

**EVALUATION OF BORDER SECURITY AND COUNTERTERRORISM
STRATEGIES: A CASE STUDY OF THE MANDERA BORDER POINT IN
KENYA.**

OSOLIKA WAKHUNGU ALLAN

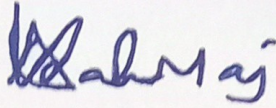
**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF
SCIENCE IN GOVERNANCE, PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNANCE, PEACE AND SECURITY STUDIES,
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES OF AFRICA
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY**

JUNE 2025

DECLARATION

I declare that this thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university.

Signed



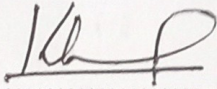
Date: 26/06/2025.....

Osolika Wakhungu Allan
18J03DMGP027

SUPERVISORS

This thesis is submitted for examination with my approval as the University supervisor.

Signed

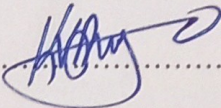


Date 27-06-25

Dr. Justus K. Musya

Department of Governance, Peace and Security Studies

Signed



Date: 20/6/2025

Dr. Victor Boiyo

Department of Governance, Peace and Security Studies

Africa Nazarene University

Nairobi, Kenya

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my family, with special appreciation to my mother, whose unwavering love, care, guidance, and support have been instrumental in the successful completion of this work.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisors, Dr. Justus K. Musya and Dr. Victor Boiyo, for their invaluable guidance, support, and encouragement throughout this study. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the faculty members for their invaluable supervision, guidance, and support throughout this study. Additionally, I am deeply grateful for the unwavering support I received from my mother, Peres Nyanga Osolika, and Lt. Col. Alfred Alumasa, whose encouragement and assistance were instrumental in the completion of this work.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	ii
DEDICATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
LIST OF TABLES	vii
LIST OF FIGURES	viii
ABSTRACT	ix
OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS	x
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	xiii
CHAPTER ONE	1
INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Introduction.....	1
1.2 Background to the Study.....	2
1.3 Statement of the Problem.....	6
1.4 Purpose of the Study	7
1.5 Objectives of the Study	7
1.6 Research Questions.....	8
1.7 Significance of the Study	8
1.8 Scope of the Study	9
1.9 Delimitation of the Study.....	10
1.10 Limitations of the Study.....	10
1.11 Assumptions of the Study	11
1.12 Conceptual Framework.....	12
CHAPTER TWO	13
LITERATURE REVIEW	13
2.1 Introduction.....	13
2.2 Theoretical Framework.....	13
2.3 Empirical Literature Review.....	17
2.3.1 Border Security Strategies Applied at Mandera Border Point.....	17
2.3.2 Effectiveness of Border Security Policies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point.....	20
2.3.3 Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point.....	23
2.4 Summary and Research Gap	26
CHAPTER THREE	30
RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY	30
3.1 Introduction.....	30
3.2 Research Design.....	30
3.3 Research Site.....	30
3.4 Target Population.....	31
3.5 Study Sample	32
3.5.1 Sample Size.....	32
3.5.2 Sampling Procedure.....	34
3.6 Data Collection	34
3.6.1 Development of the Instrument.....	34
3.6.2 Pre-testing of Instruments.....	35

3.6.3	Reliability of Instruments.....	36
3.6.4	Validity of Instruments.....	37
3.6.5	Data Collection Procedure.....	37
3.7	Data Analysis.....	38
3.8	Legal and Ethical Considerations	38
CHAPTER FOUR.....		40
DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS		40
4.1	Introduction.....	40
4.2	Response Rate.....	40
4.3	Presentation of Research Analysis and Findings.....	46
4.3.1	Response on Awareness of Border Security Strategies.....	46
4.3.2	Effectiveness of Utilization of Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism.....	52
4.3.3	Challenges Experienced in the Implementation of Border Management Policies.....	59
CHAPTER FIVE		64
DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS		64
5.1	Introduction.....	64
5.2	Discussion of Findings.....	64
5.2.1	Border Security Strategies applied at Mandera Border Point.....	65
5.2.2	Effectiveness of Border Security Policies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point	66
5.2.3	Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point.....	67
5.3	Summary of Findings.....	68
5.3.1	Border Security Strategies applied at Mandera Border Point.....	68
5.3.2	Effectiveness of Border Security Policies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point	69
5.3.3	Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point.....	71
5.4	Conclusion of the Study.....	72
5.5	Recommendations of the Study	73
5.6	Areas of Further Research	75
REFERENCES		76
APPENDICES		82
APPENDIX I: INTRODUCTION LETTER		82
APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE.....		83
APPENDIX III: INTERVIEW GUIDE		88
APPENDIX IV: NACOSTI PERMIT		89
APPENDIX V: ANU TRANSMITTAL LETTER.....		90
APPENDIX VI: WORK PLAN.....		91
APPENDIX VII BUDGET		92
APPENDIX VIII: APPENDIX VI: MAP OF STUDY AREA.....		93

LIST OF TABLES

<i>Table 1 Target Population</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Table 2 Sample Size</i>	<i>33</i>
<i>Table 3 Response Rate</i>	<i>41</i>
<i>Table 4 Response on Education Level</i>	<i>44</i>
<i>Table 5 Improvement on Border Security Strategies</i>	<i>46</i>
<i>Table 6 Response on Security Measure Deployed</i>	<i>47</i>
<i>Table 7 Best Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism</i>	<i>49</i>
<i>Table 8 Ranking of Border Security Strategies for Counterterrorism</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Table 9 Effectiveness of Policies in Terms of Border Management at Mandera Border Point</i>	<i>51</i>
<i>Table 10 Effectiveness of Utilization of Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism</i>	<i>53</i>
<i>Table 11 Policy Tool</i>	<i>53</i>
<i>Table 12 Utilization of Border Management on Counterterrorism</i>	<i>54</i>
<i>Table 13 Utilization of Border Management Policies</i>	<i>55</i>
<i>Table 14 Frequency of Involvement in Border Security Management Strategies on Counterterrorism</i>	<i>57</i>
<i>Table 15 Ranking of Border Security Management Strategies in Counterterrorism</i>	<i>57</i>
<i>Table 16 Statements Regarding the Challenges faced in the Implementation of Border Management Strategies</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>Table 17 Extent of Border Management Challenges</i>	<i>63</i>
<i>Table 18 Summary of Chapter Four - Presentation of Findings</i>	<i>63</i>

LIST OF FIGURES

<i>Figure 1 Conceptual Framework for Evaluation of Border Security and Counterterrorism Strategies at Mendera Border Point.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Figure 2 Response on Gender.....</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>Figure 3 Response on Age</i>	<i>43</i>
<i>Figure 4 Response on the Length of Service in the Current Occupation</i>	<i>45</i>
<i>Figure 5 Response on Awareness of Border Security Strategies.....</i>	<i>47</i>
<i>Figure 6 Challenges Experienced in the Implementation of Border Management Policies</i>	<i>59</i>

ABSTRACT

This study assumes that tightening Kenya's borders, more so against terror attacks by groups like Al-Shabaab, requires evaluation and improvement of current measures with evidence-based practice. This study assessed border security and counterterrorism on the Kenya-Somalia border, especially at Mandera Border Point. Border security remains a cause of concern due to ongoing threats posed by terror groups such as Al-Shabaab. The study assesses the effectiveness of existing security protocols and identifies problems with implementing counterterrorism strategies. The conclusions are of valuable use to policymakers, security agencies, and scholars who seek to enhance Kenya's border security regime. The study was guided by three objectives: to determine the specific border security strategies applied at Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border; assess the effectiveness of border security policies on counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border; analyze the challenges and opportunities in implementing border security strategies on counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border. The study was guided by Securitization Theory and Statism Theory, which underpin the securitization of the border and the state-centric notions of counterterrorism. Descriptive design was employed, and both qualitative and quantitative approaches were used. The population targeted included 205 participants from key security and regulatory agencies, including the Anti-Terror Police Unit (ATPU), Kenya Police Service (KPS), Administration Police (APS), National Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC), National Intelligence Service (NIS), Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), among others. Through snowballing, stratified random, and purposive techniques, a sample of 136 respondents were sampled. Data were collected using semi-structured questionnaires and key informant interviews. Quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS version 21 based on descriptive and inferential statistics, and qualitative data were analyzed using content analysis. It emerged that the creation of special security units was the major border security approach. Seventy-two percent of the respondents concur that border policies facilitated immigration control. Nevertheless, 50% of the respondents noted that there was a critical lack of proper training for personnel manning border security. Intensified inter-agency cooperation, the establishment of joint task forces, and regular training would make border security operations more efficient, as it is suggested. Enhancing such measures will promote Kenya's ability to fight cross-border terrorism. The study contributes to knowledge through empirical data on the effectiveness and weakness of security measures at the border and counterterrorism along the Kenya-Somalia border, Mandera in particular. It highlights areas of inadequacies in staff training and interagency collaboration, proposing practical changes for policy and operational transformation.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

- Antiterrorism:** Measures designed to prevent or thwart terrorism. In the context of this study, these are measures such as raids designed to break up terrorist cells, intelligence gathering and arresting suspects.
- Border control:** Measures taken by a state or group of states to regulate and monitor the movement of people, goods, and other material across these borders.
- Border Point:** Mandera's Border Point is a recognized entry and departure point along the Kenya-Somalia border where security services enforce immigration controls, customs laws, and counterterrorism measures. This study investigates the effectiveness of security efforts at this specific border crossing in deterring terrorist activity and illicit travel.
- Border Security:** The combination of methods, personnel deployments, and monitoring technologies used at Mandera Border Point to control cross-border traffic, prevent infiltration by extremist groups like Al-Shabaab, and strengthen national security. This includes things like border patrols, intelligence gathering, and the usage of physical barriers.
- Border security:** Border protection from illegal movement of contraband, drugs, weapons, people, and materials while promoting lawful travel and trade.
- Counterterrorism Measures:** At Mandera Border Point, security policies, military interventions, intelligence operations, and community-based initiatives are used to prevent terrorist attacks, disrupt extremist networks, and protect border security personnel and local communities. These strategies include enhanced monitoring, collaborative military operations, and community policing.

- Counterterrorism:** Practices, strategies, techniques, and strategies that governments, militaries, police departments and corporations adopt in response to terrorism. In the context of this study, the government via the military police and custom officials apply measures such as protecting government buildings and installations, infiltration of terrorist cells and community policing designed to keep away terrorists.
- Effectiveness:** The extent to which border security and counterterrorism efforts at Mandera Border Point successfully dissuade unlawful crossings, reduce terrorist threats, and improve overall regional safety. In this study, effectiveness is assessed based on factors such as the reduction of terrorist incidents, improved border management, and stakeholder perceptions of security outcomes.
- National Security:** The safekeeping of the nation. In the context of this study, National security is the protection against internal and external threats to Kenya's territorial integrity and sovereignty especially the terrorists.
- Terrorism:** The unlawful use or threatened use of force or violence against individuals or property to coerce or intimidate governments or societies to achieve political, religious or ideological objectives. In the context of this study, terrorism and terrorist activities are mainly perpetrated by Al-Shabaab, a militant group with origins from Somalia with sympathizers and recruits from Kenya and other countries.
- Terrorist:** A person, usually a member of a group, who uses or advocates terrorism. In the context of this study, they are mainly Al-Shabaab, a militant group originating

from Somalia with sympathizers and recruits from Kenya and the other countries.

The Kenya-Somalia border: It is the territorial line that separates Kenya and Somalia, and it includes both formal and informal crossing sites. The term "border" in this study refers to the larger security environment along the Kenya-Somalia border, with a focus on security concerns such as illegal crossings, smuggling, and terrorist infiltration in the Mandera region.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

APRBPU	Administration Police Rural Board Patrol Unit
APS	Administration Police Service
ATPU	Anti-Terror Police Unit
BPU	Border Patrol Unit
EU	European Union
ICAFRICA	International Charity for Africa
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IRA	Ireland Republican Army
KAA	Kenya Airports Authority
KBS	Kenya Bureau of Standards
KIRA	Kenya Inter-Agency Rapid Assessment
KPA	Kenya Ports Authority
KPS	Kenya Police Service
KRA	Kenya Revenue Authority
NCTC	National Counterterrorism Centre
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIS	National Intelligence Service
NPS	National Police Service
OSBP	One-Stop Border Post
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
UAV	Unmanned aerial vehicles
UK	United Kingdom
UNCCT	UN Counterterrorism Center

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Counterterrorism and border protection are crucial aspects of national security, particularly in nations vulnerable to cross-border attacks. The Kenya-Somalia border has been a source of concern regarding security due to its susceptibility to transnational criminal activities, including smuggling and terrorist infiltration. This research focuses on evaluating the effectiveness of counterterrorism and border security interventions at Mandera Border Point, a key entry and exit point along the Kenya-Somalia border. Understanding the strategies employed, their effectiveness, and the challenges faced during implementation is essential for strengthening Kenya's border management system, given the region's rampant security concerns.

The chapter serves as the cornerstone of the study, adopting a funnel-style approach that begins with a general exploration of counter-terrorist trends and border security worldwide, then progresses to regional perceptions, and finally narrows down to examine the security dynamics of the Mandera Border Point. It also presents the problem statement, underscoring the gap between the ideal security situation and the prevailing conditions at the border. Additionally, the chapter outlines the research purpose, objectives, and questions, the importance of the study, research assumptions, scope, and limitations. The theoretical and conceptual frameworks that support the study are also discussed.

The study specifically aimed to determine the border security policies implemented at Mandera Border Point, assess the effectiveness of these policies in preventing terrorism, and analyze the challenges and opportunities for their implementation. By providing these answers, the study highlights the effectiveness of existing policies and interventions while indicating areas for improvement. The findings ultimately inform policy discussions on enhancing border security and counterterrorism in Kenya.

1.2 Background to the Study

Over time, counterterrorism measures have been implemented by gathering, analyzing, monitoring, and evaluating data. While some of these actions have reduced terrorist activity in certain places, in others, terrorism has increased (Ndunda, 2013). The public conversation is currently dominated by the security risks that terrorism poses to the international community and the path forward (Papademetriou & Collett, 2011). As a result, counterterrorism methods have become more sophisticated over time due to various factors, including combined efforts from multiple agencies and industries, learning from past failures, and a wide range of measures. However, some areas remain severely impacted and vulnerable to terrorist attacks.

Terrorism is not an emerging concept, but the changing nature of terrorism poses challenges in the realms of national security strategy formulation and implementation (Jenkins, 2001). Historically, terrorism is as old as humankind; additionally, the current terrorism trend has its origins in the French Revolution, when terror was utilized to crush the revolution's adversaries (Law, 2024). Conversely, the term terrorism became popular during the French Revolution (Grinin, 2022). They opine that terrorism at the time was adopted to restore order amid the revolutions waging across the globe. Notably, the contemporary wave of global terrorism began in the late 1970s. The rise of this form of terrorism is marked by two distinctive events: the Afghan-Soviet conflict and the Iranian Revolution in 1978 (Bassey & Udofia, 2023). This form of terrorism is characterized by fanaticism and fundamentalism and is often perceived to be emerging from Muslim countries (Ibid). This kind of terrorism is referred to as the religious wave of terrorism.

