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# Effect of Budget Allocation and Procurement Processes on Budget Utilization in the Public Sector in Kenya: A Case of The Judiciary

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## Abstract

Budget management has great implications for the realization of the objectives of the budgets in institutions. If the budget is not prepared with the greatest dedication and also genuineness it is not possible to understand the fantastic capacity of finances as tools for national progression. The budgeting and budgetary controls have attained high focus among institutions in the present day and thus offer high prospects which this research study examines. This study sought to establish the influence of budget allocation on budget utilization in public institutions within Kenya and to analyze the influence of procurement processes on budget utilization in public institutions within Kenya. The study was anchored on Resource Based Theory with a descriptive research design being adopted. The targeted population for the study was the Chief registrar, Court Registrars, Deputy Registrars, Directors and Deputy Directors in the Judiciary totaling to 40. The study used census approach where the entire population of 40 respondents was used in the study. Additionally, the data collection instruments comprised of both questionnaires and the interview guides. Additionally, qualitative analysis was done using content analysis and SPSS was used to analyze the quantitative data. The inferential statistics included the Pearson correlation and multiple linear regression model. Frequency, percentage tables, charts and graphs was used to present the data. Correlation results indicated that budget allocation was positively related to budget utilization (Pearson's Correlation Coefficient of  $r = 0.798$ ,  $p$ -value 0.0001). The results indicated that procurement process was positively related to budget utilization (Pearson's Correlation Coefficient of  $r = 0.608$ ,  $p$ -value 0.0001). The regression results indicated that budget allocation and procurement processes have a positive and significant relationship with budget utilization in the Judiciary. The study recommended for a classification that enables better links between policy priorities and funding programs. The study further recommended that the budget should provide unambiguous information on all aspects of Judiciary policy. Oversight should be enhanced for proper compliance to statutes and internal controls.

**Keywords:** *Budget Allocation, Procurement Processes, Budget Utilization, Public Institutions, Judiciary*

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## 1.1 Introduction

Budget utilization involves the process of identification of public requirements and the resolution of the quality of products as well as services to satisfy these demands through the political process, by financial evaluation with the overall advancement plan objectives (Taffa, 2019). Effective budget preparation and utilization are tools that measure management performance of institutions and promotes sound morale financial harmony within the institution (Lemarleni, Ochieng, Gakobo & Mwaura, 2017). It enables an organization to confirm whether the planning of the company are actually effectively comprehended by all participants of personnel and also implement restorative actions where in under discrepancy or even the inconsistency is actually developing (Ilemona, & Sunday, 2018). As budgeting is a strategy for preparing as well as financial organizing it is actually strongly vital to an association, it becomes critical for an institution to look at the future results and existing selections so in order to prevent surprises and also comprehend the relationship among existing and future decision (Magani & Gichure, 2018). Budgeting and pricing control have actually accomplished higher emphasis among institutions now days as well as thereby deliver high leads which this investigation study sought to examine.

Budget utilization takes place throughout the financial year and it is critical for any institution to perform (Ali, 2020). Public expenditure policy and the manner in which it is managed would impact on budget utilization (Böwer, 2017). It is the actual execution of the budget and application of funds to the planned activities (Nalo, 2020). Robaro (2018) assumes that there ought to be actually circulation of obligations for budget utilization, budget allotment management regulations and budget corrections, a variety of special problems related to budget utilization, and also the monitoring of budget completion. At the same time budget completion covers both tasks related to the application of policies as well as jobs connected to the administration of the budget (Robaro, 2018).

Budgetary allocation is utilized by institutions as a resource for proper management of sources in the organization and also its tasks (Wawire, 2020). An institution with effectively formulated monetary allocation easily delegates its supervisors the accountability for using designated funds to obtain their appointed operational purposes (Owili, 2017). Budget allocation delivers contrasts of real results against budget planning. Variations coming from budgets can at that point be looked into and the causes for the variations may be portioned in to manageable and also non-controllable aspects, this is important in minimizing inadequacies and inadequate budget practices leading to efficient allocation of limited information (Kanyinga, 2014).

