, Focus Group Discussions and document analysis. Questionnaire, which were both closed ended and open as too for

primary data collection from household heads particularly national government local administrators, local politicians while interview guides were used to collect data from other stakeholders and key informants who included religious leaders, and members of the police service. For secondary data, the study used existing literature review from the government publications as well as documents. Interview guides and focus group discussions were used to collect qualitative data from key.

Quantitative data analysis entailed both descriptive and inferential methods. Qualitative data analysis entailed thematic, verbatim reports and general discussions of the observed findings. Means, standard deviations, frequency counts and percentages were used to summarize the quantitative information. For inferential analysis, multiple regression was conducted to establish the effect of inter-ethnic conflicts on economic growth. The regression model used in the data analysis is presented as follows;

$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + \beta_2 X_{ii} + \varepsilon$  ; where Y= Dependent Variable (Economic Growth), X= Independent Variables (Social issues and Community issues),  $\beta_0$  =Y intercept in the equation,  $\beta_1$  =the model coefficient and  $\varepsilon$  = Residual in the equation

Qualitative results on the other hand were reported in themes and discussed

### 3. Results

#### 3.1 Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

#### 3.2 Effects of Social and Community Issues in Inter-Ethnic Conflicts on Economic Growth

Inter-ethnic conflict instrument items were combined through coding in order to obtain a single mean for each of the constructs. The constructs included social issues and community issues which were deemed to construct the predictor variable that is inter-ethnic conflicts. However, for the dependent variable, the items were coded and their means computed to obtain one single mean which reflected economic growth. Descriptive statistics are presented on both social issues and inter-ethnic conflicts.

Table 1  
*Social Issues*

Social Issues	SD F(%)	D F(%)	NS F(%)	A F(%)	SA F(%)
Political interference/hate speech/incitement	0(0.0)	22(10.0)	7(3.2)	64(29.1)	127(57.7)
Land distribution/demarcation related issues	0(0.0)	18(8.2)	22(10.0)	104(47.3)	76(34.5)
Cultural differences	0(0.0)	17(7.7)	24(10.9)	110(50.0)	69(31.4)
Traditional Justification of Cattle Rustling	0(0.0)	26(11.8)	11(5.0)	88(40.0)	95(43.2)
Inability to negotiate and resolve tension through legitimate and peaceful structures	0(0.0)	42(19.1)	12(5.5)	81(36.8)	85(38.6)
Owning of firearms and the Media	0(0.0)	14(6.4)	37(16.8)	87(39.5)	82(37.3)

Source: Survey data (2016)

Table 1 above shows that slightly more than a half (57.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed that national political interference was a factor not to be ignored when tackling inter-ethnic conflicts in this area of study, 29.1% agreed, while 10.0% disagreed.

According to interview schedule findings, it emerged that the respondents blamed political leaders across political divides. Those in opposition zone blamed those in the government and those in the government blamed those in opposition. The leaders incite their followers using their cultural myths, idioms, and sayings to either degrade their opponents or down look upon them. This in return is met by resistance thus escalating animosity amongst the ethnic groups.

Concerning land distribution/demarcation related issues, slightly more than a third (34.5%) of the respondents strongly agreed that land demarcation and distribution was a key factor in the wake of inter-ethnic conflicts in Nyando, Muhoroni and Tinderet sub counties, 47.3% of the respondents agreed, while 8.2% disagreed. Cultural differences are another source of social issues. Table 1 above shows that 31.4% strongly agreed, 50% agreed, 10.9% were not sure while 7.7% disagreed. Both who strongly agreed and agreed added together produced the highest data percentage of 81.4% of the respondents an indication that cultural differences contributed much in social issues in Nyando, Muhoroni and Tinderet sub counties.

According to Table 1 above, 43.2% strongly agreed that cattle rustling was real, 40% agreed, while only 26 11.8% disagreed. Cattle rustling factor has been a thorn in the flesh amongst the pastoralists for ages.

Slightly more than a third (38.6%) strongly agreed that lack of ability in negotiating and resolving tension through legitimate and peaceful structures was a contributing factor for the inter-ethnic conflicts, 36.8% agreed, 5.5% were not sure, while 19.1% disagreed. The number of respondents 19.1% was far below those who agreed supporting the reliability of the findings.