The global community has witnessed the tightening of border security controls, largely due to cross-border criminal acts and the globalization of organized crime syndicates. Over the last 20 years, the movement of goods and people has significantly increased, necessitating the formulation of border management and immigration structures to more effectively manage border trade flows and the

movement of individuals. A shared challenge all states face is controlling the movement of goods and people while maintaining border security. A state's borders play a pivotal role in its international relations and foreign investments (Ndunda, 2013).

Statistically, there are more than 180 million individuals living as immigrants in countries that are not their birthplace, and therefore, this number has plummeted from 80 million thirty years ago. Regarding national border migration, it is estimated that 8 to 10 million individuals migrate each year. About one in 35 people worldwide are migrants, accounting for 3% of the global population. When combined, migrants may form the fifth most populous country in the world (IOM, 2023). A report indicated that tourist arrivals from an international perspective rose from 69.3 million in the 1960s to 687 million in the 2000s (Wagner, 2022). Thus, border management involves the organization of various agencies and their integration of border management (Opon et al., 2015).

Technological advancement and globalization have moved goods and migration of people relatively faster and more easily. High-risk individuals and hardened criminals become involved in this process. Crimes related to terrorism are linked to border-related issues (Grieco, 2023). This makes effective border management essential for maintaining public security. However, the development of border management policies is considered a significant setback. The United States of America (USA) has significantly invested in technology with the primary aim of ensuring robust border security. The main reason that led the country to channel all its resources and energy into border management is the prevention of another terror-related attack.

Notably, Australia is recognized as a leading country in border security management. It is seen as a pioneer in achieving effective border management, positioning it as a role model for other nations adopting similar measures (Wong Villanueva et al., 2022). The member states of the European Union are experiencing developments in border security management as an emerging concept due to its

novelty in immigration. Many states have been hesitant to adopt new technologies for border management purposes. This reluctance arises from the presence of countries without external borders (Kostakopoulou, 2024)). Furthermore, the EU has fostered collaborative and complex approaches to border management. Notably, the external EU border consists of 8,826 km of land borders and 42,672 kilometers of sea borders. This entails eighteen European Union states, 22 Schengen states, and 8 non-EU states, as cited by Kamphuis (2024).

Within the continent of Africa, borders are a leading source of conflict. Porous borders are common in the region, leading to instability and related offenses beyond borders. The high porosity levels of African states make them more accessible to drug smugglers, contraband, and small arms and light weapons. One of the greatest needs at border points is security, requiring protective measures to combat any activities that can endanger property and lives or compromise the country's integrity (Moragori, 2021). Central and West African countries have a high rate of intra-regional migration, linked to increased economic development among these nations. However, the increased regional security setbacks experienced during this process prompt governments to rethink their approaches to border management and immigration, aiming to promote more efficient governance of migration, including the management of border security processes ((IOM), 2023).

The Eastern Africa community comprises two distinctive territories with six partner states: South Sudan, Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya. These countries share a market and common borders, which have led to increased inter-regional migration. Some of the issues experienced within the communities of East Africa due to shared borders include common visas, porous borders, and transnational communities (Osunkoya & BELLO, 2024). In the Eastern Africa region, several cases involve smuggling, acts of terrorism, and human trafficking, among other pertinent issues that may pose a threat to national security. Sahan Foundation & IGAD (2019) cited that a significant portion of

these activities is organized individually within the various countries and involves various nationalities. These illegitimate activities include crossing the Mediterranean Sea and land borders.

Kenya is among the leading countries in East Africa. Notably, it is also regarded as an epicenter for trafficking and smuggling activities across the borders. Illicit migration occurs within the country, and people may be relocated from refugee camps to the capital city and then to the coastal region, where they may receive other unlawful support to cross borders by sea. The migrants might also move freely without the necessary migration documents, such as passports and visas, posing a threat to the country (Bariagaber, 2023). Border security management process, officials at the border and police can easily be compromised, and protection, documentation of information, and power can be bought. A report presented by Frouws and Horwood (2019) additionally shows that particular officials are part of the trafficking and smuggling industry, rendering it challenging to the country's national security.

Transnational violations are committed by individuals who cross global borders by sea, land, or air. Therefore, an effective border management strategy must enhance the capability to identify and apprehend fraudulent travelers while promptly facilitating the legitimate movement of commercial vessels (Wagner, 2022). The discourse on border security and counterterrorism represents a captivating aspect of national security and is a measure that supports the country's Vision 2030 goals. This study aims to provide greater impetus to this academic field by examining the impact of border security and counterterrorism, particularly at the Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border.

Effectiveness in counterterrorism and border security is closely related, particularly in regions such as Mandera Border Point, where terror organizations like Al-Shabaab exploit the porousness of borders. Border security initiatives, including surveillance equipment, information sharing, and joint patrols, form the first line of defense against terrorist infiltration, arms smuggling, and illegal cross-border entry (Gituanja, 2013). However, their success relies on the flexibility of counterterrorism

measures, the level of cooperation between agencies, and the involvement of locals in reporting suspicious behavior. Poor border controls can allow extremists to move freely, while inefficient counterterrorism measures can compromise border security initiatives, creating a vicious cycle of instability (Kasura, 2021). Thus, there is a causative relationship between these variables: the measures for securing the border determine the efficiency of counterterrorism efforts, whereas the evolving nature of terrorist attacks necessitates continuous shifts in border control measures. Therefore, the focus of this study is to explore how security measures at Mandera Border Point impact their overall efficiency in discouraging cross-border terror.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

Terrorism remains a constant and evolving security threat in Kenya, particularly in the border areas with Somalia, with Mandera Border Point serving as one of the main entry and exit points. The region has faced repeated incursions by transnational terrorist groups, primarily Al-Shabaab, which exploit border loopholes to enter the country. These incursions have led to significant mortality, property damage, and disruptions to socio-economic activities, instilling fear in the populace while undermining national security efforts (Gituanja, 2013). Despite Kenya's commitment to securing its borders through various anti-terrorism measures, the frequency of terror attacks poses a challenge to the effectiveness of these strategies.

Several border security initiatives have been undertaken by the Kenyan government, including multi-agency coordination, intelligence-led operations, the utilization of specialized security agencies such as the Border Patrol Unit, and sophisticated surveillance equipment (Kirimi, 2022). To dissuade terrorist activity, an intense level of patrols and checkpoints has also been established along strategic border areas. However, the frequent incidence of terrorist attacks indicates loopholes within the existing security system (Grieco, 2023). The permeability of the border, lack of interagency coordination, and corruption among some security personnel have all been attributed to terrorist infiltration, according to

studies (Cheruiyot & Rotich, 2018). Furthermore, Buigut (2018) demonstrates how terrorist attacks have interfered with the day-to-day life of Kenyans, affecting both state security initiatives and economic activities.

Although counterterrorist campaigns in Kenya have garnered the interest of many studies, most of these studies have focused on diplomatic interventions and holistic national security measures (Otenyo, 2014; Chumba et al., 2016). However, there is no assessment of the efficiency of border security procedures at risk-prone locations, such as the Mandera Border Point. Additionally, the dynamics of terrorism and its implications for Kenya's border security structures remain empirically understudied.

Thus, this study seeks to fill this gap by examining the effectiveness of security control at the Mandera Border Point in curbing terrorism. Researchers, security stakeholders, and policymakers who focus on enhancing Kenya's capacity to curb terrorism can gain insights from the analysis conducted by this research on existing security policies, their effectiveness, as well as the implementation challenges.

1.4 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to assess the border security and counterterrorism measures along the Kenya-Somalia border, with a focus on the Mandera Border Point in Kenya.

1.5 Objectives of the Study

1.5.1 General Objective

The general objective of this study was to assess the effectiveness of border security and counterterrorism measures along the Kenya-Somalia border with a focus on Mandera Border Point, Kenya.

1.5.2 Specific Objectives of the Study

The specific objectives of the study were to:

- i. To determine the specific border security strategies applied at the Mandera Border Point.
- ii. To assess the effectiveness of border security policies in counterterrorism at the Mandera Border Point.
- iii. To analyze the challenges and opportunities in implementing border security strategies on counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point.

1.6 Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study:

- i. What specific border security strategies are applied at Mandera Border Point?
- ii. How effective are border security policies in counterterrorism at the Mandera Border Point?
- iii. What are the challenges and opportunities in implementing border security strategies on counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point?

1.7 Significance of the Study

In social research, providing a rationale for conducting a study is one of the key areas (Kombo & Tromp, 2006). This study aims to add significant value to border security policy formulation and the fight against terrorism in the country while also addressing scholarly gaps. It is expected that this research will help policymakers rethink how border security strategies are translated into practice, thereby improving the impact of government policies on the recipients. Empirical research has shown that the evidence base for forming border security strategies, planning against terrorism, and strategic thinking across East African countries is significantly lacking (Kasura, 2021). This is largely attributed to the limited funding for comprehensive and in-depth studies on border security strategies related to

counterterrorism, as well as the challenge of accessing information held by government security agencies concerning incidents of terrorism that raise national security concerns.

Therefore, it is anticipated that this study aims to broaden the knowledge base and empirical evidence in formulating and implementing border security measures in response to the changing nature of terrorism (Gituanja, 2013). Considering that the border security strategies formulated by national security agencies have potential financial implications, it is in the taxpayer's interest to evaluate whether these border security strategies are sound and lead to improved security and safety.

Thus, it is expected that this study aims to stimulate the discourse on the effectiveness of current border security strategies in counterterrorism in Kenya and the resultant financial implications of terrorism prevention efforts.

1.8 Scope of the Study

Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) observed that the scope of the study refers to how deep and wide the examination will be. The study focuses on the effects of border security and counterterrorism, specifically at the Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border. In this study, border security serves as the independent variable, while counterterrorism acts as the dependent variable. The research was conducted at Mandera Border Point, one of the leading porous borders for terrorists and criminals, as well as a route for individuals traveling to Somalia for indoctrination or to evade potential arrest by national security agencies. The period from 2007 to 2020 is deemed ideal for the study, as it provides sufficient information regarding the increase in terrorism activities attributed to the Somalia-based jihadist group (Al-Shabaab) (Oando, 2025). Furthermore, this duration is significant as several radical changes in national security and security sector reforms have characterized it. This study follows a mixed descriptive research design, employing both qualitative and quantitative research techniques. The target populations for this study include the Anti-Terror Police Unit (ATPU), Kenya Police Service (KPS)-Regular Police, Administration Police Service (APS)-Border Patrol Unit, National

Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC), Kenya Bureau of Standards (KBS), Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), National Intelligence Service (NIS), Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), and Kenya Airports Authority (KAA), totaling 185 respondents.

1.9 Delimitation of the Study

The choices that should be mentioned in a study are referred to as delimitations. They specify the parameters that a researcher has established for a study (Kombo & Tromp, 2006). This study focused on the Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border in order to assess the impact of border security and counterterrorism. Furthermore, due to financial, time, and other resource limitations, any other topics that might have surfaced throughout this study were not discussed. Nevertheless, they were regarded in the thesis as recommendations for additional research.

1.10 Limitations of the Study

Research limitations refer to the factors that are not controllable and may affect the study's outcome (Mazurchenko, 2025). The current study encountered several actual and anticipated limitations due to the sensitive nature of counterterrorism and border security.

Restricted access to national security classified information was one primary limitation. Government agencies dealing with information that cannot be disclosed to the public include the the Anti-Terrorism Police Unit (ATPU), National Intelligence Service (NIS), and the National Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC). This limitation was overcome by the study's reliance on publicly available documents, policy reports, and interviews with security officers who were willing to provide general information without compromising national security (Chan et al., 2022).

The other major challenge was the respondents' refusal to provide data due to fear of discrimination or retaliation by their employers. This was evident in the case of government officials and security personnel deployed at the Mandera Border Point. The researcher this by assuring the participants that their information would be kept anonymous and confidential. Participants were

provided with consent forms describing the educational aim of the research and the measures taken to provide confidentiality (Dougherty, 2021). No identifying information was collected, and data were managed securely to uphold confidentiality.

Besides, the size and security situation of Mandera Border Point posed logistical challenges for data collection. It was unsafe to access the location due to its volatile nature, with regular instances of terrorist attacks. While trying to circumvent this challenge, the researcher requested support from local security organs to facilitate safety and data collection. Furthermore, locals familiar with the place were employed as research assistants to facilitate access and participant participation.

Finally, although the study aimed to give full information on counterterrorism and border security policy, it was constrained by the impossibility of obtaining sensitive information on counterterrorism policies. The research findings thus rely on available data and interviews, along with cautious interpretation, to uphold scholarly expectations without compromising national security demands.

1.11 Assumptions of the Study

Assumptions refer to factors that are out of the researcher's control; if they disappear, they render the study irrelevant, according to Creswell (2009). The study assumes that Mandera Border Point, along the Kenya-Somalia border, is one of the porous borders blamed for facilitating terrorist activities in the country, indicating that the study site is appropriate. The study also assumes that the respondents responded effectively and accurately to the interview questions. Additionally, this study aimed to document how border security strategies have played a leading role in counterterrorism over the last twenty years, citing various instances and case scenarios. Finally, the study assumes that the country has made significant strides in addressing terrorist attacks through robust border security strategies and that the respondents were willing to participate in the study.

1.12 Conceptual Framework

A conceptual framework creates a relationship between independent and dependent variables. It is the system of assumptions, concepts, and theories that support and inform research; henceforth, it is a crucial part of the research design (Robson, 2024). In this conceptual framework, the dependent variable is counterterrorism, while the independent variables are border security strategies, the effectiveness of border security regulations and policies, and the challenges faced in implementing border security strategies. The conceptual framework shows that counterterrorism depends on border security strategies, the effectiveness of border security regulations and policies, as well as challenges, to be more effective in addressing the problem of terrorism. The conceptual framework is presented in Figure 1.