The budget allocation system highlights the connections of a variety of role players in the different parts, which create the probability once and for all governance along with the importance on public financial management ability, accountability and also cooperation (Globe Bank Report, 2018). The system supplies accumulated decision-making, for consumers to convey their needs and additionally accountability (Robaro, 2018). The budget allocation system makes provision for built up economical area, military prioritization in make-up of expenditure with the budget as a vital instrument to carry out federal government strategies, operational performance in use of information as well as economic clarity (Ilemona & Sunday, 2018).

The procurement process entails the identification and implementation of particular measures through institutions to guarantee they can get goods and solutions to meet their demands and obtain their purposes (Karsai, 2018). A procurement procedure is vital considering that it has a direct impact on the amount an institutions can easily save. When institutions analyze the procurement

process on a regular basis, after that it ensures their targets are actually being met (Effiom & Edet, 2019). Modifications could be made to the process when it is not operating as intended. Procurement as well as procurement processes can demand a substantial portion of an institution's resources to manage. Procurement budgets normally by supply managers with a certain worth they may devote to obtain the goods or even companies they require (Chemin, 2020). The process of procurement is usually a key component of an establishment's budget technique due to the fact that the capability to buy certain components or even solutions can establish if procedures will definitely be lasting. The procurement process consists of the planning and also handling of a demand along with the end voucher as well as permission of repayment (Gambo, Inuwa, Usman, Said & Shuaibu, 2021).

Locally, despite the improvement in the absorption rate, the Judiciary still encountered problems with intermittent abrupt budget cuts which affected the contractor's payments schedules (SOJA report, 2020). Kenya's Judicial System includes the courts, tribunals, Judicial Training Institute (JTI) and Judicial Service Commission (JSC), (Kenya Judiciary, 2020). The court under the Constitution operate at pair of degrees, such as; Superior and Underling courts. The Judiciary is mandated to deliver justice according to the Constitution and also various other legislations. It is anticipated to resolve conflicts in a just method with a view to securing the civil liberties and liberties of all, thus assisting in the accomplishment of the excellent regulation of law (Article 159; Constitution of Kenya, 2010).

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Budget management has great implications for the realization of the objectives of the budgets in institutions. If the budget is not performed with the greatest dedication and also genuineness it is not possible to understand the fantastic capacity of finances as tools for national progression. The relevance of concurrent budget execution can easily certainly not be actually disputed for this reason (Wawire, 2020). In Kenya, the Judiciary has actually faced a lot of problems in monetary utilization, greatest amongst them being absence of adequate allocations and commercial infrastructure to enable it to work effectively and properly (Magani & Gichure, 2018). Fundamental establishments in several courts in the nation are, to mention the least, undignified as per the Judiciary's administration of Justice Report (SOJA, 2020). In some courts, people are crowded in makeshifts designs that desecrate the liberties as well as dignity of the captives (Wawire, 2020). In many cases, grownups and also youngsters are actually produced to discuss the exact same center. Inside the courts themselves, the crowding gives a crystal clear safety danger not merely to the court personnel but also the court individuals/clients (Mwangi & Jagongo, 2019).

The total budget allocation in Kenya usually has the Executive with the largest significant share of the National Budget followed by Parliament and the least being the Judiciary. In the 2019 financial Year, the Judiciary's budget was capped at Kshs.17.3 billion, with recurrent expenditure at Kshs 13.3 billion and Development expenditure at Kshs 4 billion (Kenya Judiciary, 2020). This comprised Ksh1.05 Billion from the Government of Kenya and also a World bank loan amenities of Kshs. 2.9 billion (SOJA, 2020). Nonetheless, when the National Assembly passed the Appropriation Act, the Judiciary's complete budget allocation was later decreased to Kshs. 14.5 Billion. Out of this, the development budget from the National government of Kenya was simply Kshs. 50 Million. The money was expected to cover brand-new as well as continuous projects, repair work as well as routine maintenance, along with ICT structure for the courts. Observing these monetary reductions, service to 43 million Kenyans was affected gravely (SOJA, 2020)



In addition, studies have not adequately addressed the budget management practices in the public sector. Mwangi and Jagongo (2019) assessed the effect of budgetary allocation on performance of the Judiciary in Embu County, while the current study was conducted in the headquarters. In addition, the study relied on Recurrent Budget, Development Budget, Loans, and Grants while the current study used budget allocation, internal audit functions and procurement process. Further, the Kenya's public institutions, budget accomplishment disparity between budget and accomplishment are wide and thus this study was motivated to assess the budget management practices on budget utilization in the public sector in Kenya with a case of the Judiciary.

### **1.3 Purpose of the study**

- i. To establish the influence of budget allocation on budget utilization in public institutions within Kenya.
- ii. To analyze the influence of procurement processes on budget utilization in public institutions within Kenya.

### **1.5 Research Questions**

- i. What is the influence of budget allocation on budget utilization in public institutions within Kenya?
- ii. What is the influence of procurement process on budget utilization in public institutions within Kenya?

## **2.1 Literature Review**

### **2.2 Theoretical Review: Resource Based View Theory**

Penrose (1995) draws attention to the company's internal atmosphere as a motorist for competitive advantage. The theory plans that if a company is actually to attain an important competitive advantage as well as boost its own efficiency it should acquire as well as manage beneficial, unusual, non-substitutable as well as unmatched sources and capacities as well as not readily available in element markets to create competitive advantage. Also as well as resources figure out company performance (Thompson, 2011). Researchers registering for the Resource Based View (RBV) argue that only tactically crucial as well as valuable resources trigger institution efficiency (Davis, 2017).

RBV emphasizes the really powerful component played through uncommon various packages of resources, capabilities as well as capabilities in acquiring key competitive advantage as well as performance. The information might be actually either intangible or even positive. The substantial sources can be gotten through outside purchases, whereas intangible ones often tend to accumulate over an opportunity and, for that reason, are actually an additional durable resource of competitive advantage (Peteraf, Di Stefan & Verona, 2013).

The RBV analyzes and deciphers internal resources of the companies and stresses information and also functionalities in making tactic to obtain competitive advantage. Resources may be actually looked at as inputs that enable organizations to carry out their activities. Internal sources as well as capacities establish key selections created by agencies while competing in their outside organization setting. Organization's abilities also make it possible for some firms to include worth in client market value chain, broaden or develop brand-new products in brand-new marketplace. The RBV brings into play the resources and also capabilities that stay within the institution so as to establish maintainable progression (Camisón, 2019).

RBV is an ideal theory in resource allocation in the Judiciary in an effort to ensure proper budget utilization. These end up being strategic properties that are actually difficult to trade and copy rare, appropriable and also specific information and also capabilities. Funds are actually the major elements that are made use of in institutions.

## **2.3 Empirical Review**

### **2.3.1 Budget Allocation and Budget Utilization**

Lemarleni, Ochieng, Gakobo and Mwaura (2017) investigated the effect of budget allocation on budget utilization at the Kenya Police Service. 120 respondents from Nairobi County headquarters were randomly selected for the study. Results showed that there exist both positive and also substantial relationships between the predictor and also dependent variables. Strongest and positive correlations were obtained between budget allocation on budget utilization followed by financial resource and budget utilization. They focused on budget allocation and budget utilization at the Kenya Police Service but did not handle the effect of budget allocation on performance of the Judiciary which is one of the arms of government hence leaving a research gap which this study sought to fill.

Lepori, Usher and Montauti (2013) conducted a study on budgetary allocation and organizational characteristics of public institutions in Europe. The research determined that budgeting was actually an essential organizational procedure, which is very closely related to crucial selections regarding key concerns and to information accomplishment techniques. In general, it is actually increasingly being recognized as being one of the main areas where steerage and also governance occur, and also where college institutions are actually intended to volunteer. The advocates of ideas of adjustment utilize the word 'concept' in a just about contrary feeling to define a particular description of a certain example, yet never explain why they do this. However, the study findings did not provide a deeper understanding of the current functioning of budgeting allocation and utilization of Judiciary which is the focus of the current study.

Zia (2012) evaluated budgetary allocation and proficiency in China. A financial education mark was developed for the nation making use of records detected mindsets, access to and likewise make use of financial providers over the timeframe 2005-2009. In a multivariate regression examination, they utilized the symbol to take a look at the magnitude to which variations in financial proficiency associate in addition to demographic as well as economic features. They found out that budgetary allocation is required to provide adequate resources for the evaluation. Notwithstanding when the monetary administrations are available, there are fewer hurdles in budget proficiency.