Slightly more than a third (37.3%) of the respondents strongly agreed that owning of firearms was undisputable, 39.5% agreed while 6.4% disagreed. The respondents reported that this plays a major role in incitements thus igniting and escalating violence in Nyando, Muhoroni and Tinderet sub counties.

Table 2  
*Economic Growth in the area of study*

Statements on economic growth	SD F(%)	D F(%)	NS F(%)	A F(%)	SA F(%)
Loss of foodstuff/burning of granaries	0(0.0)	21(9.5)	9(4.1)	49(22.3)	141(64.1)
Loss of cattle and other domestic animals	0(0.0)	19(8.6)	7(3.2)	128(58.2)	66(30.0)
Outbreak of communicable diseases	0(0.0)	21(9.5)	3(1.4)	92(41.8)	104(47.3)
Inter-ethnic conflicts and insecurity	0(0.0)	17(7.7)	21(9.5)	95(43.3)	87(39.5)
Land grabbing	0(0.0)	5(2.2)	14(6.3)	83(37.7)	118(53.6)
Fall of Agro-chemical industries depending on raw farm products	0(0.0)	14(6.4)	19(8.6)	82(37.3)	105(47.7)

The first indicator was that of loss of food stuff and burning of granaries. According to the findings in Table 2, slightly less than two thirds (64.1%) of the respondents strongly agreed that this is a factor that has effect on economic growth, 22.3% agree, while 9.5% disagreed.

Through oral interview with a respondent, observation and secondary data established that one of the main economic factors that could be felt by every victim of inter-ethnic conflicts is the loss of food through arson when the attackers set the food stores and granaries on fire as indicated by a respondent below.

*“During these conflicts we lose our food reserves, making our lives hard in different annual seasons. It takes us a bit long to settle from the effects of these conflicts. I wish people could understand the effects of the conflicts and just decide to live in peace”* (KII 1, 2021).

These findings imply that the respondents lose quite a lot during conflicts. These include food reserves which causes their lives to be more miserable. In addition, they take more time to settle thus bringing about another issue of settlement. Other aspects that may not have come out may include psychological torture that leads to lack of peace and thereafter drop in the economy.

More discussions with the respondents drew a statement from another respondent indicating:

*Conflicts results to famine and starvation. Nothing hits us as a community hard as lack of food and starvation. This in itself is the gateway to poverty and unending misery of the citizens. Loss of cattle and other domestic animals is almost similar to the loss of food”* (KII 2).

These findings imply that there is lack of basic needs such as food leading to famine as well as poverty among the residents of the areas. Loss of animals such as cattle’s is other drawbacks of the economy.

Slightly less than a third (30.0%) of the respondents strongly agreed that conflicts lead to the loss of cattle and other domestic animals thus affecting economic growth, this was supported by 58.2% of them who agreed with the statement. Only 8.6% disagreed with the statement.

According to the findings presented in Table 2, slightly less than a half (47.3%) of the respondents strongly agreed that outbreak of communicable diseases was a key factor that affects economic growth, 41.8% agreed, while only 9.5% disagreed. Based on the interviews with the respondents, outbreak of communicable diseases was a key factor in hampering economic growth in times of and during conflicts in Nyando, Muhoroni, and Tinderet sub counties. Conflicts and the emerging of communicable diseases go together.



### 3.3 Regression Analysis

Multiple regression was carried out whereby economic growth was regressed against inter-ethnic conflicts. The findings are presented as shown in Table 1 as follows.

Table 1

#### Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.762 <sup>a</sup>	.581	.579	.907	.581	261.296	2	217	.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), Social issues, Community issues

#### Coefficients

Coefficients <sup>a</sup>									
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.	Correlations		
		B	Std. Error	Beta			Zero-order	Partial	Part
1	(Constant)	.987	.083		11.881	.000			
	Social issues	.992	.054	.666	18.509	.000	.740	.690	.617
	Community issues	.154	.028	.198	5.507	.000	.447	.273	.184

a. Dependent Variable: economic growth

Source: Survey data (2016)

Results indicated that there is a high correlation between inter-ethnic conflicts and economic growth ( $R=.762$ ). This means that economic growth is associated to inter-ethnic conflicts. Besides, the findings further shows that inter-ethnic conflicts accounts for 58.1% variance in economic growth,  $R^2=.581$ , which is significant,  $F(2, 217) = 261.29$ ,  $p < .05$ . This implies that out of 100% causes of economic growth or decline, inter-ethnic conflicts accounts for a larger percentage in the area of study. Therefore economic growth of the area largely depends on the peace or reduced ethnic conflicts.

