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“Global food security and food safety:  
The role of universities”

## The Causes of Hunger in Kilifi County, Kenya

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### Abstract

The number of undernourished people in agricultural and livestock reliant communities in Kenya is on the rise. Hunger has increased not just in traditional arid and semi-arid lands, but also to hitherto agriculturally productive regions. The country has witnessed periodic cases of hunger and malnutrition because of drought and famine. Despite the government's hatched series of new strategies and establishment of university campuses in rural areas, the universities have failed to specialise in assigned fields for the benefit of the host regions. The higher education reforms has increased higher education access and eased admission crisis that plagued the country in the past, but has failed to address the specific needs of host communities. The study will explore the role of universities in increasing food security and food safety in Kenya. The study specifically will examine the use of teaching, research and community mobilisation, in promoting food security and food safety. The study aims at establishing the causes of food insecurity in some regions of Kenya despite abundance in food production in other regions. It is hoped that the results of the study will improve our understanding on food security and food safety and support policy-makers in designing better future policies. The study will be purely qualitative. Data will be obtained through desktop research. Collected data will be analysed through content analysis. Analysed data will be presented in tables, figures and graphs. Conclusions and recommendation for policy will be made. The expected outcome of the study will indicate that: there are specific factors promoting food security and food safety; that a substantial unmet need persists in cultivation; and that more is required in making food security a reality. Recommendations for policy and further study will be made from the conclusions emanating from the study.

**Keywords:** Food Security Food safety Rural Research Teaching Community Mobilisation