Mwai, Namada and Katuse (2018) examined the influence of available budget on organization performance of registered non-governmental organizations in Kenya. Information evaluation was actually performed using inferential and also definitive statistics. The research leads noted that fundraising attempts as well as exactly how funds are distributed to the a variety of important tasks and procedures determine the degree of performance in the organization process. Workers permission, detrimentally however, significantly determined method efficiency. It was likewise the goal to carry out an extensive research study of why fundraising attempts in NGOs did not considerably affect stakeholder complete satisfaction. Despite looking at influence of available budget on organization performance, did not look at budget allocation in the public institutions which this current study has focused on.

### **2.3.2 Procurement Processes and Budget Utilization**

John (2015) revealed that budgeting and funding to procurement tasks as well as features are required for the excellent performance as well as performance of any type of company/institutions. That means that acquiring companies require to lay out the needed budgets as well as have good procurement plans, which can aid in making a timely funding on any type of purchases made. In addition, it was exposed that poor budgets relate to failure to apply the problems of the agreement, which occasionally results right into failing to execute the business purchase plans which often influences the features of other departments in the organization.

According to Kavuva and Ngugi (2014) proper investment preparation, bring about efficient and also trustworthy performance in town government investment systems in Kenya. These findings were validated by Ogwel, Iravo as well as likewise Lagat (2016) whose study revealed that preparation work on pricing influenced purchase performance, he further asserted that leading management plays crucial functions in ensuring that the personnel used are trained, resources appropriations are actually readily accessible, investing strategies are equipped and also followed, and likewise staffs are actually taken for training to boost their know-how and capabilities. Sellers furthermore participate in a large part in procurement efficiency by ensuring that they deliver on time and likewise depending on the specifications in addition to their outputs.

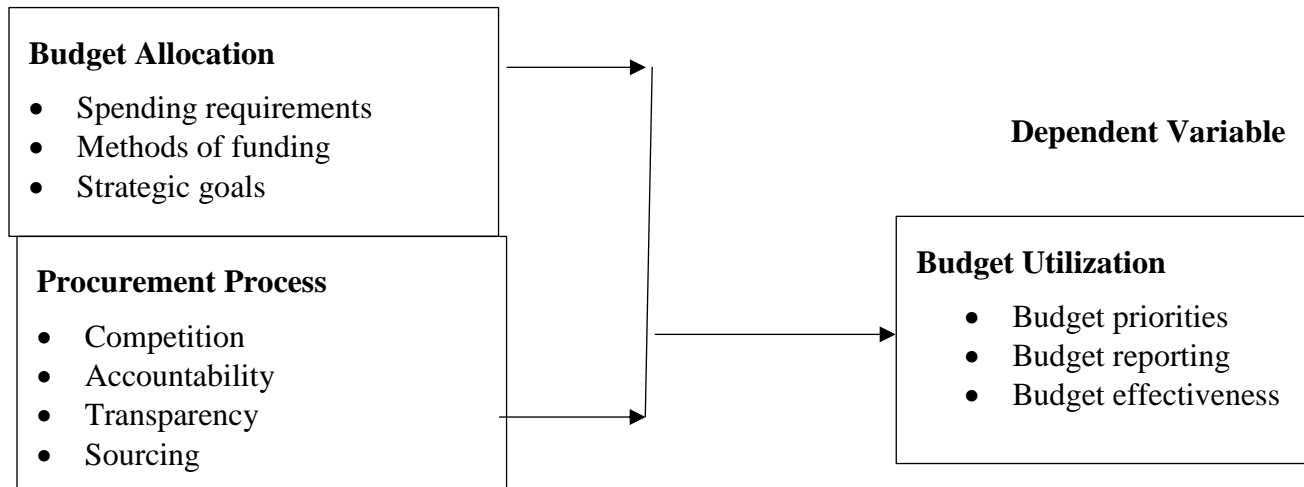
Kiage (2013) discovered the components influencing procurement performance with a situation of Department of Energy. The research signified that public procurement has progressively ended up being prominent, thereby the general public companies need to have to intend on just how to take care of the whole process. The results reveal that procurement preparing possesses a significant impact on procurement functionality. Preparation, source allocation, staff capability as well as agreement management influence on the variants in procurement efficiency. According to Kiage (2013), information allocation, procurement organizing, arrangement management and also workers capability efficiently impact procurement efficiency. Preparation makes sure that on call sources are used if you want to attain total procurement purposes. The presence of procurement organizing makes certain that sound obtaining planning are used to boost both effectiveness and performance in obtaining projected buying end results.

