



Youth Entrepreneurship Programmes in Nairobi Slums: An Ethnographic Study of Vocational Training Impact

Odhiambo Mwangi^{1,2}, Njeri Githinji³

¹ Egerton University

² Kenyatta University

³ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Egerton University

Published: 27 February 2008 | **Received:** 17 September 2007 | **Accepted:** 09 January 2008

Correspondence: omwangi@gmail.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18875524](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18875524)

Author notes

Odhiambo Mwangi is affiliated with Egerton University and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Njeri Githinji is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Egerton University and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Abstract

Youth entrepreneurship in Nairobi slums faces significant challenges related to access to formal education and financial resources. Vocational training programmes are seen as a potential solution, but their effectiveness is poorly understood. An ethnographic approach was employed to conduct qualitative research involving interviews, observations, and document analysis over a three-year period. Data were collected from participants, trainers, and community leaders in four Nairobi slums. Participants reported increased confidence and skills acquisition, with 75% showing improvement in their chosen trades. However, sustainability challenges included limited access to funding and mentorship post-programme completion. The ethnographic study highlights the need for sustainable support systems to ensure long-term success of vocational training programmes in Nairobi slums. Programme organizers should prioritise community engagement for ongoing support and financial assistance for participants. Training providers could also benefit from improved mentorship resources.

Keywords: Kenya, Nairobi, Slums, Anthropology, Mentoring, Community Engagement, Participant Observation

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ REQUEST FULL PAPER

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge