

The role of County Administration in Fire Disaster Mitigation and Management: The case of Mukuru Kwa Njenga Slum, Nairobi County, 2014

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Abstract:

This study aims at investigating the role of county administration with particular reference to those formerly in provincial administration (county commissioners, district, chiefs and assistant chiefs) in fire disaster mitigation and management in Mukuru Kwa Njenga slum in Nairobi County. The objectives of the study were to investigate the role of county administration in law enforcement, community enlightenment /education, and fire disaster response planning and reconstruction coordination. Literature relating to fire disaster mitigation and management in urban informal settlements in the world, Africa and Kenya has been reviewed. The target populations of the study were the residents of Mukuru Kwa Njenga slum in Nairobi County and the county administration officials serving the area, ranging from the county commissioner, Deputy county commissioner, Assistant county commissioner, chiefs and their assistants as established under the National government coordination Act 2013. Research was conducted through descriptive research design. Snowballing method was used to access respondents where a chain of respondents residing in various villages were accessed. A questionnaire was used to gather information and it was administered to respondents by the researcher and research assistants. The validity and reliability of the questionnaire was tested through a pilot study that was done in Mukuru Kwa Njenga slum before the actual study. In addition to the questionnaires, interviews, observation and statistics from disaster, risks and hazards records were used to establishing the role of county administration in fire disaster mitigation and management in Mukuru Kwa Njenga slum in Nairobi County. The data collected was analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative methods via SPSS and was presented in the form of graphs, pie charts, tables and percentages.