FACTORS AFFECTING EFFICIENCY OF THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT: CASE STUDY OF MERU COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

BY

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RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF DIPLOMA IN PURCHASING AND SUPPLIES MANAGEMENT IN THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI.
DECLARATION

Declaration by Student

This research project is my original work and has not been presented to any other examination body.

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study was to determine and establish the factors that influence efficiency of procurement process in local government. During the study it was established that the various factors leading to inefficiency of the procurement process included: lack of implementation of government policy on procurement, inadequate training of procurement staff and lack of professional ethics as regards to purchasing and suppliers function and finally inadequate use of technology to perform the purchasing function.

The researcher gathered information according to the factors that influence efficient procurement process i.e. technology skills, personal and professionalism purchasing ethics and government policy. This information was gathered from past studies done by various researchers as regards to above stated factors. The research was one of the descriptive studies whereby information concerning the current status of the phenomenon was used to describe what exist with respect to specific variables.

The findings revealed that local Government has inefficient procurement processes compared to private organizations. This can be attributed to the use of traditional purchasing and supply systems and also laxity in adopting new technology which is fast and more efficient when used to perform the purchasing function. Purchasing ethics is a problem which these institutions / corporations should address since many corrupt deals take place when conducting the procurement function. The study recommends that for government institutions to improve on their purchasing function, they need to adopt the developments that are taking place worldwide concerning procurement. This can be done through training of procurement staff, adoption of new technology, addressing ethical issues and adopting the government policy set on procurement by an Act of parliament (Public Procurement and Disposal Act 2005) concerning procurement rules and regulations on public procurement.

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