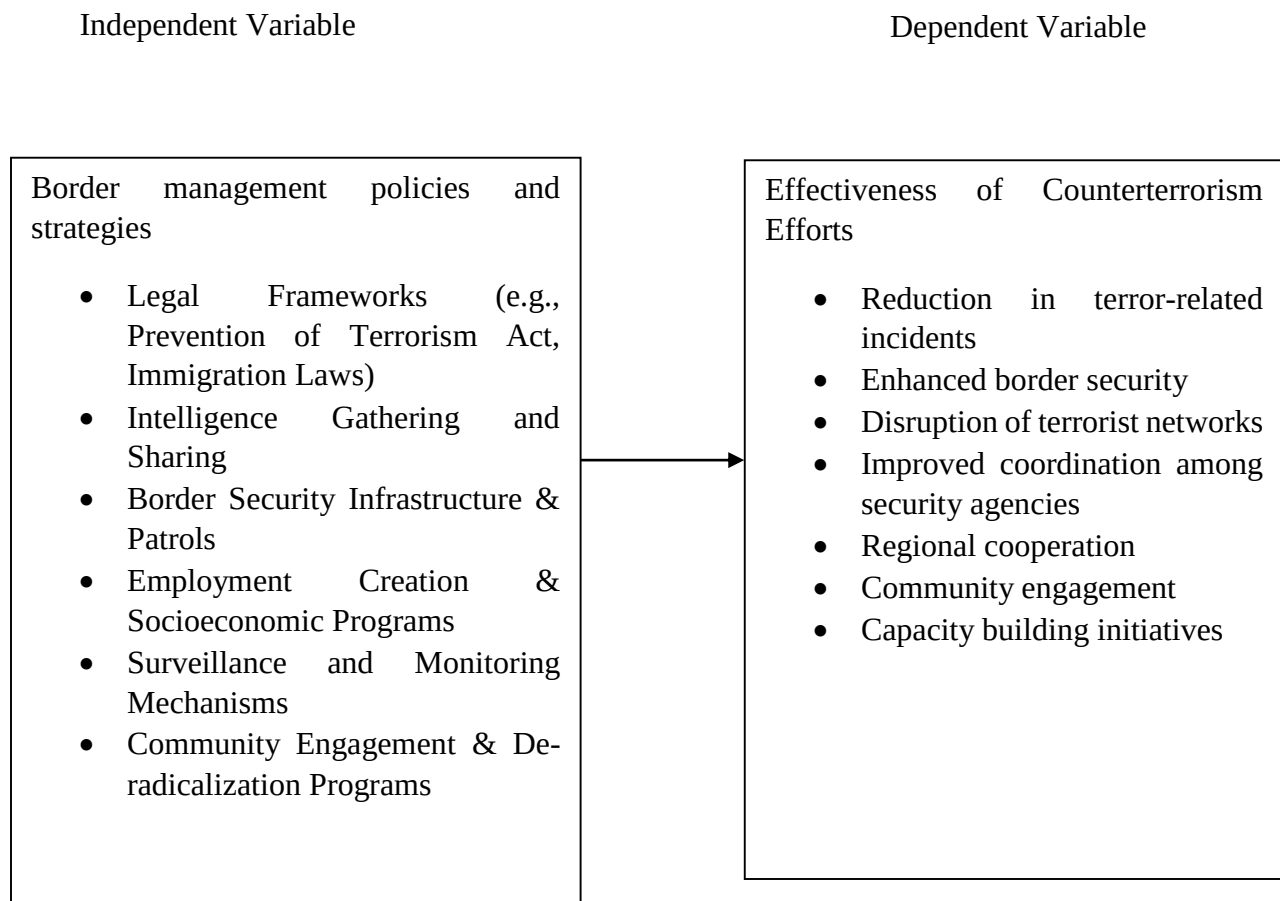


Figure 1 Conceptual Framework for Evaluation of Border Security and Counterterrorism Strategies at Mendera Border Point

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter displays the literature related to this probe, including an assessment of the specific border security strategies applied at Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border, the effectiveness of border security regulations and policies on counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border, and the challenges faced in implementing border security strategies for counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border, a summary and research gap.

2.2 Theoretical Framework

In a study or research, a theoretical framework is the structure that upholds or supports a hypothesis. In order to incorporate both new and preexisting knowledge, a theory must create a conceptual framework that fully interprets how empirical knowledge is applied (Mchopa, 2021). This study is informed by securitization theory and statism theory to highlight the theoretical concepts of border security strategies and counterterrorism in the country. In this research, the primary theory is securitization theory, which addresses the issue of border security and counterterrorism at the Mandera Border Point, Kenya. The theories are discussed under the following themes.

2.2.1 Securitization Theory

Since its inception in the 1990s, securitization theory has emerged as the primary methodology for security discipline and security policy formulation. The term securitization originated with Ole Waever, namely in "*Security: A New Framework for Analysis*," written by Buzan, Wæver, and Wilde (1998), considered the seminal foundational work in securitization research. According to Busan et al. (1998), securitization is the inter-subjective construction of an existential threat that demands urgent attention and the application of extreme national security measures in the battle against terrorism

(Buzan et al., 1998). Security is viewed as a political issue in this setting, as political actors take drastic measures to defend against perceived threats.

Information is provided and analyzed by the media to persuade political players that the referent object must be protected. Identifying existential dangers, responding to emergencies, and examining the effects of breaching regulations on inter-unit relations are the three main processes that securitization frequently entails (Shipoli & Shipoli, 2018). These scholars view securitization as an entirely politicized process. However, the use of securitization depends on how a group of individuals applies it, rendering the concept of security a subjective and social construction. An issue that is securitized often receives greater priority than other fundamental issues due to its significance; in this study, this pertains to border security management and counterterrorism. In nations like Kenya, the state takes proactive steps to combat terrorism because it is constantly viewed as a danger to national security interests. It frequently gives it precedence over other grave criminal operations like drug and human trafficking and poaching.

The priority often given to counterterrorism measures such as border security (independent variable of the study) is reflected in the counterterrorism strategies the government implements and the frequency with which terrorism is referred to as a national security threat by state leaders and the government (Kenda, 2022). Through the Securitization school of thought, the public validates this strategy. Initiatives like Operation Linda Nchi and Usalama Watch, as well as more regional and international collaboration, financing, and training in counterterrorism efforts, have been examples of securitization in this environment.

In border security securitization, loopholes exist that can be used to rationalize counterterrorism, justifying changes to counterterrorism security measures in response to emerging trends in terrorism. Consequently, states, like individuals, can become paranoid, creating threats where none exist and, in

doing so, overlook real threats (Berger, 2022). A practical example is the influx of refugees from Somalia into Kenya, which has led to increased insecurity within the country. Ignoring the limitations of securitization theory, it remains the primary framework for discussing changes to counterterrorism security strategies aimed at combating the evolving nature of both local and international terrorist acts, as the state will always strive to protect the country against acts of terror and insurgency (Renard & Kerchove, 2021). This is because terrorism represents a significant national threat to sustainable development; therefore, national security strategies and Kenya's efforts to safeguard its national security interests through various measures, such as border security strategies, should be viewed in this context.

Thus, due to ongoing threats from terrorist groups like Al-Shabaab, Kenyan authorities and security forces have been conceptualizing border insecurity as a significant threat to national security. This has, in turn, accelerated military interventions, surveillance, and counterterrorism legislation aimed at preempting the threat. Some border security initiatives, including intelligence-led policing, border patrol, surveillance, and multi-agency operations, have been embraced as exceptional measures in response to the perceived existential threat (Eyikorogha, 2021). Their effectiveness as counterterror initiatives is gauged based on their ability to deter terrorist entry along the border, disrupt the supply of illicit weapons, and dismantle terror networks along the Kenya-Somalia border.

2.2.2 Statism Theory

John Locke is the leading proponent of Statism theory and has had immense influence on contemporary societal thinking since the 16th century. Statism theory addresses the possible gaps in Securitization theory by considering African states' underdevelopment as a result of poor administrative techniques adopted by corrupt elites, the implementation of ineffective policies, and the permutation of patron-client relationships and other variables that seek to undermine the security of property and life (Norman, 2022). Graft practices such as misappropriation, embezzlement, and factors related to

mediocrity have led to the fall of most states. Public policy is paramount to government institutions' operation since a policy does not become a public policy unless it is subjected to the process of policymaking (Smith & Larimer, 2018). Policies are formulated by institutions for enforcement and use by governmental agencies. De Coning and Cloete (2006) support the statist theory by indicating that public institutions are the mandated institutions responsible for policy formulation (Mouton et al., 2014).

However, this theory is criticized for concentrating on the needs of the government rather than society's needs. In the same spirit, Boaz (2010) reiterates that people's rights have existed long before government. Hence, the government needs to address these needs through the formulation of formidable and holistic policies (Boaz, 2015). This theory is thought to be relevant to this research because it helps with the discussion of how national security is ensured by the administration, creation, and application of national policies. The study's foundation is the theory, which aids in understanding the validity of laws, regulations, and whether or not citizens are required to guard borders for the sake of national security.

Kenya's independent variable in border security strategies, which are state-led, reflects the country's sovereign duty to protect its borders from external threats. Evidence of a state-centric approach to border security includes the deployment of the Kenya Defense Forces (KDF) in Somalia, the establishment of the Border Control and Operations Coordination Committee (BCOCC), and enhanced intelligence cooperation with external actors (Opon D. , 2021). However, the implementation and enforcement of these strategies by the state dictate the dependent variable, which is the success of counterterrorism initiatives. The success of Kenya's counterterrorism initiatives is generally undermined by corruption, weak interagency coordination, and domestic opposition to certain policies, all of which weaken these initiatives meant to limit cross-border threats.

2.3 Empirical Literature Review

This section provides the study's empirical literature review according to its specific objectives.

2.3.1 Border Security Strategies Applied at Mandera Border Point.

The need to install additional human resource components along the Kenya-Somalia border through the deployment of control staff based on competence and merit, activate surveillance and sharing of intelligence among cooperating agencies in an effective and timely manner, implement time-tested integrity and anti-corruption measures along the border, and enhance staff welfare (Opon et al., 2015). Their focus on information sharing among cooperating agencies sensitizes the need for constant data collection, surveillance, processing, and sharing of this information among cooperating agencies. Poor intelligence gathering and agency networking have led to compromised counterterrorism efforts.

Kenya has faced dangerous immigrant penetrations without the knowledge of some agencies and government officials, reflecting the poor state of inter-agency cooperation on border security information (Otenyo, 2004). Some of these immigrants have been linked to instilling and instigating terrorist networks within the country and their counterparts in Somalia and other parts of the world. Surveillance, data collection, and intelligence sharing are a fundamental trait of border security. The authors indicate the need for timely and updated information sharing. The inadequacy of patrol equipment and comprehensive patrols has exacerbated the state of insecurity within Kenya.

The vitality of intra-agency cooperation, inter-agency cooperation, and international cooperation in mitigating terrorism along the porous border (Walsh, 2008). International cooperation involves engagement between nations, states, international, regional, and multilateral organizations and agencies in providing access to information, analysis, data collected, research, intelligence, and means to improve accountability and efficiency, among other information relevant to the involved parties. Inter-agency cooperation is described as the cooperation at the central, regional, and local levels (blue

borders, green borders, border zones, BCPs) among the key ministries and state agencies, effectively minimizing inconsistencies and overlaps.

Inter-agency cooperation involves a horizontal approach to coordinating activities and sharing responsibilities and tasks among officials from different ministries and agencies. Intra-agency cooperation, on the other hand, describes the sharing of information between subordinated units within a border agency, focusing on efficient internal management of work, cooperation, resource management, information exchange, and flow processes within the department, agency, or ministry. This approach is characterized by a top-down information flow from the central to regional to BCPs and further to remote border areas, ensuring the provision of timely and relevant information (Okumu & Ikelegbe, 2018). Okumu and Ikelegbe (2018) highlights the 2015 message from the meeting of the Security Council's (CTC) Counterterrorism Committee that states “...*improve international, regional, and sub-regional cooperation...*”

Identified gaps in the literature include the lack of research on bottom-up communication between intra-agencies, inter-agencies, and international agencies and states. Discussing the impact and effectiveness of timely delivery of information from the ground in border territories will provide illuminative information crucial in the development of this research. Effective surveillance of border entry points is fundamental in preventing illegal goods and persons from entering the country (Moragori, 2021). The consistent and broad presence of border security personnel is a deterring factor against terrorists and other cross-border criminal activities. It is crucial to assess the conditions and capabilities on the ground (territorial challenges and climatic conditions) before establishing border area surveillance equipment and programs. Advanced equipment requires robust infrastructure, maintenance, training, and practice that cannot necessarily be used at all locations. Countries should

identify the best ways they can benefit from border surveillance equipment in remote-controlled regions.

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles as an emergent technology in remote border area surveillance. Homeland Security has been applying this technology since 2010 to monitor the US international land border and utilizes advanced technology to enhance the capability of border personnel in patrolling the area (Ezeji, 2024). Harle examines the strengths and limitations of technologies used in remote border surveillance programs. There are implied costs and benefits associated with the deployment of UAVs along the US border. A benefit of emerging UAV technology is its essential role in bridging the gaps in current border surveillance by improving security coverage of the borderlines.

Engaging with border communities is paramount because they are key contributors to border security and management. Border security engagement with nomads and communities that cohabit in remote areas is crucial for gathering information, leading to a comprehensive awareness of the territory and the people accessing and operating in the region (Moragori, 2021). Critical information gathered from borderline communities includes terrain characteristics, hiding and meeting areas of criminals, possible criminal networks, and other security information vital to intelligence agencies. Interaction and cooperation between border security agencies and local borderline communities can help build the resilience of these communities against terrorist and criminal activities. Poor cooperation between agencies and borderline communities can lead to the exploitation of the community by criminals and terrorists, facilitating violence and radicalization.

The determinants of cross-border cooperation use the use of two novelties to determine cross-border cooperation among bordering communities (Kamba, 2019). They identify an empirical model for measuring determinants, their roles, importance, and interaction effects. The second novelty

involves validating the variables using the level of the border community as a laboratory for experimentation to identify opportunities that aid in cross-border community cooperation. The researchers highlight leadership, supportive institutions, organizational capacity, rapid change, spatial dynamics, economic costs, and existing networks as the determinants of cross-border community cooperation. The research gap identified in this section is the scarcity of literature on the intricacies of border security cooperation with border communities at the Mandera border point.

Community policing promotes effective organizational strategies that enhance the systematic use of problem-solving skills and partnerships to proactively address the conditions influencing security within the community. Border community policing programs foster effective identification, prevention, and solutions to security problems along the border ((KNMP), 2023). Border community policing is a vital component in tackling public security and safety, social deterioration, and disorder among border communities. Recruiting border patrol forces from local populations can help advance border community policing programs and serve as a primary method for leveraging community resources through their intricate understanding of local networks, geography, traditions, and culture (Lampthey, 2013). Border community policing programs respect human rights and uphold the dignity of all individuals in border communities, ensuring accountability and integrity among national agencies, addressing border community concerns, and providing a thorough response to their needs (Lederman & Lederman, 2015).

2.3.2 Effectiveness of Border Security Policies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point.

The border management regime could be applied at large scale. It was stated in a study presented by Adamson (2019) that the state's capability to keep control over their borders and to establish a clear national identity is intrinsically a requirement for the preservation of state security in various arenas. As highlighted in this study, the implementation of border security protocols might curb migration and

immigration activities, religious management, and human trafficking among other activities for national security reasons (Wagner, 2022). It is worth noting that not all states are in a position to manage the problems brought by migration, and high-capacity states are in a better position to adapt to new realities than weak or failing states. The areas where migration implies the frontiers of state sovereignty are national identity and border control. Global displacement has reached the pinnacle of global security drives.

More and more, European, American, as well as global policymakers, are making links between national security and migration strategies. In addition, emphasis has been placed on relocation streams as a channel for international terrorism (Adamson, 2006). For instance, the author says that the nineteen thugs' entry, residence, and training in the U.S. for preparation of carrying out attacks in the Pentagon and World Trade Center could raise issues regarding the link between people's cross-border mobility and global terrorism (Adamson, 2006). Indeed, prior to September 11, interest was being increasing in the interconnection of security, migration, and globalization both in world policy and within some sections of the security studies community. In the 1990s, migration was very high on the security agenda in Europe. As one component of Europe's visionless borderless policy, several international agreements (trilateral, multilateral, bilateral) were signed between several countries in Europe under what previously was the European Council concerning information sharing between their respective policing and intelligence institutions on trans-border adversaries, thus striving to limit the coordination across boundaries (Gituanja, 2013).

