

**FACTORS INFLUENCING ACCESS TO UWEZO FUND BY THE YOUTH IN  
MANYATTA CONSTITUENCY, A CASE STUDY OF EMBU COUNTY**

**KIMOSOP KIMUTAI**

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENTS OF THE BACHELOR OF COMMERCE DEGREE (FINANCE  
OPTION) AT UNIVERSITY OF EMBU**

**APRIL, 2019**

## ABSTRACT

The Uwezo Fund in Kenya is a youth, women, and persons with disabilities fund which was introduced by the president of Kenya, Uhuru Kenyatta. The research is about factors affecting access to uwezo fund by residents of manyatta constituency and may likely be the universal reasons faced by all youth in Kenya. The youths face the challenge of access to the fund thus low achievement of the fund's objectives. The research was conducted in manyatta constituency Embu county. The objectives of the study were; to determine whether the level of awareness has an impact on access to Uwezo fund in manyatta constituency, to access the extent that attitude towards entrepreneurship affects access to Uwezo fund by the youth in manyatta constituency, to establish whether group dynamics has an effect on access to Uwezo fund by the youths in manyatta constituency, to determine the influence of terms and conditions on access to Uwezo fund by the youths in Manyatta constituency. The study used a descriptive survey research to obtain the relevant information that described the current status of Uwezo fund access in manyatta constituency. The research was carried out in manyatta constituency and involved 10 youth groups and large population of 120 respondents. However the sample size was 100. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics and presented using frequency distribution tables and percentages. From the findings, the study concluded that sensitizing youth on the existence of Uwezo fund is key and therefore the government should put more efforts on that, the youth had a positive attitude towards entrepreneurship and that youths are more than willing to start business of their own. The study concluded further that group formation dynamics pose a challenging factor among the youth and that more should be done to encourage youth form cohesive groups. Finally, the study found out that lending terms and conditions should be relaxed to enable youths access the fund easily. The study recommended that further studies should be done on factors influencing access to the uwezo fund, role of uwezo fund in realization of vision 2030 and finally the impact of uwezo fund in changing the livelihoods of the youths.