Wahu, Namusonge, Mungai and Chilion (2015) sought to find out components influencing productivity of procurement capability amongst public secondary schools in Kenya. From their results for, 3 variables were actually chosen. In order of desire, cost effective bidding process was really found to influence procurement efficiency to the very best amount after that dominating legal structure as well as additionally the minimum impacting component on procurement functions was really aggregation of procurement. Makali (2015) took a look at values and also procurement performance of humanitarian associations in Kenya. The research established that there exists a study connection between ethics and also procurement functionality. There are challenges that face the procurement sector such as lack of training, culture and political pressure but there is need to overcome the challenges of implementing procurement ethics in humanitarian organizations.

### **2.4 Conceptual Framework**

Figure 1 depicts the relationship between independent variables; budget allocation and procurement process on the dependent variable; budget utilization.

## Independent Variables



**Figure 1: Conceptual framework**

Source (Researcher, 2022)

The budget allocation highlights the relationships of a variety of role players in the various components, The budget allocation creates regulation for gathered budgetary field, vital prioritization in design of cost along with the budget as a crucial music equipment to hold out authorities planning, functioning performance in use of information and also financial openness (Ilemona, & Sunday, 2018). Budget allocation offers contrasts of actual results against budget approach. Variations coming from budget may at that point be explored as well as the reasons for the differences may be actually divided in to non-controllable as well as likewise manageable variables, this is in fact critical is reducing inabilities as well as bad budget practices resulting in reliable allocation of rare sources.

Budget utilization defines the ways where all intended activities will certainly be provided and cooperation in the tasks will create the end result for reporting due to the end of the implementation time (Lemarleni, Ochieng, Gakobo & Mwaura (2017). This integrates expense to the achievement of goals. However, in damaging the financial process down, it could be seen that it likewise permits the company managers to planning, coordinate, command and analyze its activities (Mwai, Namada & Katuse, 2018). They set quantity is actually to be spent on a task in a certain amount of time. Budget utilization enhance judicious expenditure of funds allocated for the purpose with budget priorities, budget reporting, budget effectiveness (Bardolet, Brown & Lovallo, 2017). This budget effectiveness compares the budget allocation versus the budget utilization of funds.

### 3.1 Research Methodology

A descriptive research design was adopted. The targeted population for the study was the Chief registrar, Court Registrars, Deputy Registrars, Directors and Deputy Directors in the Judiciary totaling to 40. The study used census approach where the entire population of 40 respondents was used in the study. Additionally, the data collection instruments comprised of both the questionnaires and the interview guides. Additionally, qualitative analysis was done using content



analysis and SPSS was used to analyze the quantitative data. The inferential statistics included the Pearson correlation and multiple linear regression model.

#### **4.1 Results and Findings**

The researcher distributed 40 questionnaires to the respondents. 4 questionnaires were used for pilot study. Out of these, 36 questionnaires were filled and representing a 90% response rate.

#### **4.2 Descriptive Statistics**

The overall mean on budget allocation was 3.74 which indicated that majority of the respondents agreed with the statements on budget allocation. The distribution of their responses was however, diverse (standard deviation of 1.13).

In addition, on how does budget allocation influence budget utilization in the Judiciary.