Further, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and Belgium, already having founded the Benelux Economic Union, led the way to abolishing border controls among themselves in the 1970s as part of this tripartite customs union. Success with the Benelux experiment spurred a broader multilateral agreement to abolish border controls between Germany, France, and the Benelux countries. This form

of multilateral concession was signed in 1985 in the town of Schengen, and when applied in its present form in 1995, created what is informally known as the Schengen System, an agreement that provides for free internal borders among members of the system. Within the African continent, the AU has been imposing several regulations at the continental level since the late 1990s aimed at guiding the brinkmanship of African management. Harmonization requirements and modifications to those treaties simultaneously are found to ensure that the special protection of border provisions is actually imposed.

The AU initiated the initial steps toward developing a regional policy for the improvement of border security in 2007. The draft paper of the strategy was completed and approved in May 2012 (Lamprey, 2013). In research carried out by Okumu and Ikelegbe (2018), there is insufficient office space, border monitoring and control staff facilities, and inadequate communication means that have tremendously incapacitated them from effectively carrying out their work. Thus, there is a lack of capacity and poor job understanding.

The lack of competence within national constituent law and regional arrangements with respect to their right function according to norms is augmenting these demerits. For example, posted personnel in Niger-Mali border areas complained of insufficient logistic needs and training to perform their job efficiently. There are complaints from some of bad working conditions and the absence of logistics support in the Tessalit area. Both these countries are vast, and patrolling is very difficult, which necessitates continuous training for their staff and improved working conditions (Goita, 2024). Kenya has a relatively long open border as well as an open coastline to illegal immigrant entry. There are a few immigration posts along the coast and the borders, but they are thinly scattered, inadequately developed in infrastructure, way behind in technology, and equipped with low-grade materials.

Therefore, the policy calls for enhanced border monitoring, the creation of a specialized border patrol division, new border posts to be opened up, the capacity of existing posts to be upgraded, and

higher ICT utilization on all the points of entry ((KNMP), 2023). The growing importance of migration to national security and economies cannot be minimized anymore. The subject is a matter of concern and interest to all states. The number and dynamics of migrants at the global level within the Kenyan context are constantly shifting, and this will probably continue in the future. The reason for migration is complex and strengthened by a variety of forces, such as the push and pull determinants. Global migration is a challenge to all countries, either as destination countries, countries of origin, or countries of transit. Kenya does not lag behind this global phenomenon, hence the need to come up with a migration policy that creates room for a lot of exploitation of the benefits accruing from migration while mitigating the challenges ((KNMP), 2023). In another study, Kamba (2019) centered on the patrolling systems and surveillance used by the border management to curb cases of insecurity within the Kenya-Liboi border post. The study was done between 2007 and 2015. The primary aim of the study was to determine how border management has applied patrol and surveillance strategies to deal with cases of insecurity across the border.

2.3.3 Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Border security strategies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point.

There are various setbacks experienced in the management of border policy implementation. Baylis, Smith, and Owens (2024) cited that in Central and West Africa, border management integration is being implemented; however, this largely remains at the domestic level, where there is cooperation among border security agencies such as immigration officers, customs, and the Border Police (Baylis et al., 2020). For instance, in Ghana, the Customs and Immigration Service division of the Ghana Revenue Authority has been integrated, making it more possible for the two agencies to share crucial information on the cross-border movement of services and goods (Ezeji, 2024).

European Council (2019), there are 35 international borders with a greater degree of porosity within West Africa alone. This renders them significantly vulnerable to risks such as drug trafficking,

human trafficking, weapons, and recent terrorist attacks. Similarly, challenges to border security are not always integrated into national security and economic policies, and border organizations are typically understaffed, poorly resourced, and ill-trained (Flynn, 2022). There are boundary points within the sub-region that often lack sufficient infrastructure, such as scanners and other detection equipment, especially those furthest from the capital. In the various countries of the region, customs administrations typically lack comprehensive data on criminal networks, illegal goods seizures, and their forms (Goita, 2024).

Lamprey (2022) emphasized that the issue of insecurity is exacerbated by understaffed agencies and staff who are not properly motivated, failing to collaborate and coordinate their activities regionally and nationally effectively. Okumu and Ikelegbe (2018) similarly posit that the Arab Spring instability and the growth of transnational organized crime groups and their acts have significantly tested the mechanisms established to protect the borders. A study conducted by Opon, Okoth, and Onkware (2022) evaluated the challenges faced by migration control at the border and the opportunities affecting counterterrorism measures in Kenya. The findings indicated that staffing levels, the unequal service scheme and employment terms, and officials' deployment based on competence and personal integrity were the leading personnel issues hampering border immigration control.

Gitunja (2024) additionally conducted a study analyzing the challenges affecting the effective implementation of border management in Kenya. Specifically, the study aimed to examine the effect of emerging global trends on the implementation and management of Kenya's border policies. A research review survey was conducted to gather information during a structured interview. The study relied on questionnaires for the primary data, which were issued to migration officers and those in administration within the Immigration department, and the data was qualitatively analyzed. The findings indicated that challenges exist in the effective implementation of border policies and

procedures. Emerging global trends were identified as leading challenges and determinants for proper border management. Overall, integration as a trend has impacted border management, as well as migration.

Using secondary and primary research data, Ndunda (2020) established that the challenges facing the one-stop border post strategy slowed down its implementation process. The leadership style and employee performance might relate to a return to framework utilization or courses of action within the affiliations. Authority is the personal capability to influence, motivate, and engage others, contributing towards the success and effectiveness of the organization of which they are members. Leadership is essential for effective policies, as this ensures that the organization's efforts are coordinated and directed towards achieving its targets (Channuwong et al., 2024).

The performance of laborers, on the other hand, will affect the viability and profitability of the activities. Convincing and exceptional performance by individuals and teams are key components in the implementation strategies (Channuwong et al., 2024). Hence, this study examined whether employee performance and leadership aspects affect the border management implementation policies. Leaders face inadequate engagement with relevant stakeholders, and staff presents a challenge to proper policy implementation. Staff and leaders need to be involved in the implementation of communication and decision-making among all parties, which is paramount for successful implementation (Mutunga et al., 2023). The authors discourse that the roles people play, how they interact through informal and formal processes, and the relationships they build are crucial to successful implementation. Furthermore, Hrebiniak (2020) indicated that poor knowledge and information sharing, coupled with undefined roles and accountability among stakeholders, could lead to policy or strategy implementation failure (Hrebiniak, 2013).

A study carried out by the European Council (2019) cited that in Africa, 25% of delays in trade are caused by infrastructure issues, while 75% are due to poor trade practices. Such delays and disorganization make transportation costs in Africa several times more expensive compared to those in South America, and many times more expensive than in Asia. This has a significant impact on the competitiveness of African products in global markets (International Charity for Africa (Kamba, 2019). A descriptive research design was conducted to examine the factors that affected the implementation of a one-border post strategy (Cheruiyot & Rotich, 2018). The analysis demonstrated that all the variables (staff capacity, cooperation among stakeholders, and technology) significantly influence the implementation of the OSBP strategy. This implies that the OSBP implementation policy may face challenges if stakeholder cooperation and personnel capacity are inadequate. Hence, the current study seeks to examine the effect of border security on counterterrorism in Kenya, regarding the Mandera border post.

2.4 Summary and Research Gap

The body of research concerned with counterterrorism and border security in Kenya indicates greater attention to state approaches for overseeing permeable borders, particularly in susceptible areas that are terrorism-prone, such as the Kenya-Somalia border. Functional border management has been underscored by researchers as key to terrorism minimization, illegal migration management, and also improving state sovereignty. Inter-agency coordination, security architecture, and concerted border management are all underscored in the studies. Literature accounts for various security measures such as biometric screening, patrol units, surveillance technologies, and installation of One-Stop Border Posts (OSBPs), that are utilized at Kenyan border points in relation to the first objective.

The discussion, however, diverges from focusing on Mandera Border Point and instead broadens to cover the whole country. The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), Kenya Defence Forces

(KDF), and police units at the borders also are said to do their part; even less, however, is stated concerning the specific tactics or routine procedures employed at Mandera. In meeting the second objective, studies indicate that border security efforts, including the National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism (NSCVE) and the Kenya National Border Control Programme, can improve the implementation of counterterrorism. To tackle radicalization and enhance border agency coordination, they are praised as strategies. Their real effect in unstable regions such as Mandera, however, is still poorly understood. Few analyses adequately assess how just such a policy interrupts counterterrorism success on the ground, particularly where cross-border ethnic links and local clan alliances come into play.

Whereas the third objective, for instance, the current literature coming out acknowledges that a number of challenges including corruption of security officers, inadequate infrastructure and logistics, and absence of adequate interagency coordination make Kenya's capability to provide effective border security complicated. However, greater use of technology in the surveillance and stronger regional cooperation through frameworks like IGAD and EAC present potential for growth. But the majority of the research currently framed such challenges in abstract terms without evaluating critically how such opportunities and challenges arise in Mandera, the worst affected region by frequent security raids.

Regarding empirical gaps, there is very limited research that has been conducted on border management policies and counterterrorism in Kenya. For example, the studies conducted by Ndunda (2020) and Cheruiyot and Rotich (2018) concentrated on the one-stop border post implementation and failed to examine how these could impact national security. Gituanja's (2024) study was restricted as it focused only on the implementation of border management policies and did not significantly address counterterrorism. Opon, Okoth, and Onkware (2022) evaluated the challenges related to border immigration control personnel and the opportunities affecting counterterrorism strategies in Kenya. To

address this scholarly gap, this study aims to evaluate the impact of border security on counterterrorism, focusing on the Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border.

According to the literature review, the following gaps have been identified concerning the study objectives for border security procedures and anti-terrorism at the Kenya-Somalia border, specifically at Mandera Border Point. These gaps include evidence gaps, empirical gaps, knowledge gaps, theoretical gaps, and methodological gaps. Regarding the first objective, identifying the exact border security strategies being implemented at Mandera Border Point reveals a significant evidence gap due to the limited research documenting the specific security measures currently employed at the crossing. Generic literature only describes the border security mechanisms utilized within Kenya, while few studies specifically address Mandera, thus leaving an empirical void in the examination of the operational realities at the site. Additionally, there is a knowledge gap concerning the effectiveness and robustness of such methods in countering evolving terror threats, especially considering the fluidity of militant activities along the Kenya-Somalia border (Kasura, 2021). The theoretical gap arises from the fact that previous studies have relied on traditional paradigms of security without incorporating new developments such as resilience theory or community-security principles. Furthermore, there is a methodological shortcoming stemming from policy reviews and an over-reliance on secondary data instead of field-based empirical data that reflects real-time security dynamics in the border region.

For the second objective, assessing the effectiveness of border security regulations and policies on counterterrorism, the study reveals a lack of empirical data measuring the effectiveness of specific regulations and policies in reducing terrorist risk at Mandera Border Point. While policy reports outline various security measures, there exists an evidence gap concerning the effectiveness of these policies in reducing incidents related to terrorism. The knowledge gap is also evident in the insufficient analysis of how these policies interact with domestic socio-political elements, such as clan dynamics, cross-

border trade, and informal security networks. Theoretically, much of the research on border security is state-centric in focus, creating a disconnect between theory and the adoption of frameworks that take into account the contributions of non-state actors, local governance, and human security in counterterrorism measures (Kirim, 2022). Earlier research has predominantly employed qualitative methods, such as policy analysis and expert interviews, excluding mixed-method designs that enable quantitative assessments of the efficacy of border security, as highlighted by a methodological gap.

Regarding the third objective, the literature recognizes a knowledge gap in analyzing the challenges and opportunities faced in implementing border security strategies for counterterrorism. Specifically, local challenges such as corruption, institutional coordination failures, and technological capacity limitations hinder border security operations in Mandera. While studies acknowledge these challenges generally, there is an empirical research gap in works that quantitatively assess the extent to which such factors obstruct security operations (Kenda, 2022). Similarly, evidence is lacking regarding measures that could enhance security at the borders, such as leveraging regional intelligence-sharing agreements or collaborating with community-led initiatives. The theoretical gap is evident in the absence of frameworks that comprehensively interconnect governance, community, and counterterrorist concerns in the border security discourse. Additionally, most existing research relies on secondary data and policy evaluations, leading to a methodological weakness due to the lack of firsthand testimonies from frontline security officials, local officials, and affected communities.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter focused on research design, research site, target population, sampling methods, data collection methods, and research data collection instruments. It will address the data analysis as well as the legal and ethical considerations.

3.2 Research Design

Research design, according to Mugenda & Mugenda (2009), is the conceptual framework that will be used to conduct a study or research project. The study is organized using a research design, which shows how each major research project trajectory cooperates to answer the main research questions (Dehalwar & Sharma, 2023). Using a combination of qualitative and quantitative research approaches, this study used a descriptive research design.

Since the goal of the study is to examine how border security strategies affect counterterrorism in the study region, this design is appropriate. Since this strategy involves collecting data from a specific cross-section of the chosen respondents within the study area, it is more suitable. Thus, it offers the study the benefit of focusing on traits or descriptions, where respondents' views and attitudes toward a specific occurrence are expressed.

3.3 Research Site

The research site refers to the location where the research is conducted, which may include institutions, departments, hospitals, field research, and other sites. The geographical site for this study is the Kenya-Somalia border point located in Mandera town. Mandera is situated in a region of Eastern Africa where the countries of Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia converge. This meeting point is known as the Mandera triangle. The tri-border region corresponds with the Shabelle and Juba River basins and is centered on Mandera town in Mandera County (Amutabi & Hamasi, 2023). The residents of Mandera

County are primarily pastoralists of Somali ethnicity. The Mandera region experiences large-scale violence driven by inter-clan warfare and civil strife involving Somali insurgents, the Ethiopian military, banditry, targeted attacks, and livestock raids among rival herders. The Mandera border point serves as the case study for this research (Appendix VI). This area is crucial for studying the relationship between border security and counterterrorism since it is a hotspot for cross-border insecurity, which includes terrorism, illegal migration, and arms trafficking. Because of its porous borders, frequent militant attacks, and sparse state presence, Mandera offers a pertinent and dangerous setting for evaluating how well Kenya's border security plans and policies work to fight terrorism. Its choice makes it possible to gain contextualized, grounded insights into the potential and difficulties associated with implementing border security in unstable frontier areas.

3.4 Target Population

Target population refers to the entire group of individuals or objects that a researcher is interested in generalizing the conclusions to (Lichtman, 2023). The target populations for this study included the local population, Anti-Terror Police Unit (ATPU), Kenya Police Service (KPS) - Regular Police, Administration Police Service (APS) - Border Patrol Unit, National Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC), Mandera Community Policing Committee, Kenya Bureau of Standards (KBS), Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), National Intelligence Service (NIS), Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), and Kenya Airports Authority (KAA), totaling 205 respondents. The research selected this target population because they play a crucial role in developing border security strategies, policies, and ensuring that Kenya's borders are safeguarded from potential terrorist attacks. Table 1 represents the target population of the study for each targeted category of respondents.