### 4. Discussion

These studies are in line with other previous findings in the literature review. This includes studies such as Justino, (2011), Kimenyi et al.,(2014), Huho, (2012); Human Rights Watch, (2016), among other who agreed with the current study findings which indicate that inter-ethnic violence have adverse effects on the economy. However, these studies may be limited in other areas such as domestic but the hallmark is that they support the fact that ethnicity, inter-ethnic violence and conflicts leads to slow or drop in economic growth. This implies that inter-ethnic violence negatively affects economic growth.

According to key information from the respondents, the Nandis, to some extent carry out attacks with a purpose of acquiring animals for bride price. The Luos in this area carry out similar attacks in retaliation or to repossess the cattle taken by the Nandis. Since time in memorial, pastoralists used to attack other communities for the same purpose and as part of initiation rites to prove that the initiate can acquire and manage wealth. The higher percentage in those who agreed is a clear indication that the findings were reliable considering how the factor influences inter-ethnic conflicts in Nyando, Muhoroni, and Tinderet sub counties: Inability to negotiate and resolve tension through legitimate and peaceful structures.

Further findings using the model coefficients indicates that for inter-ethnic conflicts, social issues was the strongest contributor of economic growth,  $\beta=.666$ ,  $p=.000$  implying that for every one unit increase in social issues or , there are 0.666 unit decrease in economic growth. This means that social issues are strong predictor of economic performance and therefore have influence on economic performance. Another variable found to have significant effect on economic growth was community issues ( $\beta=.196$ ,  $p<.05$ ). This means that one unit change in community issues will lead to 0.196 unit changes in economic growth. Therefore community issues have a significant effect on economic growth such that the more the community issues the slower the economic growth.

It is imperative to examine the above studies in detail. For instance, Odhiambo, (2012), statistics has revealed that ethnic conflicts have a negative impact on investments and thus a hindrance to economic growth but failed to establish the overall economic growth while Reksulak (2000) found a drop in per capita income due to ethnic conflicts. Reksulak studies were however too general as they examined the overall per capita of a country. Ksoll, Macchiavello and Morjaria (2010) also indicated a negative effect of ethnic conflicts on growth of flower industry. Further studies by Nirola and Sahu, (2019) also indicated that inter-ethnic conflict negatively affected growth while Rockmore, (2011) notes that ethnic conflicts are the main impediments to economic growth. From these and other studies reviewed, it can be concluded that inter-ethnic conflicts have a negative effect on economic growth of the clash prone areas. This studies coupled with the theoretical reviews clearly indicates that there is a serious negative effect of violence and ethnicity on economic growth in the areas of the study. Therefore these and other studies strongly support the current study that has revealed that ethnic conflicts negatively affect economic growth as purported in the study findings as well. This implies that such effect can be extended to the other areas if the problem is not solved early in advance. Therefore proper measures should be taken into consideration when such conflicts phenomena occur.

## 5. Conclusions

The objective of the study sought to evaluate the effect of inter-ethnic conflicts on economic growth. The findings revealed that inter-ethnic conflicts, more rampantly, social issues in the communities had a significant effect on economic growth. Thus it was concluded that inter-ethnic conflicts have a negative impact on economic growth of the study area, therefore whenever conflicts occur, it scares off investors and instils fear among the people who own businesses in the area thus slowing economic growth significantly.

Inter-ethnic conflicts affect the economic growth of the affected area, the researcher recommends that policies be established to govern the conflict prone areas such as the study area in the form of protecting businesses. It is also recommended that the residents be put under constant programmes of fostering peace within the area so as to enhance economic growth. The study recommended various approaches namely enactment of legislation that can enforce punitive actions against the perpetrators; adopting multiagency approach in curbing the vice; stakeholder involvement and engagement in finding a lasting solution to inter-ethnic conflicts; the national government, lands commission and the members of the community explores ways to deal with land matters. There are efforts by the national government to foster peace through the administrative units and the county governments so as to avoid ethnicity. Significant progress has also been observed over the government's commitment to narrow down to perpetrators of violence and hate speech causing fights. Plans that are put in place to oversee execution of justice should be enhanced and effective to ensure persons that become victims receive justice. The findings may aide the economic and peace integration commission stakeholders in advising potential investors as well as the government on promoting peace in the area. Scholars could also benefit by coming up with a model and more information in the area for guiding new researchers.