A respondent indicated that;

“Budget allocations ensures that enough resources are allocated to various programs to avoid any short falls.” (R1)

Another respondent indicated that;

“The different units in the Judiciary annually sign performance contracting and one of the parameters evaluated is budget utilized out of the budget allocated and therefore various units endeavour to utilize allocated budget.” (R2)

Respondent 3 indicated that;

“Meager budget allocation in Judiciary impacts on budget utilization as amid projects undertaken in the Judiciary and thus affects completion of projects within stipulated time. (R3)

Respondent 4 indicated that;

“Budget allocation influences budget utilization in the Judiciary in the sense that with inadequate allocation then budget utilization is impacted with incomplete projects. Adequate budget allocation has an input on utilization in the sense that allocation is based on priorities for the said financial year and thus the utilization would follow what is allocation to a certain achievement.” (R4)

The overall mean on procurement processes was 4.20 which indicated that majority of the respondents agreed with the statements on procurement processes. The distribution of their responses was however, diverse (standard deviation of 0.75). The findings are line with Nzau and Njeru (2014) who found that the allocation of more resources and equipment to the procurement department positively improves on its capabilities and output to organizations. In addition, the respondents were asked on how the procurement processes impact budget utilization in the Judiciary. A respondent indicated that;

“Procurement processes ensures funds are committed/ reserved before goods/services are procured. This ensures funds are available before goods/services are procured.” (R14)

Respondent 15 indicated that;

“Where users initiate procurement processes towards the end of the financial year, budget utilization is minimal but where the users initiate procurement processes at the start of the financial year, budget utilization is higher as procurement processes would have been concluded.” (R15)

Respondent 16 indicated that;

“The lengthy and bureaucratic procurement process influence budget utilization by making of procurement of goods and services an uphill task to complete within the financial year.” (R16)

Respondent 17 indicated that;

“Procurement process impact budget utilization if they are carried out in a timely manner. If the budget is provided in good time and the process is done at the right time then utilization is always at par.” (R17)

Respondent 18 indicated that;

“Procurement process are done through the system and depend on system stability for quick processing of requests and purchase orders. Also procurement is not done on the last month of the financial year. Where the procurement process is smooth and effective, the lead-time is reduced, this has impacted directly on planned procurements which is directly proportional to budget utilization.” (R18)

Respondent 19 indicated that;

“Effective procurement process can help in improving absorption rates. However when procurement process are commenced towards the end of the financial year the same will affect utilization negatively.” (R19)

### 4.3 Correlation Analysis

Correlation analysis was conducted to find out the strength of relationships between the independent variables (budget allocation, and procurement processes) and the dependent variable (budget utilization). The findings of the correlation analysis are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: Correlation Analysis**

		<b>Budget utilization</b>	<b>Budget allocation</b>	<b>Procurement process</b>
Budget utilization	Pearson Correlation	1.000		
Budget allocation	Pearson Correlation	.798**	1.000	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.085	
Procurement process	Pearson Correlation	.608**	0.181	1.000
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.292	

**Source:** Field Data (2022)

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The results indicate that budget allocation was positively related to budget utilization (Pearson's Correlation Coefficient of  $r = 0.798$ ,  $p$ -value 0.000). This is statistically significant since the  $p$ -value is less than 0.05. The findings are consistent with Lemarleni, Ochieng, Gakobo and Mwaura (2017) who established the strongest and positive correlations between budget allocation on budget utilization followed by financial resource and budget utilization. The findings also agree with Lepori, Usher and Montauti (2013) who found that budgeting was a critical organizational process, which is closely related to key choices concerning strategic priorities and to resources acquisition strategies.

Lastly, the results indicate that procurement process was positively related to budget utilization (Pearson's Correlation Coefficient of  $r = 0.608$ ,  $p$ -value 0.000). This is statistically significant since the  $p$ -value is less than 0.05. The findings agree with Chene and Hodess (2019) who established that integration of procurement process that provides tools such as electronic procurements creates a framework whereby buyers can be able to procure goods and services easily via browsing one-stop catalogues as advertised by suppliers. The findings are line Nzau and Njeru (2014) who found that the allocation of more resources and equipment to the procurement department positively improves on its capabilities and output to organizations.

#### 4.4 Multiple Regression Analysis

Regression analysis was used to determine the significance of the relationship between the independent variables (budget allocation and procurement processes) and the dependent variable (budget utilization).

**Table 2: Model Summary**

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.867a	0.752	0.720	0.366

**Source:** Field Data (2022)

From the findings in the model summary Table 2, the value of adjusted R squared was 0.752 indicating that 75.2 percent of the budget utilization in the Judiciary could be explained by budget allocation and procurement processes. This shows that 24.8% of the budget utilization in the Judiciary can be explained by other factors.