Table 1 Target Population

Category	Target Population
Anti-Terror Police Unit (ATPU)	57
Kenya Police Service (KPS)-Regular Police	50
Administration Police (APS)-Border Patrol Unit	10
National Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC)	18
Kenya Bureau of Standards (KBS)	9
Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA)	10
National Intelligence Service (NIS)	10
Kenya Ports Authority (KPA)	9
Kenya Airports Authority (KAA)	12
Mandera Community Policing Committee	20
Total	205

Due to their direct involvement in border security and counterterrorism operations at the Mandera Border Point, the 205 respondents were specifically selected as the target demographic. Each selected organization or team is crucial to the development, execution, or oversight of security operations, policy enforcement, intelligence gathering, and community policing. The numbers for each category were determined by considering its operational presence and importance at the border. This approach ensured that both state and non-state actors were included, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of the security dynamics at the Kenya-Somalia border.

3.5 Study Sample

3.5.1 Sample Size

Sample size refers to the single item or representative portion from a wider population or group for a given study or research (Omair, 2025). This study utilized Yamane (1967) to calculate the sample size as cited below.

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

Where: n = Sample size,

N = Population size

e = Level of Precision (0.05).

$$N = 205 + 205 (0.05)^2$$

$$N = 136$$

$$\text{Sample \%} = 136/205 \times 100$$

$$= 66.34\%$$

Table 2 Sample Size

Category	N	Sample %	n	Sampling Technique
Anti-Terror Police Unit (ATPU)	57	66.34%%	39	Stratified random sampling
Kenya Police Service (KPS)- Regular Police	50	66.34%%	34	Stratified random sampling
Administration Police (APS)- Border Patrol Unit	10	66.34%%	7	Stratified random sampling
National Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC)	18	66.34%%	12	Snowballing Technique
Kenya Bureau of Standards (KBS)	9	66.34%%	6	Purposive sampling
Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA)	10	66.34%%	7	Purposive sampling
National Intelligence Service (NIS)	10	66.34%%	7	Snowballing Technique
Kenya Ports Authority (KPA)	9	66.34%%	6	Purposive sampling
Kenya Airports Authority (KAA)	12	66.34%%	8	Purposive sampling
Mandera Community Policing Committee	20	66.34%%	13	Purposive sampling
Total	205		136	

Source: Researcher, 2024

3.5.2 Sampling Procedure

The term sampling refers to a selection of a specific number of respondents from a defined population as representative of that group (Hirose & Creswell, 2023). This study utilized the snowball sampling method to determine the sample size for NIS and NCTC. Stratified random sampling was employed to establish the sample size for the Anti-Terror Police Unit (ATPU), Kenya Police Service (KPS) - Regular Police, and Administration Police (APS) - Border Patrol Unit. This approach was taken because the NPS officers are categorized into various strata based on their ranks. In this study, the sample size included gazetted officers up to the rank of police constable. Meanwhile, purposive sampling was used for the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KBS), Mandera Community Policing Committee, Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), and Kenya Airports Authority (KAA). Thus, the justification for employing different sampling techniques is as follows: Stratified random sampling was used in ATPU, KPS, and APS to ensure representation within the ranks of the National Police Service's formal hierarchy. In contrast, purposive sampling was applied in KBS, Mandera Community Policing Committee, KRA, and KAA to access individuals with firsthand experience and involvement in border security initiatives. Snowball sampling was utilized in NIS and NCTC due to the sensitivity of their operations, making it difficult to reach respondents without recommendations from insiders.

3.6 Data Collection

Primary and secondary sources of data were both used in the study. While secondary data was gathered from articles, journals, and documents, primary data was gathered using a questionnaire and a key informant interview guide.

3.6.1 Development of the Instrument

According to Creswell (2012), data collection refers to the gathering of information required to address a particular research problem. In this study, both closed-ended and open-ended questionnaires were used to collect data from respondents. Both qualitative and quantitative data were

collected using the questionnaires (Appendix 2), which enabled respondents to provide logical answers and offer more detail on border security and counterterrorism measures. Open-ended questions facilitated the collection of in-depth opinions regarding the efficacy of security measures at the Mandera Border Point.

Key informant interviews were conducted using an interview schedule (Appendix 3) along with the questionnaires. With the support of this technology, extensive interviews were carried out with members of the National Intelligence Service (NIS) and the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC), whose national security functions called for a more adaptive and inclusive data-gathering strategy. Due to the sensitive operations they perform, interviews were scheduled in advance through appointments to maintain anonymity and optimize the quality of the information collected.

Triangulation of data was achieved through the combination of key informant interviews and questionnaires, providing a comprehensive understanding of the research problem. The interviews provided expert views that supported and validated the findings, while the questionnaires gathered general comments from various security agencies.

3.6.2 Pre-testing of Instruments

Creswell (2012) stated that a pretest study is conducted to assess the validity and reliability of the instruments used for data collection. A pretest study aims to evaluate both the reliability and validity of the data collection instrument. The study conducted a pretest within Nairobi County, involving 13 ATPU and general police officers, which constitutes 10% of the sample size. This choice was made because Nairobi County has experienced several terror attacks in the past, including the 1998 United States Embassy terrorist attack in the capital city, along with various smaller-scale attacks. The findings of the pretest indicated that most border security strategies are ineffective. The purpose of the pretest study is to examine the validity and reliability of data collection tools, not the

efficacy of border security protocols. Nairobi is not a border area and lacks commonalities with Mandera that would expose it to cross-border security issues firsthand. While terror attacks have occurred in Nairobi, its security dynamics are different from those in Mandera, where border porosity and cross-border threats are prevalent. The relevance and effectiveness of the instrument would be enhanced if a pretest were conducted in a region that shares characteristics with the study location.

3.6.3 Reliability of Instruments

According to Kombo and Tromp (2006), reliability refers to the research instrument's ability to consistently measure the interest characteristics over a given time. The lesser the variation produced by the instrument in retest measurements of a particular attribute, the higher the levels of reliability. To ensure reliability, the researcher made sure that the interview questions drawn from the study are accurately coded. The study sought peer review to ensure that the developed questionnaire is sound in content and structure, after which the supervisor requested to review it as well and provide his input or opinion.

Finally, to ensure the study's reliability, the responses obtained through the questionnaire and interview schedule will be divided into two similar halves and then independently scored to confirm the correlation. Additionally, Cronbach Alpha coefficient will be used to test reliability, where a threshold of 0.7 and above will be considered statistically significant. A 0.70 alpha coefficient or higher indicates reliability due to greater internal consistency and can be summarized to represent the opinions of all respondents within the target population (Ghanad, 2023).

Higher values for the alpha coefficient imply a certain level of consistency among the study items in measuring interest concepts. Moreover, Hair, Tathan, Anderson, and Black (1998) advocated for using factors with loadings above 0.4. Stevens (1992) recommended employing cut-off factors with

loadings above 0.4, regardless of the sample size, for interpretation purposes. This further affirms the recommendations by Tabachnick and Fidell (2007), who suggest more stringent cut-offs: poor (0.32), fair (0.45), good (0.55), very good (0.63), and excellent (0.71) (Das et al., 2022).

3.6.4 Validity of Instruments

Creswell (2012) states that validity is the degree of being correct or true. Validity plays a crucial role in determining whether research instruments accurately measure what is intended and how authentic and truthful the results are. To enhance the instrument's validity, the study considered both face validity and content validity of the research instruments. To strengthen the instrument validity, face validity was assessed by ensuring all study questions were aligned with the study objectives. Content validity was evaluated through a review of the questionnaire by an expert in security and counterterrorism. The study relied on the professionalism of the supervisors to help ascertain the instrument's content validity for data collection.

Although the study utilized supervisory feedback and expert opinions for validity, it did not include focus group discussions (FGDs), which could have improved triangulation due to the sensitive nature of security and counterterrorism discussions, where confidentiality and operational secrecy are paramount. Additionally, individual responses from security experts provided more expansive answers without bias from a group. Future studies might consider using FGDs if confidentiality arrangements are established.

3.6.5 Data Collection Procedure

The study acquired an introductory letter from ANU and sent it to the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) for processing the research permit. Upon receiving permission to carry out the study, the office of the county commander of Mandera County was informed of the researcher's intention to gather data within his jurisdiction. The administration of the research

instruments was carried out with the help of eight research assistants to facilitate the efficient and expeditious collection of data. The principal researcher trained the research assistants on the fundamentals of the study for two days, focusing on how to capture both quantitative and qualitative data from the targeted respondents, as well as on essential research ethics. The respondents were given two weeks to complete the research instruments, and after that, the researcher, along with the research assistants, collected the questionnaires from the field for sorting, tabulation, and analysis.

3.7 Data Analysis

Kombo and Tromp (2006) state that data collection refers to evaluating what has already been collected in an experiment or survey and making inferences or deductions amicably (Kombo & Tromp, 2006). Furthermore, Kombo and Tromp (2006) note that the analysis of data entails the utilization of statistical or numerical measurement and hypothesis testing. Qualitative data for all variables in the study was analyzed using content analysis and narratives. This involved identifying information relevant to the questions and objectives of the research from the raw data, recognizing major themes based on the objectives, coding the information, and categorizing the coded data under various themes. Quantitative data was analyzed by employing descriptive statistics, including percentages, frequencies, and means. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS version 21) was used to conduct data analysis and present results. All data related to the specific objectives were analyzed through both content analysis and descriptive analysis.

3.8 Legal and Ethical Considerations

Prior to conducting this study, the study ensured that the safety and confidentiality of the respondents would be maintained throughout and was informed that the key aim of this study was specifically for academic reasons, and hence the information acquired was not utilized to victimize them. This study also acquired informed consent from the research participants, who were also

informed that they had a choice of withdrawing from the study at any given stage (Appendix 1). Approval to carry out the study was provided by the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) and the University, which entailed issuance of clearance of research permit.

The researcher requested that respondents not mark their names on the questionnaire to maintain anonymity. Information that is confidential was only accessed by the supervisor and the researcher. The study adhered to the school's anti-plagiarism policy by acknowledging the sources of information and paraphrasing some of the scholarly works. Notably, the study utilized open-source information, and any other classified information was not targeted in this study since it may jeopardize national security interests, hence avoiding any form of tension between the researcher and the security agencies.

Any other information gathered from the respondents that might lead to a conundrum by the various national security agencies was not to be published, and high levels of professionalism, integrity, and confidentiality were maintained throughout data collection. This was also ensured through signing a confidentiality agreement between the researcher and the respondents.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents an interpretation of data linked to specific study objectives, with various themes being addressed. All the sections present responses regarding the assessment of border security and counterterrorism measures along the Kenya-Somalia border, focusing on the Mandera Border Point in Kenya. The study begins by calculating the response rate, as it is paramount for the subsequent analysis of the findings. The second aspect examined in the study is the participants' demographic characteristics, followed by an analysis of the study variables. The response analysis was conducted using descriptive statistics, and the presentation of data has been made through figures and tables.

4.2 Response Rate

This study first sought to determine the response rate of the respondents. According to the data in Table 3 above, this study distributed 136 questionnaires. A total of 70.59%, representing 96 respondents, were returned, while 29.41%, accounting for 40 respondents, were not returned. Out of the 96 respondents, 10 were additionally interviewed after completing the questionnaire. The response rate is adequate for data analysis, especially since the study is being conducted during a time when the world is facing mass floods. The response rate was considered sufficient for data analysis. Any response rate above 50% is sufficient and reliable for conducting data analysis (Babbie & Edgerton, 2023). However, the 29.41% non-response rate is high and may induce bias, potentially decreasing the study's representativeness. Nevertheless, the 70.59% response rate is acceptable based on Babbie's (2005) benchmark of 50% for valid analysis. Additionally, the provision of ten follow-up interviews mitigated the impact of non-responses by enhancing the depth and validation of the questionnaire information. Future studies could enhance response rates by including follow-ups, reminders, or other data collection mechanisms. The findings were presented in Table 3.

Table 3 Response Rate

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Responded	96	70.59%
Non-respondents	40	29.41%
Total	136	100

Source: Researcher, 2024

4.3 Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

This section presents various demographic categories. The categorization was based on the age, gender, academic achievement, and occupation of the respondents within the study area.

4.2.1 Response on Gender

According to the findings presented in Figure 2, out of the 96 respondents who participated in this study, 68.8% indicate that the majority of the respondents were male, while 31.2% were female. This indicates that the study was predominantly composed of male respondents. Gender highlights diversity and representation in national security governance, which is significant to the objectives of the study. Gender disparities in decision-making, work duties, and policy impact may be evident within the predominance of male respondents in the security industry. It is easier to ascertain whether gender biases affect security policy, efficacy, and inclusivity when these interactions are well understood. The influence of gender attitudes on community participation and security measures may be an area for future investigation.

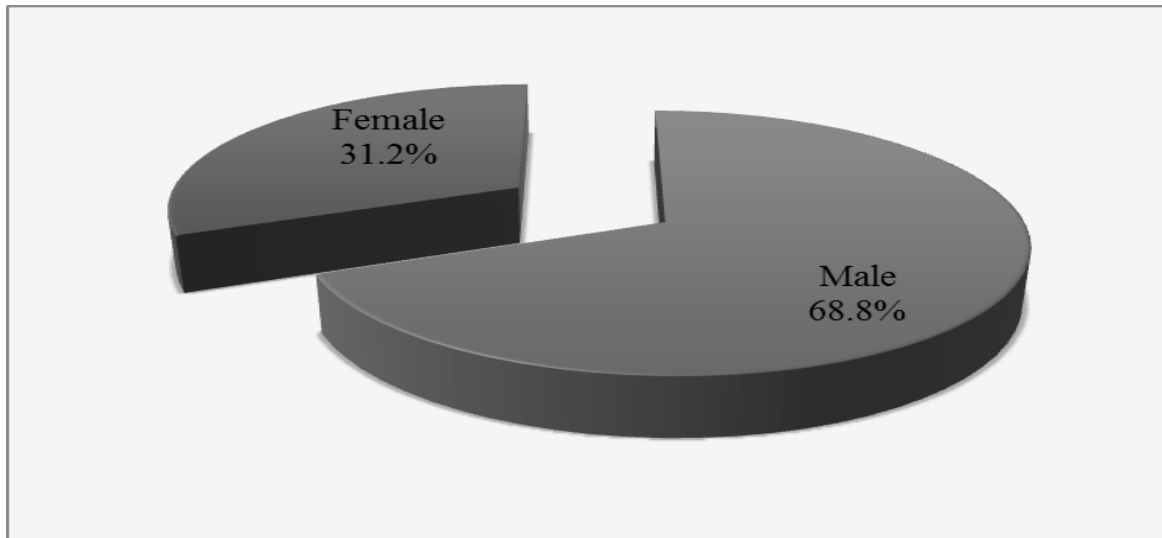


Figure 2 Response on Gender

4.2.2 Distribution by Age

This study also sought to determine the respondents' age. According to data presented in Figure 3, it is evident that the majority of the respondents (42.1%) are aged between 31 and 35 years. Furthermore, the study noted that 3.9% were aged 20 to 25, and 27.6% were between 26 and 30 years. Additionally, 18.4% of the respondents were aged between 36 and 40 years, while 7.9% were above 40 years. In this study, age was important as it assists in understanding whether age could affect the competency of the respondents in formulating strategic counterterrorism policies, considering the changing nature of terrorism due to porous borders.

