

THE ROLE OF SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES IN ENHANCING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF RURAL COMMUNITIES IN KENYA: A CASE OF KALAMBA MANGO PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN MAKUENI COUNTY.

by

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APPROVAL

THE ROLE OF SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES IN ENHANCING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF RURAL COMMUNITIES IN KENYA: A CASE OF KALAMBA MANGO PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN MAKUENI COUNTY.

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In accordance with Daystar University policies, this thesis is accepted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Master of Arts degree.

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DECLARATION

THE ROLE OF SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES IN ENHANCING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF RURAL COMMUNITIES IN KENYA: A CASE OF KALAMBA MANGO PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN MAKUENI COUNTY.

I declare that this thesis is my original work and has not been submitted to any other college or university for academic credit.

Signed: _____
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Date: _____

DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my guardian, family, supervisors and friends for their unwavering support.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AGOA	African Growth and Opportunities Act
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
EDP	Entrepreneurial Development Programme
EPZ	Export Processing Zones
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Green House Gas
IS	Import Strategy
R&D	Research and Development
RSSI	Rural Small-Scale Industries
SAPs	Structural Adjustment Programmes
SMEs	Small and Medium Scale Enterprises
SSEs	Small-Scale Enterprises
SSI	Small-Scale Industries
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
US	United States

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to analyze the role of small- scale mango industries in enhancing the socio-economic well-being of local communities in Kenya using Kalamba Ward in Makueni County as a case study area. Specifically, the study sought to: examine the rationale for establishing mango-processing industries in Kalamba Ward in Makueni County, assess the socio-economic effects of the mango processing industry on local community in Kalamba Ward, Makueni County, analyze challenges faced by the mango processing industry in Kalamba Ward, Makueni County and strategies to address the challenges faced by the mango processing industry in Kalamba Ward, Makueni County. The study adopted both descriptive and explanatory research designs in ascertaining reasons for establishing mango industries and document the contribution of rural industries in the enhancement of the well-being of rural inhabitants in Kenya. A sample size of 88 respondents was selected from 800 mango farmers in the three selected villages of whom 80 were randomly selected. Questionnaires and interviews with key informants served as a guide. Books, periodicals, published reports, government statistical reports/documents, and articles in professional journals served as a guide for secondary data collection. According to the findings of the study, the mango processing industry had a significant impact on the economic and social well-being of the surrounding community by developing a market for mango farmers and providing opportunities for employment. The slowing down of the funding process is a significant obstacle for the mango industry. According to the findings of the study, the county government of Makueni should consider implementing measures to encourage the expansion of rural small-scale industries. These measures include subsidized loans, credit guarantees, and risk-sharing arrangements that are typically implemented by financial institutions, governments, and donors.