**Table 3: Results of ANOVA test**

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	12.59	2	3.147	23.553	.000b
Residual	4.143	31	0.134		
Total	16.732	35			

**Source:** Field Data (2022)

The research used the ANOVA approach to further examine the model's relevance. The regression model had a significance level of 0.000, indicating that the data was excellent for forming a judgment on the population parameters since the value of significance ( $p$ -value) was less than 5%,

according to the ANOVA statistics. The computed f value ( $23.553 > 2.779$ ) was higher than the critical threshold, indicating that budget management practices had a considerable impact on budget utilization. The model was significant since the significance value was less than 0.05.

The regression equation took the form:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \varepsilon$$

In the equation, Y denoted performance of Budget Utilization,  $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$ , denoted the regression coefficients,  $\beta_0$  denoted a constant while  $X_1$ = Budget Allocation,  $X_2$ = Procurement Processes and  $\varepsilon$  = Error. The results of regression analysis are highlighted in Table 3.

**Table 3: Coefficients of the Determinations**

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
(Constant)	1.250	0.305		4.103	0.000
Budget allocation	0.254	0.082	0.322	3.096	0.004
Procurement process	0.167	0.079	0.246	2.133	0.041

**Source:** Field Data (2022)

The fitted model was;

$$Y = 1.250 + 0.254 X_1 + 0.167 X_2$$

Where;  $X_1$ = Budget Allocation,  $X_2$  = Procurement Processes

According to the findings, budget allocation has a positive and significant relationship with budget utilization, as shown by a regression coefficient of  $\beta = 0.254$  (p-value=0.004). Budget utilization would improve by 0.254 units for every unit rise in budget allocation. The budget allocation variable was significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) at a 5% level of significance and a 95% level of confidence. The findings also agree with Zia (2012) who evaluated budgetary allocation and proficiency and found out that budgetary allocation is required to provide adequate resources for the evaluation. The findings by Omollo, Christophe and Onyango (2017) indicated that budget allocation plays an important role on the performance of an organization. The findings by Bardolet, Brown and Lovallo (2017) indicated that effect of greater breadth appears to outweigh that of increased budget allocation per project.

The results indicated that procurement process has a positive and significant relationship with budget utilization, as shown by a regression coefficient of  $\beta = 0.167$  (p-value=0.041). Budget utilization would improve by 0.167 units for every unit rise in procurement process. Procurement process was significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) at a 5% level of significance and a 95% level of confidence. The findings are consistent with Kiage (2013) who indicated that public procurement has increasingly become prominent, thus the public entities need to plan on how to handle the entire process. The findings further indicated that procurement planning has a substantial impact on procurement performance. These findings agree with Ogwel, Iravo and Lagat (2016) whose study showed that



planning on budgetary influenced procurement performance. Makali (2015) study established that there exists a strong correlation between ethics and procurement performance.

### **5.1 Conclusion**

The first objective was to establish the influence of budget allocation on budget utilization in public institutions within Kenya. The study concludes that budget allocation has a positive and significant relationship with budget utilization in the Judiciary. The second objective was to analyze the influence of procurement processes on budget utilization in public institutions within Kenya. The study concludes that procurement processes has a positive and significant relationship with budget utilization in the Judiciary. Therefore, the Judiciary must strive to incorporate prudent budget allocation and proper procurement processes to enhance its budget utilization.

### **6.1 Recommendations**

Based on the findings and study objectives, the study recommends that:-

There should be sufficient budget allocation to the Judiciary for service delivery to people of Kenya and it is noted that budget allocation affects budget utilization. The more the utilization there more service delivery it is achieved. The National Treasury and the Legislature should allocate sufficient funds to the Judiciary based on its priorities. The Judiciary should in turn allocate the budget to right vote's heads for great service delivery. Procurement process as per the applicable legislation should be adhered to. Delayed procurements process should be avoided to ensure adequate use of the available budget hence improving Budget utilization. Generally, the Judiciary Fund as envisaged under article 173 of the Constitution and other enabling legislation should be fully operationalized.

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