To determine the respondents' experience, flexibility, and input in counterterrorism policy development, age was a critical variable in this study. While older respondents may possess rich experience in border security operations, younger respondents can provide new insights into emerging security challenges. Understanding the age distribution also helps one grasp how different generations view security issues, particularly regarding porous border management. This ensures that policies are state-of-the-art strategies and long-lasting counterterrorism solutions.

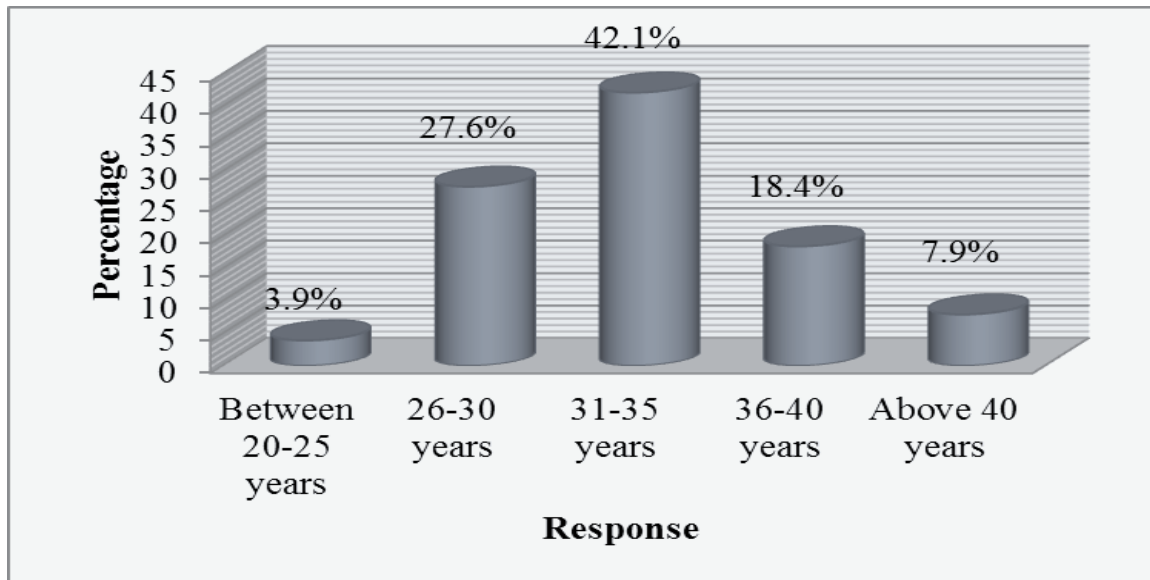


Figure 3 Response on Age

Source: Researcher, 2024

4.2.3 Response on Level of Education Level

The other reason for conducting this survey was to find out the educational background of the respondents. According to the figures shown in Table 4, the respondents were graduates from colleges. As a result, 40.8% of the respondents have a better chance of understanding the questionnaire designs and making comments. Also, it can be seen that a higher proportion of the respondents, 34.8% of all the respondents, were graduates from secondary schools. Interestingly, 5.3% of the population sampled were at the KCPE level, e.g., the members of the Mandera Community Policing Committee. Furthermore, a postgraduate degree was mentioned by 2.6% and an undergraduate degree by 17.1%. Education was imperative for them to participate in the data collection process and to know the extent of the response regarding the specific problem.

The respondents' education level may have determined their views on security policies, decision-making, and participation in counterterrorism programs. Lower education levels may impact attitudes and the application of community policing initiatives, while higher levels of education may be linked to enhanced comprehension and expression of strategic security practices. Additionally, the

comprehension and responses provided by the respondents to the study instruments may have been influenced by their level of education; hence, the reliability of the findings could be affected. Examining these differences assists in ascertaining whether perceptions of the efficacy of border security are influenced by education. The findings are represented in Table 4.

Table 4 Response on Education Level

Response	Frequency	Percentage
KCPE level	6	5.3
KCSE certificate	33	34.2
College Diploma	39	40.8
Undergraduate Degree	16	17.1
Master's degree	2	2.6
Total	96	100

Source: Researcher, 2024

4.2.4 Response on the Length of Service in the Current Occupation

Regarding the duration of service in the current occupation, the findings indicate that the majority of respondents have served between 5 to 10 years, accounting for 57% of the sample. For less than 5 years, this category accounts for 22%, while more than 10 years comprises 21%, as depicted in Figure 4 below. The length of service within an institution plays a fundamental role in determining experience in handling issues of terrorism concerning border security strategies and policies.

By shaping respondents' experiences, knowledge, and perceptions regarding border security and counterterrorism policy, service duration affected the study variables. Respondents with fewer than five years of experience may have focused on new threats and contemporary security approaches, while those with more than ten years of service likely based their views on past trends and policy effectiveness. These differences in experience also facilitated a clearer understanding of whether operational experience and knowledge of institutions influence the implementation and effectiveness of border security policies. The variations contributed to a deeper comprehension of how experience impacts policy making and implementation.

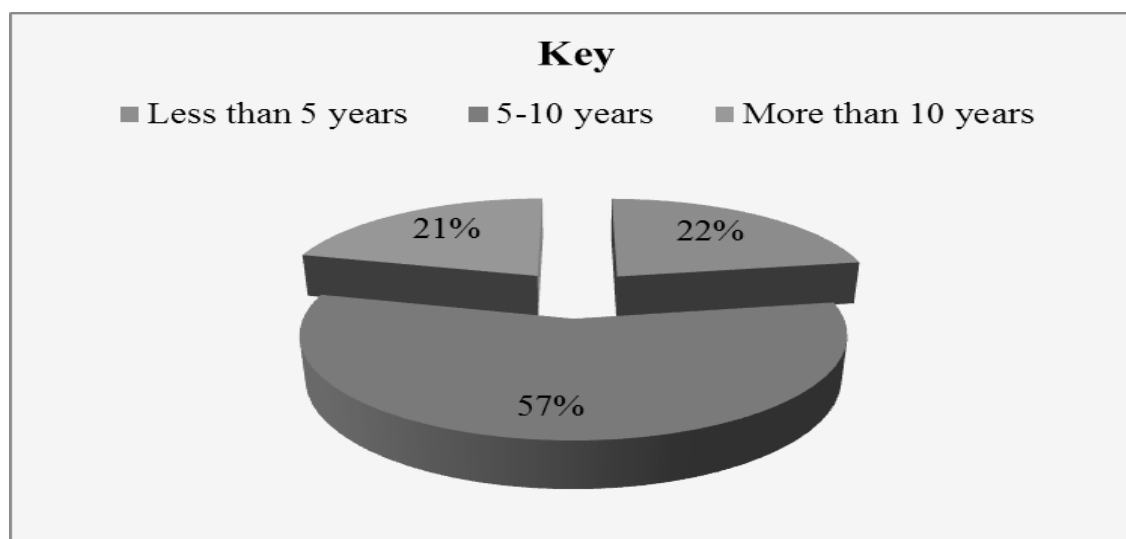


Figure 4 Response on the Length of Service in the Current Occupation

4.2.5 Improvement on Border security strategies

The study also aimed to determine whether there has been an improvement in the last ten years in the deployment of additional border security measures. The study found that 38 (39.4%) of the respondents indicated that the adoption of additional border security measures had improved during this time, based on the sample's replies. Interestingly, 33 (34.21%) of the respondents said that terrorism had decreased over the previous 20 years, 15 (15.7%) said that it had remained the same, and 10 (10.53%) said they were unsure. Understanding whether the adoption of more border security strategies had improved over the last decade was crucial for gauging the country's resilience in addressing border security-related issues.

The evidence suggests that the public believes border security efforts have improved over the past decade, although this claim should be supported by a specific measurement system. Clear indicators of improvement should be used to assess progress, such as reduced cross-border terrorist events, improved surveillance technology, increased deployment of security personnel, and enhanced border infrastructure. Legislative reforms, intelligence-sharing protocols, and community engagement

activities could also be utilized to measure effectiveness. Without concrete markers, perceptions are not necessarily an objective reflection of security gains. The findings are presented in Table 5.

Table 5 Improvement on Border Security Strategies

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Increased	38	39.47%
Reduced	33	34.21%
Remained the same	15	15.79%
I don't know	10	10.53%
Total	96	100

Source: Researcher, 2024

4.3 Presentation of Research Analysis and Findings

4.3.1 Response on Awareness of Border Security Strategies

The first objective of the study aimed to determine whether the respondents were aware of border security strategies that have been implemented at the Mandera Border Security point along the Kenya-Somalia border. This objective was operationalized through surveillance, migration policies, community-based policing, visa regulations, and border checks.

The study sought to determine whether the respondents were aware of the border security strategies implemented at the Mandera Border Security point along the Kenya-Somalia border. The study noted that the majority of the respondents indicated that they agree 90.8% that they are aware of the border security strategies that have been put in place at the Mandera Border Security point along the Kenya-Somalia border. This knowledge makes them reliable when collecting data. Additionally, 9.2% of the respondents indicated that they disagree. Understanding whether the respondents are aware of the border security strategies implemented at the Mandera Border Security point plays a significant role in determining their reliability in providing information about border security strategies on counterterrorism. The findings are reflected in Figure 5.

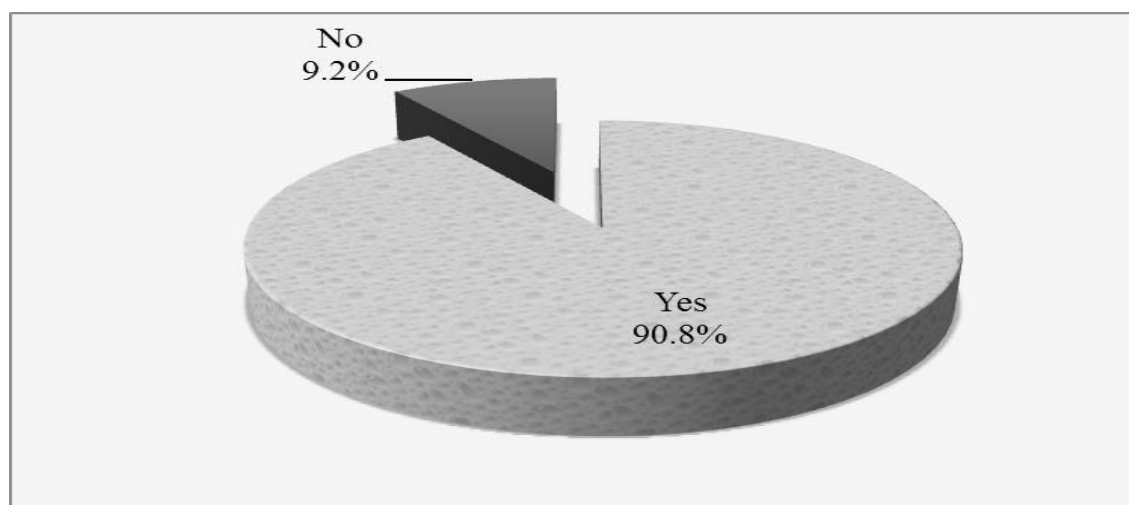


Figure 5 Response on Awareness of Border Security Strategies

Table 6 Response on Security Measure Deployed

Security Measure	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Mean Score
Deployment of Security Personnel (KDF, Police, Border Patrol)	60%	30%	5%	3%	2%	4.43
Surveillance and Intelligence Sharing (Drones, CCTV, Data Sharing)	55%	28%	7%	5%	5%	4.23
Physical Barriers and Checkpoints (Fencing, Roadblocks)	50%	32%	8%	6%	4%	4.18
Community Policing Initiatives (Local Cooperation, Intelligence Gathering)	48%	35%	10%	4%	3%	4.21
Inter-Agency and International Cooperation (Regional Coordination, Joint Operations)	45%	30%	12%	7%	6%	4.03

Key Survey Findings

i. High Level of Perception of Security Forces Deployment:

The most highly ranked security practice was the deployment of security forces (mean score 4.43), with 90% of the respondents showing agreement or strong agreement that security forces

such as the KDF, Police, and Border Patrol were actively deployed along the border. This was consistent with the overall high levels of reported awareness.

ii. Perception of Surveillance and Sharing of Intelligence

Surveillance and information-sharing programs, such as drones, CCTV, and inter-agency information sharing, placed second (mean score 4.23), indicating a high level of respondent appreciation for technological innovation along borders.

iii. Physical Barriers and Community Policing:

Physical barriers and checkpoints (mean score 4.18) and community policing initiatives (mean score 4.21) also ranked highly, reflecting respondents' appreciation for the physical and communal security measures being implemented.

iv. Familiarity with Inter-Agency and International Cooperation:

Although inter-agency and international cooperation received the lowest rating (mean rating 4.03), it still indicated a moderate level of awareness, meaning the respondents recognized that cooperative security between Kenya and neighboring countries existed.

In an interview with one of the Anti-Terror Police Unit (ATPU), the study noted that.

The mode of terror attacks has been changing across the globe due to several reasons. One of the leading reasons is the heightened surveillance and the formation of regional integration agencies whose main aim is to combat terrorism as well as the Global War on Terror (GWOT). For instance, Al-Shabaab has changed its mode of operation over the last six years and is now abducting and taking hostages. (Source: Key Informant 1, 8th May, 2024).

4.3.2 Best Border Security Strategy on Counterterrorism

This study sought to determine the best border security strategies that can be utilized for counterterrorism operations. The study noted that the formation of special units was the leading form of border security strategy, as reported by 20.83% of the respondents. In addition, 16.67% cited intelligence-led policing, 18.75% cited community policing, 7.29% indicated target hardening, 12.5% cited surveillance, 10.41% referred to border security/patrol, 4.17% cited the enactment of new laws, and 9.38% mentioned the Nyumba Kumi initiative. This response was paramount in understanding how Kenya was reacting to the increase or decrease in acts of terror through several reactive, preventive, and proactive measures. The findings are presented in Table 7.

Table 7 Best Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Intelligence Led policing	16	16.67%
Community Policing	18	18.75%
Target Hardening	7	7.29%
Surveillance systems	12	12.5%
Border security/patrol	10	10.41%
Formation of special units	20	20.83%
Enactment of new laws	4	4.17%
Nyumba Kumi Initiative	9	9.38%
Total	96	100

Source: Researcher, 2024

One of the officers from one National Intelligence Service (NIS) operative cited during the key informant interview that;

IEDs are currently our biggest problem, especially in places like Wajir, Garissa, and Mandera where there has been a comparatively significant threat of terrorism. In the fight against terrorism, despite our resources and coordinated efforts through a multi-agency collaboration, terrorism...’’ (Source: Key Informant 2, 9th May, 2024).

The findings present a frequency-based ranking as well as the measurement of effectiveness. Ranking of Border Security Strategies for Counterterrorism.