## References

- African Development Bank. (2009). *African development report 2008/2009: Conflict resolution, peace and reconstruction in Africa*. Oxford University Press.
- Ahlerup, P., & Olsson, O. (2012). The roots of ethnic diversity. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 17(2), 71-102.
- Amodio, F., & Di Maio, M. (2018). Making do with what you have: Conflict, input misallocation and firm performance. *The Economic Journal*, 128(615), 2559-2612.
- Annan, J., & Brier, M. (2010). The risk of return: intimate partner violence in Northern Uganda's armed conflict. *Social science & medicine*, 70(1), 152-159.
- Ansari, M. R., Azadi, R., & Salimi, E. (2016). Capturing of interface topological changes in two-phase gas-liquid flows using a coupled volume-of-fluid and level-set method (VOSET). *Computers & Fluids*, 125, 82-100.
- Arias, M. A., Ibáñez, A. M., & Zambrano, A. (2019). Agricultural production amid conflict: Separating the effects of conflict into shocks and uncertainty. *World Development*, 119, 165-184.
- Blattman, C., & Miguel, E. (2010). Civil war. *Journal of Economic literature*, 48(1), 3-57.
- Brown, H. G. & Tuner (2012). The New Security State. *A Companion to the French Revolution*, 343-358.
- Buchanan-Smith, M., & Fadul, A. A. (2008). Adaptation and Devastation: The impact of the conflict on trade and markets in Darfur. *Medford, MA: Feinstein International Center, Tufts University*.
- Chant, S., & Sweetman, C. (2012). Fixing women or fixing the world? 'Smart economics', efficiency approaches, and gender equality in development. *Gender & Development*, 20(3), 517-529.
- Delacre, M., Lakens, D., & Leys, C. (2017). Why psychologists should by default use Welch's t-test instead of Student's t-test. *International Review of Social Psychology*, 30(1).

- DeLoach, S. B., & Lamanna, E. (2011). Measuring the impact of microfinance on child health outcomes in Indonesia. *World Development*, 39(10), 1808-1819.
- Detges, A. (2014). Close-up on renewable resources and armed conflict: The spatial logic of pastoralist violence in northern Kenya. *Political Geography*, 42, 57-65.
- De Vries, H., & Specker, L. (2009). Early economic recovery in fragile states: Priority areas and operational challenges. *The Hague: Clingendael Institute*.
- Duponchel, M., Chauvet, L., & Collier, P. (2010). *What explains aid project success in post-conflict situations?*. The World Bank.
- Finn, M., Momani, B., Opatowski, M., & Opondo, M. (2014). Youth evaluations of CVE/PVE programming in Kenya in context. *Journal for Deradicalization*, (7), 164-224.
- Gates, G. J. (2012). Demographics and LGBT health. *Journal of health and social behavior*, 54(1), 72-74.
- Guo, K., & Labate, D. (2009). Characterization and analysis of edges using the continuous shearlet transform. *SIAM journal on Imaging Sciences*, 2(3), 959-986.
- Huho, J. M. (2012). Conflict resolution among pastoral communities in West Pokot County, Kenya: A missing link.
- Jones, L., Jaspars, S., Pavanello, S., Ludi, E., Slater, R., Grist, N., & Mtisi, S. (2010). Responding to a changing climate: Exploring how disaster risk reduction, social protection and livelihoods approaches promote features of adaptive capacity.
- Justino, P. (2011). Violent conflict and human capital accumulation. *IDS Working Papers*, 2011(379), 1-17.
- Justino, P. (2011). Violent conflict and human capital accumulation. *IDS Working Papers*, 2011(379), 1-17.
- Keefer, P., & Knack, S. (2008). Social capital, social norms and the new institutional economics. In *Handbook of new institutional economics* (pp. 701-725). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.
- Kimenyi, M., Adibe, J., Djiré, M., & Jirgi, A. J. (2014). The impact of conflict and political instability on agricultural investments in Mali and Nigeria.
- Kirk, T., Stein, D., & Fisher, A. (2018). The Relationship between Ethnic Diversity & Development: A Diversity Dividend?.
- Knerr, W., Gardner, F., & Cluver, L. (2013). Improving positive parenting skills and reducing harsh and abusive parenting in low-and middle-income countries: a systematic review. *Prevention science*, 14(4), 352-363.
- Kono, D. Y., & Montinola, G. R. (2013). The uses and abuses of foreign aid: development aid and military spending. *Political Research Quarterly*, 66(3), 615-629.
- Ksoll, C., Macchiavello, R., & Morjaria, A. (2010). The effect of ethnic violence on an export-oriented industry. *CID Research Fellow and Graduate Student Working Paper Series*.
- Mallett, R., Hagen-Zanker, J., Slater, R., & Duvendack, M. (2012). The benefits and challenges of using systematic reviews in international development research. *Journal of development effectiveness*, 4(3), 445-455.
- Munga, B., Mwabu, G., & Kiplagat, I. (2014). Discussion Paper No. 160 of 2013 on Identity and Social Cohesion in Kenya: Linkage and Correlates.

