ABSTRACT

A devolved form of governance system is a new phenomenon in post independent Kenya. This system presents the country with a unique opportunity to address the diversity of local needs, choices and constraints and advance a more equitable system of sustainable economic growth for the nation. Among other necessary contingent factors that will determine the success or failure of this form of governance is the quality of structural and management processes adopted by the county governments in the execution of their constitutional mandate. For instance, analysis of existing literature shows that a higher degree of bureaucratic formalization and rigidity may result in decreasing organizational performance. The paper endeavored to establish Role of Good Governance Structure in Enhancing Service Delivery for Social Economic Development of Counties in Kenya. The paper used a stratified random sampling technique by grouping the Forty Seven counties into eight geographic regions (strata), equivalent to the defunct eight Kenyan provinces from which eight counties were conveniently selected and a sample size of two hundred and eleven scientifically determined. Data was collected using questionnaires and interview guides. The obtained data was analyzed using the SPSS software supplemented with spreadsheets. From the findings, the study established that governance structures play a key role in Enhancing Service Delivery for Social Economic Development of Counties in Kenya. The study recommended that as county governments embrace strategic management practices for sustainable economic growth and service delivery, they should adopt lean management structures for effective and efficient management of county institutions. Further, the paper recommends that it is imperative for County Governments in Kenya to focus on determining important governance structural orientations that match their different strategies for better utilization and maximum gain from their varied local opportunities and resources. Finally, the paper recommends that County Governments should embrace between centralization and decentralization and a budge from rigid orientations to more flexible governance structural systems that promote accountability in their struggle for social economic development.

Key Words: Governance Structure, Subsidiarity, Devolution, Socio-Economic Development