Table 8 Ranking of Border Security Strategies for Counterterrorism

Strategy	Highly Effective (5)	Effective (4)	Neutral (3)	Less Effective (2)	Not Effective (1)	Mean Score	Rank
Formation of Special Units	45%	30%	15%	7%	3%	4.07	1st
Community Policing	40%	35%	15%	5%	5%	4.00	2nd
Intelligence-Led Policing	38%	32%	18%	7%	5%	3.91	3rd
Surveillance Systems	35%	30%	20%	10%	5%	3.80	4th
Border Security/Patrol	32%	30%	22%	10%	6%	3.73	5th
Target Hardening	30%	28%	25%	10%	7%	3.63	6th

Source: Researcher, 2024

The formation of special units was found to be the optimal strategy, with a mean score of 4.07. This strategy includes specialized counterterrorism units such as the Recce Squad, Anti-Terrorism Police Unit (ATPU), and Rapid Deployment Units, which are trained to respond swiftly to terror attacks.

Community policing was the second most effective (4.00), focusing on local cooperation and intelligence collection. Interviewees highlighted that community involvement improved information exchange, making it increasingly difficult for terror cells to go unnoticed.

Third was intelligence-led policing (3.91), which demonstrated that networks for sharing Intelligence is crucial in finding and disrupting threats before their actualization. Surveillance networks (3.80) and border security/patrol (3.73) followed closely, highlighting the importance of real-time surveillance as well as deterrence.

On the other hand, Nyumba Kumi, target hardening, and the enactment of new laws were less successful, based on ratings. While these are components of holistic counterterrorism policies, as cited by respondents, they were found to be reactive rather than preventive and were therefore rated lower for perceived success.

4.3.3 Effectiveness of Policies in Terms of Border Management

This study aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of various border management policies to improve security and migration management. Table 9 displays perceptions of policy effectiveness alongside key performance indicators to assess its impact.

Evidence indicates that 59% of the respondents perceived the visa policies as useful, while 15% were unsure and 26% found them to be useless. Similarly, 54% of respondents stated that entry-exit policies were effective; however, 30% felt they were ineffective, and 16% were uncertain. In contrast, immigration policies garnered the highest approval, with 74% of respondents reporting them as effective, whereas 14% were unsure and 12% deemed them ineffective. Lastly, migration policies were considered effective by 66% of the respondents, though 18% were uncertain and 16% identified them as ineffective.

Table 9 Effectiveness of Policies in Terms of Border Management at Mandera Border Point

Policy	Reduction in Illegal Crossings	Terror Incident Reduction	Efficiency in Processing	Effective Intelligence Sharing	Public Compliance	Overall Effectiveness Rating	Policy	Reduction in Illegal Crossings
Visa Policy	Moderate	High	High	Moderate	High	59% Effective	Visa Policy	Moderate
Entry-Exit Policies	Low	High	Moderate	High	Moderate	54% Effective	Entry-Exit Policies	Low
Immigration Policies	High	High	High	High	High	74% Effective	Immigration Policies	High
Migration Policies	Moderate	Moderate	High	Moderate	High	66% Effective	Migration Policies	Moderate

Source: Researcher, 2024

One of the senior officers from NCTC revealed during the study that;

Although the government has adopted several holistic measures to ensure border security, entry and exit policies have played a crucial role in addressing terrorism-related challenges. Migration policies have been significantly successful in lowering the prevalence of terrorist activities in the country. However, the government needs to support such measures... ’ (Source: Key Informant 3, 5th May, 2024).

4.3.2 Effectiveness of Utilization of Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism

The second specific objective of the study aimed to determine the effectiveness of border security strategies in counterterrorism. The findings are presented below.

4.4.1 Effectiveness of Utilization of Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism

72% of respondents concur that the policies have made it easier to smoothly regulate immigration and migration operations at the nation's border crossings, according to the results in Table 10. Additionally, according to 83% of respondents, border points particularly the airport are now more secure as a result of the use of ICT in border management. 68% also concurred that there has been less trafficking of people, drugs, and weapons as a result of the better border management systems. Lastly, 67% of those surveyed concurred that improved collaboration between border crossing authorities has aided in resolving the nation's refugee situation. Table 10 summarizes the findings.

Table 10 Effectiveness of Utilization of Border Security Strategies on Counterterrorism

	A	UD	D
The policies have made it easier to manage immigration and migration-related activities at the nation's borders.	72%	18%	9%
The use of ICT in border management has increased security at border crossings, particularly at the airport.	83%	7%	10%
Trafficking of people, drugs, and weapons has decreased as a result of the enhanced border management systems.	68%	20%	12%
Addressing the nation's refugee issue has been made easier by improved collaboration between authorities at the border crossings.	67%	23%	10%

Source: Researcher, 2024

A senior Anti-Terror Police Unit (ATPU) in the country cited during the key informant interview that;

The border policies have assisted in ensuring seamless control of migration and immigration activities at border points, thereby helping to manage the detection and deterrence of terror-related activities. Additionally, the adoption of technology has played a significant role in addressing the issue of terrorism in the country. For instance, the use of biometrics technology has significantly aided in detecting terror-related suspects at border points, including airports. (Source: Key Informant 3, 19th April, 2024).

Table 11 Policy Tool

Policy Tool	Agree (A)	Undecided (UD)	Disagree (D)	Ranking
Integration of ICT in border management	83%	7%	10%	1st
Facilitation of smooth immigration control	72%	18%	9%	2nd

Reduction in trafficking activities	68%	20%	12%	3rd
Enhanced coordination among agencies	67%	23%	10%	4th

Source: Researcher, 2024

4.5.2 Utilization of Border Management Policies on Counterterrorism

According to the findings presented in Table 12, the study noted that to a greater extent (57.29%) utilization of border management policies has helped counter terrorism. However, 21.88% cited to some extent, 9.38% cited not all while 11.45% cited that they were not sure. The findings of the study imply that majority of the respondents were of the opinion that utilization of border security management policies is key. The findings are presented in Table 12.

Table 12 Utilization of Border Management on Counterterrorism

Response	Frequency	Percentage
To a greater extent	55	57.29%
To some extent	21	21.88%
Not at all	9	9.38%
Not sure	11	11.45%
Total	96	100

Source: Researcher, 2024

4.5.3 Utilization of Border Management Policies at Mandera Border Point.

This study had an interest in determining some of the border security strategies being used in addressing the issue of terrorism within the country. The study revealed that 48% (mean=4.152, SD=0.985) shows that a significant portion of the respondents shows that improving legal framework was a fundamental way of addressing utilization of border management policies, 50% (mean=4.123, SD=0.879) cited intelligence gathering, 55% (mean=4.874, SD=0.879) indicated creation of employment was very important, 45% (mean=4.253, SD=0.789) cited that proactive border patrols was

very important, 47% (mean=4.587, SD=0.658) of the respondents indicated that religious teachings was considered to be very important while 54% (mean=4.358, SD=0.896) asserted that monitoring of activities was considered to be paramount. It was important to understand some of the strategies being utilized in addressing the issue of terrorism in the country since the strategies play a crucial role in addressing the widespread terrorism in the country. The findings are presented in Table 13.

Table 13 Utilization of Border Management Policies

Utilization of Border Management Policies	N	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Mean	Std Deviation
Improving legal framework	96	48%	32%	20%	4.152	0.985
Intelligence gathering	96	50%	30%	20%	4.123	0.879
Creation of employment	96	55%	35%	10%	4.874	0.879
Proactive border patrols	96	45%	40%	15%	4.253	0.789
Religious teachings	96	47%	33%	20%	4.587	0.658
Monitoring of activities	96	54%	36%	10%	4.358	0.896

Source: Researcher, 2024

Key Findings and Implications

Visa and Entry-Exit Policies: 50% of respondents ranked these policies as very important for limiting the entry of suspected terrorists, enhancing security vetting processes, and monitoring individuals with extremist links. However, 20% felt they were only moderately effective, indicating potential gaps in enforcement.

Legal Framework Reforms: 48% of respondents emphasized the need to reinforce legal frameworks, including amendments to counterterrorism laws, increased penalties for illegal border crossing, and enhanced extradition agreements.

Intelligence Gathering: Half of the respondents (50%) agreed that improved intelligence sharing among agencies, as well as with the National Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC), has been absolutely pivotal in identifying and intercepting potential threats.

Proactive Border Patrols: While 45% rated patrols as very important, 15% view them as only moderately effective, reflecting insufficient resources, staffing deficits, or coordination problems.

Monitoring of Activities: Over half (54%) believed that enhanced surveillance and tracking systems have improved border security, for example, through the utilization of biometrics and CCTV.

Public Awareness and Religious Teachings: Ranked with a mean of 4.587, this was among the most effective strategies. Participants highlighted community outreach, religious awareness campaigns, and counter-radicalization programs as crucial in mitigating extremism.

In a key informant interview by one of the respondents, the study revealed that;

The impact of using border management strategies to stop the spread of attacks related to terrorism must be a major concern for our nation. As a nation, we ought to support several initiatives, including censorship, stricter laws, and an evaluation of how well institutions like the National Counterterrorism Centre are preventing the dissemination of violent extremist content. Furthermore, keeping an eye on internet content and exercising parental or guardian responsibilities are crucial in tackling the problem of juvenile radicalization (Source: Key Informant 6, 29th April, 2024).

The findings indicate that border management policies have been moderately to highly effective in counterterrorism efforts, with intelligence gathering, monitoring of activities, and legal Reforms play crucial roles. However, improvements are needed in policy enforcement and inter-agency communication, coordination, and border patrol efficiency to maximize their impact.

4.5.4 Frequency of Involvement in Border Security Management Strategies on Counterterrorism

This study noted that 46 (47.92%) of the respondents indicated that they are very often involved in border security management strategies related to counterterrorism in Kenya. Additionally, 20 (20.83%) of the respondents reported being always involved, 16 (16.67%) indicated sometimes, 9 (9.38%) cited rarely, and 5 (5.21%) stated never. The frequency of government involvement in border

security management strategies regarding counterterrorism in Kenya is crucial in ensuring that national security agencies remain proactive against various forms of terrorism. The findings are presented in Table 14.

Table 14 Frequency of Involvement in Border Security Management Strategies on Counterterrorism

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Always	20	20.83%
Very often	46	47.92%
Sometimes	16	16.67%
Rarely	9	9.38%
Never	5	5.21%
Total	96	100

Source: Researcher, 2024

Key Border Security Management Strategies and Their Effectiveness

To evaluate the most frequently used border security strategies, respondents ranked different approaches according to their effectiveness in counterterrorism efforts. Table 15 displays the strategies in order of perceived effectiveness.

Table 15 Ranking of Border Security Management Strategies in Counterterrorism

Strategy				Very Effective	Effective	Moderately Effective	Mean Score	Rank
Intelligence Surveillance	Sharing	&	55%	35%		10%	4.78	1st
Proactive Border Patrols			52%	38%		10%	4.62	2nd
Biometric Tracking	and	Digital	50%	40%		10%	4.53	3rd
Community Informants	Policing	&	48%	42%		10%	4.49	4th
Stronger Controls	Immigration		46%	44%		10%	4.41	5th
Cross-Border Coordination			44%	46%		10%	4.38	6th

Source: Researcher, 2024

Key Findings

Intelligence Sharing & Surveillance (Ranked 1st, Mean = 4.78):

The most effective measure received a very effective rating from 55% of respondents.

Intercepting terrorist activities has been a key function of real-time intelligence gathering, satellite surveillance, and inter-agency cooperation.

Proactive Border Patrols (Ranked 2nd, Mean = 4.62):

Fifty-two percent considered it very effective, emphasizing the importance of a physical security presence in preventing illegal crossings.

Deficiencies in manpower and equipment for patrol were identified as issues.

Biometric & Digital Tracking (Ranked 3rd, Mean = 4.53):

Fifty percent considered digital border monitoring essential, especially for tracking foreign fighters and suspected extremists.

Community Policing & Informants (Ranked 4th, Mean = 4.49):

Local community members play a vital role in reporting suspicious activity, but fear of retaliation from terrorist groups affects their effectiveness.

Stronger Immigration Controls (Ranked 5th, Mean = 4.41):

Visa restrictions, background checks, and deportation policies have played a crucial role in discouraging radicalized persons.

Cross-Border Coordination (Rank 6th, Mean = 4.38):

Counterterrorism coordination with neighboring nations is a complex task due to diplomatic constraints and corruption.

Public Awareness & Counter-Radicalization (Rank 7th, Mean = 4.32):

Religious institutions, NGOs, and media campaigns have all been involved in counter-radicalization; however, more structured programs are necessary.

The study found that most respondents are actively engaged in border security management strategies, with intelligence sharing, surveillance, and border patrols ranking as the most effective measures. However, challenges such as weak cross-border cooperation, inadequate manpower, and insufficient counter-radicalization programs must be addressed to improve national security.

4.3.3 Challenges Experienced in the Implementation of Border Management Policies

The study aimed to determine whether challenges are experienced in the implementation of border management policies in the country. The findings, as shown in Figure 6, indicate that the majority of respondents (70%) are aware of the challenges encountered in implementing these policies. Moreover, 30% of the respondents reported being unaware of the challenges. Figure 6 summarizes the findings of the study.

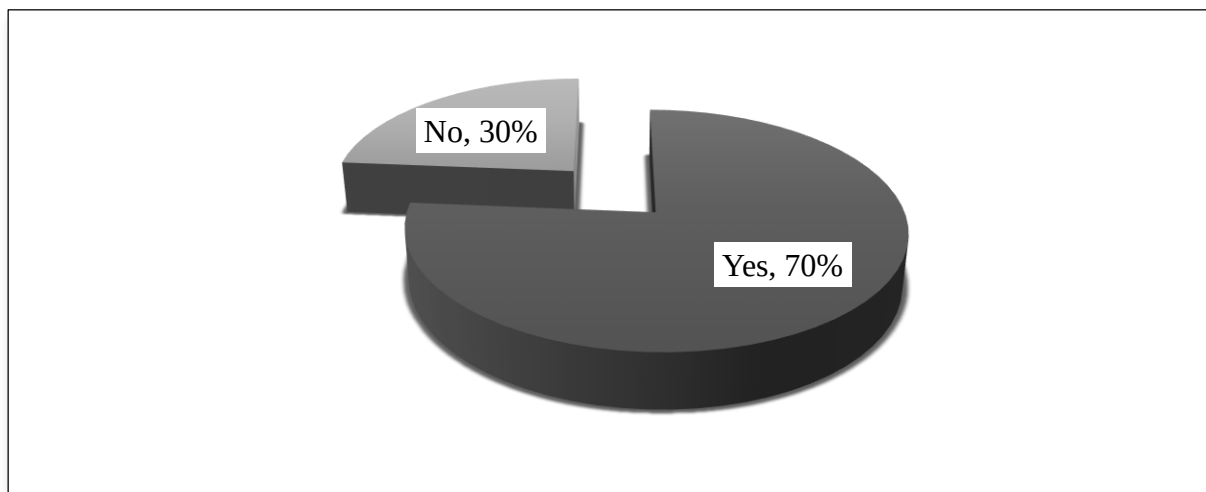


Figure 6 Challenges Experienced in the Implementation of Border Management Policies

4.3.3.1 Statements Regarding the Challenges Faced in the Implementation of Border Management Strategies

Finding the statements on the difficulties encountered in putting border management measures into practice was one of the study's objectives. The study's conclusions show that half of the participants concur that the border management organizations lack current training on how to deal with the different security risks that can arise at the border crossings. Additional evidence for this was provided by mean = 3.776, SD = 0.687. Furthermore, 45% (mean=3.415, SD=0.589) of the respondents stated that they concur that the absence of explicit border management directives results in inadequate coordination among border management authorities. 50% (mean=3.654, SD=0.658) said they agreed that the infrastructure available for border management purposes is insufficient, which has an impact on the overall implementation of border management policies, while 48% (mean=3.121, SD=0.787) said they agreed that corruption cases also present a challenge to the proper implementation of border management policies in the nation. The results are shown in Table 16.