- Myers, M. D., & Klein, H. K. (2011). A set of principles for conducting critical research in information systems. *MIS quarterly*, 17-36.
- Nirola, N., & Sahu, S. (2019). The interactive impact of government size and quality of institutions on economic growth-evidence from the states of India. *Heliyon*, 5(3), e01352.
- Odhiambo, O. (2012). Corporate governance problems of savings, credit and cooperative societies. *International journal of academic research in business and social Sciences*, 2(11), 89.
- Ong'ayo, A. O. (2008). Political instability in Africa: Where the problem lies and alternative perspectives. Amsterdam: The African Diaspora Policy Centre. Under: [www.diasporacentre.org/DOCS/Political\\_Instabil.pdf](http://www.diasporacentre.org/DOCS/Political_Instabil.pdf) (accessed October 15, 2009).
- Opiyo, F., Wasonga, O., Schilling, J., & Mureithi, S. (2012). Resource-based conflicts in drought-prone Northwestern Kenya: The drivers and mitigation mechanisms.
- Pellillo, A. (2012). Conflict and development: evidence from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. *Unpublished manuscript, available at [https://iweb.cergeei.cz/pdf/events/papers/120402\\_t.pdf](https://iweb.cergeei.cz/pdf/events/papers/120402_t.pdf)* (accessed 28 May 2013).
- Polachek, S. W., & Sevastianova, D. (2012). Does conflict disrupt growth? Evidence of the relationship between political instability and national economic performance. *The Journal of International Trade & Economic Development*, 21(3), 361-388.
- Rockmore, M. (2011). The cost of fear: The welfare effects of the risk of violence in Northern Uganda. *Households in Conflict Network Working Paper*, 109.
- Ruto, E., Sircely, J., & Nyangito, M. M. (2020). Economic valuation of grazing management practices: discrete choice modeling in pastoral systems of Kenya. *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*, 63(2), 335-351.
- Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2016). *Research methods for business: A skill building approach*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Schilling, J., Opiyo, F. E., & Scheffran, J. (2012). Raiding pastoral livelihoods: motives and effects of violent conflict in north-western Kenya. *Pastoralism: Research, Policy and Practice*, 2(1), 1-16.
- Shirley, G., Wylie, E., & Friesen, W. (2015). The branding of post-conflict tourism destinations: Theoretical reflections and case studies. In *The Tourism–Disaster–Conflict Nexus*. Emerald Publishing Limited.
- Stevens, D. L., Bisno, A. L., Chambers, H. F., Dellinger, E. P., Goldstein, E. J., Gorbach, S. L., ... & Wade, J. C. (2014). Practice guidelines for the diagnosis and management of skin and soft tissue infections: 2014 update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America. *Clinical infectious diseases*, 59(2), e10-e52.
- Stewart, F. (2011). Horizontal inequalities as a cause of conflict: A review of CRISE findings.
- Wang, H., Abajobir, A. A., Abate, K. H., Abbafati, C., Abbas, K. M., Abd-Allah, F., ... & Choi, J. Y. J. (2017). Global, regional, and national under-5 mortality, adult mortality, age-specific mortality, and life expectancy, 1970–2016: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. *The Lancet*, 390(10100), 1084-1150.
- Women, U. N. (2011). United nations entity for gender equality and the empowerment of women. *Balancing the Scales: Groundbreaking Legal Cases that have Changed Women's Lives*, 2012.