Table 16 Statements Regarding the Challenges faced in the Implementation of Border Management Strategies

Statements	A	UD	D	Mean	Std Deviation
The border management organizations lack current training on how to handle the different security risks that can arise at the border crossings.	50%	30%	20%	3.776	0.687
Due to unclear border management directives, border management agencies do not coordinate well.	45%	40%	15%	3.415	0.589
The correct application of the nation's border control policies is also hampered by corruption charges.	48%	32%	20%	3.121	0.787
Inadequate infrastructure is available for border management, which has an impact on how well border management rules are implemented overall.	50%	35%	15%	3.654	0.658

Source: Researcher, 2024

One of the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) cited that.

The implementation of border security policies has not been easy in Kenya. One of the greatest challenges facing border policies implementation in Kenya is the issue of corruption among government officials. Most of the border officers such as immigration officials have been colluding with criminals by allowing their entry and exit into the country. This call for the need of the government to make concerted efforts in addressing the issue of terrorism due to border polices related challenges. (Source: Key Informant 6, 7th May, 2024).

The study identifies some of the key challenges hampering the fulfillment of border management programs in Kenya. These are the ones outlined in Table 16: inadequate contemporary training, disjointed activities within agencies, corruption, and deficiency in infrastructure. They validate the conceptual framework based on institutional capacity, policy effectiveness, and governing institutions that determine the management of border security as well as fighting terrorism.

Firstly, the absence of current training among border management agencies (50% of respondents agreed) signifies a defect in institutional capacity. Border security officers require continuous skills upgrading in order to respond to new threats such as terrorism, human trafficking, and arms smuggling. When agencies are operating with outdated training, their ability to efficiently implement counterterrorism policies is compromised. This aligns with the conceptual framework's emphasis on human resource capacity as a policy success determinant.

Secondly, inadequate coordination between border management agencies (45% agreement) presents a major governance issue. There is more than one agency for border security, including the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), Kenya Immigration Department, Kenya Police Service, and National Intelligence Service (NIS). Despite this, unclear mandates lead to decentralized initiatives, therefore creating security gaps. The conceptual framework recognizes inter-agency coordination model as playing a key role in ensuring there is proper implementation of security policies. Without it,

policy enforcement is perpetually inconsistent, thus limiting the overall efficacy of counterterrorism policies.

Third, corruption emerged loudly as a foremost impediment to border security policy enforcement, where 48% of the respondents agreed that it undermines border control. One of the principal informants at KRA (Key Informant 6, 7th May 2024) emphasized that some border officials form collusions with criminals in order to facilitate illicit cross-border movement so that terrorism, human trafficking, and arms smuggling can be boosted. This is the conceptual framework's recognition of the value of governance integrity and accountability as determinants of implementation of security policy. The neglect of corruption disempowers state control over boundaries, with the result that the networks of terror exploit such vulnerabilities.

Finally, inadequate infrastructure was identified as an issue by 50% of the respondents, where logistical and operational shortcomings deter efficient observation at the border. Up-to-date surveillance tools, biometric monitoring devices, and patrol gear are required in border stations, but poor investment in these forces undermines security performance. The conceptual model points to technological ability and availability of resources as two facilitators of capable border security administration. The inability of proper surveillance and monitoring facilities makes terrorist operations thrive in the underground, thus increasing the threat of cross-border insecurity.

4.6.2 Extent of Border Management Challenges

According to the findings presented in Table 17, the study noted that to a greater extent that (62.5%) cited that to greater extent there is a major challenge of border management security. However, 14.58% cited to some extent, 12.5% cited not all while 10.42% cited that they were not sure. The findings show that there were several challenges facing border security management as cited by majority of the respondents. The findings are presented in Table 17.

Table 17 Extent of Border Management Challenges

Response	Frequency	Percentage
To a greater extent	60	62.5%
To some extent	14	14.58%
Not at all	12	12.5%
Not sure	10	10.42%
Total	96	100

Table 18 Summary of Chapter Four - Presentation of Findings

Section	Description
Introduction	Outlined the purpose of the chapter, focusing on the analysis and presentation of data collected from respondents.
Demographic Information	Presented respondent characteristics such as institutional affiliation, position, and experience relevant to border security.
Objective One: Border Security Strategies at Mandera Border Point	Analyzed the specific strategies being implemented, highlighting institutional practices, resource deployment, and coordination mechanisms.
Objective Two: Effectiveness of Border Security Policies	Assessed how policies contribute to counterterrorism, revealing mixed perceptions on effectiveness, implementation gaps, and inter-agency coordination.
Objective Three: Challenges and Opportunities	Identified key challenges such as corruption, inter-agency rivalry, and lack of modern surveillance tools, alongside opportunities like regional cooperation and community policing.
Extent of Border Management Challenges	Quantified the perception of border management challenges, with 62.5% of respondents affirming that challenges exist to a great extent.
Summary Table	Concluded the chapter by summarizing the key findings from each objective, setting the stage for analysis and discussion in Chapter Five.

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of the study's main conclusions, discussion, findings, and suggestions. The study results that were presented and discussed in the earlier chapters serve as the foundation for this. The study came to a number of conclusions that directly advance understanding and policymaking. Both additional research and real-world policy implementation have been suggested.

5.2 Discussion of Findings

This study aimed at assessing the border security and counterterrorism measures along Kenya-Somalia border with a focus on Mandera Border Point, Kenya. The task included evaluating the effectiveness of counterterrorism border security regulations and policies at Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border, identifying the difficulties encountered in implementing counterterrorism border security strategies at Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border, and reviewing previous research in order to identify the major academic gaps that the study aims to fill. The research for this was done at the library. This study used a quantitative research design and a descriptive survey design as its main methods.

96 respondents made up the study's response sample, which was suitable for analysis. Research tools used to gather data included key informant interviews and questionnaires to get information from respondents. In order to guarantee the legitimacy of the instruments, expert opinion was sought. Data analysis started as soon as the data was gathered. In tables, the studied data was condensed into percentages, frequencies, mean, and standard deviation. This section includes remarks based on the study's objectives.

5.2.1 Border Security Strategies applied at Mandera Border Point.

This study aimed to determine the best border security strategies for counterterrorism operations. It noted that the formation of special units was the leading border security strategy, as indicated by 20.83% of the respondents. Additionally, 16.67% cited intelligence-led policing, 18.75% mentioned community policing, 7.29% indicated target hardening, 12.5% referred to surveillance, 10.41% noted border security/patrol, 4.17% cited the enactment of new laws, and 9.38% mentioned the Nyumba Kumi initiative. These responses were crucial in understanding how Kenya was reacting to the fluctuations in acts of terror through various reactive, preventive, and proactive measures.

The findings align with Otenyo (2024), who asserted that Kenya has faced dangerous immigrant penetrations without the knowledge of certain agencies and government officials, reflecting the poor state of inter-agency cooperation on border security information. Some of these immigrants have been linked to instilling and instigating terrorist networks within the country and their counterparts in Somalia and other parts of the world (Otenyo, 2004). Surveillance, data collection, and intelligence sharing are fundamental aspects of border security. The authors indicate the need for timely and updated information sharing. The inadequacy of patrol equipment and comprehensive patrols has exacerbated the state of insecurity within Kenya.

In addition to this, the European Commission (2019) indicates that effective surveillance of border entry points is fundamental in preventing illegal goods and individuals from entering the country. The consistent and widespread presence of border security personnel serves as a deterrent to terrorists and other cross-border criminal activities. It is crucial to assess the conditions and capabilities on the ground, including territorial challenges and climatic conditions, before establishing border area surveillance equipment and programs. Advanced equipment requires robust infrastructure, maintenance, training, and practice that cannot necessarily be implemented at all locations. Countries

should identify the best methods to benefit from border surveillance equipment in remote-controlled regions.

5.2.2 Effectiveness of Border Security Policies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point

The study indicates that a majority of the respondents, 72%, are in agreement that the policies have provided simple control over immigration and migration activities at the country's border points. Kenya has relatively long, porous borders and a coastline that is susceptible to illegal immigrant entry. Along the coastline and the borders, there are a number of immigration checkpoints, which are far apart and have poor infrastructure, technology, and equipment. Therefore, the policy requires intensified surveillance of the border, the creation of a specialized border patrol unit, the introduction of more border posts, expanded capacity in the existing posts, and more utilization of ICT in all entry points ((KNMP), 2023). The heightened role of migration in national security and economies can no longer be underestimated. The issue is of interest as much as it is of concern to all states. The number of international migrants and the dynamics in the case of Kenya are evolving rapidly, and the trend is likely to persist in the future. 83% of them agreed that with the integration of ICT in border management, there is enhanced security at the border points, especially at the airport, while 68% agreed that due to the enhanced border management facilities, human, drug, and weapon trafficking has been reduced. Finally, 67% of the respondents agreed that there is greater coordination among agencies at the border points due to which the refugee crisis has been contained in the country. In another study, Kamba (2019), examined the patrol tactics and surveillance used by the border administration to curb security incidences along the Kenya-Liboi border post. The study concentrated on the years 2007 to 2015.

5.2.3 Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Border security strategies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point.

Among the interests of the study was to identify the assertions concerning the issues encountered in practicing border management strategies. The research findings show that 50% of the respondents concur that the border management agencies lack current training on dealing with different security threats that can be encountered at border points. With the use of secondary and primary research data, Ndunda (2020) established that the challenges confronting the one-stop border post strategy slowed down its implementation process. The leadership style and employees' performance could possibly demonstrate a response to the application of the framework or action plan in the companies. Authority is a capability to influence, inspire, and empower others, the outcome of which is the success and achievement of the organization that they represent. Leadership training is needed for effective policies because it ensures that the organization's efforts are well aligned and focused towards achieving its objectives (Hrebiniak, 2013). In addition, a study by Opon, Okoth, and Onkware (2022) evaluated the challenges in border control of migration and counterterrorism prospects affecting measures in Kenya. The findings indicated that number of staff operating under an uneven service structure, conditions of employment, and deploying officials according to their competency and integrity were the main personnel matters defeating immigration control at the border.

This was accompanied by a mean of 3.776 and standard deviation of 0.687. Also, 45% (mean=3.415, SD=0.589) of the respondents agreed they agree there is not enough coordination between border management agencies since there are no specific mandates on border management. Also, 48% (mean=3.121, SD=0.787) agreed that corruption cases are also a challenge to the proper implementation of border management policies in the nation. Apart from that, 50% (mean=3.654, SD=0.658) indicated in favor of the belief that infrastructure provided to manage the borders is inadequate and affects the overall enforcement of border management policies.

Gituanja (2024) further studied problems that are constraining the effective implementation of border management in Kenya. Specifically, the study was aimed at examining the influence of emerging global trends on the implementation and management of Kenya's border policy. A review survey for research was conducted to get information while conducting a notable structured interview. The study used questionnaires as the principal source of primary data, which were sent to migration officers and administration personnel in the Immigration Department, and the data was qualitatively analyzed. The finding reflected that challenges are faced in effective implementation of border procedures and policies. Pioneering global trends were described as grand challenges and determinants for effective border management. Generally, integration as a phenomenon has been felt within border management as well as migration. .

5.3 Summary of Findings

The following summary informed the study based on the study specific objectives;

5.3.1 Border Security Strategies applied at Mandera Border Point.

The findings in the research revealed that a high percentage of the respondents (90.8%) were conversant with the border security practices currently being utilized in the Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border. The realization level here is very high and proves that the respondents are not only informed but also possess direct experience or information about the deployed measures. They are knowledgeable in intelligence-sharing agreements, patrol operations, and surveillance systems. Additionally, the study noted that the respondents' direct involvement in border-related operations, whether administrative or operational, may be responsible for the tactics' efficacy. This gives us a solid foundation on which to gauge the effectiveness and shortcomings of such strategies.

Among the qualitative responses, the respondents mentioned the establishment of specialized security units such as the Border Patrol Unit under the Administration Police Service and the Anti-

Terror Police Unit (ATPU). These units are required to patrol Mandera's open and dry borders, identify threats, and disrupt cross-border organized crime networks. In addition, inter-agency coordination and joint task forces, especially between the National Intelligence Service (NIS), Kenya Police Service (KPS), and National Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC), have been reportedly enhancing coordination among security agencies. Other respondents also mentioned the use of biometric data systems, surveillance drones, and regional intelligence exchange forums as being pivotal to Kenya's strategy at Mandera. All these strategies are considered pivotal in curbing illegal crossings, smuggling, and extremist elements infiltration.

Despite the strategies taken, the respondents were also concerned with the failure of sufficient infrastructure, the low technical capacity, and the absence of sufficient manning at the border points. They open loopholes that are prone to be exploited by extremist groups such as Al-Shabaab. The players emphasized the necessity of involving communities in mechanisms such as the Mandera Community Policing Committee whose collective efforts have enhanced information gathering at the grassroots level. Although the techniques used together constitute a multi-layered strategy to border security, their efficacy is contingent upon ongoing funding, institutional capability, and grassroots cooperation. This research emphasizes the necessity of a sustainable, human-centered approach to border security that takes into account the sociocultural dynamics of the region.

5.3.2 Effectiveness of Border Security Policies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point

The study confirmed that 57.29% of the respondents concur that the border management policies have been effective to a great extent in curbing terrorism at the Mandera border. This shows the reliance of the respondents on the coordinated deployment of the security officers, regulation policies, and inter-agency policy. Moreover, 21.88% of the respondents replied that the policies are effective to some extent, proposing improvement but very large loopholes in operational effectiveness

and enforcement. The remaining respondents rated the policies as ineffective (9.38%) or did not know (11.45%). The indecision reflects inconsistencies in coordination and implementation among the different security organs working along the border.

The level of involvement in border security management also provided useful information about the depth at which the policies have an impact. Most of the respondents, 47.92%, indicated that they were very often involved in counterterrorist measures, while another 20.83% indicated that they were always involved. The high level of involvement indicates that the majority of security agents and agencies are involved in the implementation of border security policies. Their input helped to reaffirm the necessity of constant training, policy reform, and on-the-ground feedback systems. The respondents highlighted the role played by frequent patrols, rapid response units, information sharing procedures, and security cooperation agreements with the surrounding countries that border the immediate country to support the counterterrorist efforts.

However, the research found some hindrances that hinder the optimum operation of such policies. These are bureaucratic delays, insufficient resources, security actors' communication lapses, and the high rate of staff turnover that undermines continuity. To add, the respondents further indicated that despite the presence of border policies, in practice, they are evaded through corruption, the lack of updated surveillance equipment, as well as resistance from the local communities who feel left out. These findings suggest that for policies to be effective, they must be implemented uniformly, with capacity building and harmonization between relevant agencies with a clearly defined monitoring and evaluation framework.

5.3.3 Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Border security strategies on Counterterrorism at Mandera Border Point.

The study found that 70% of respondents concurred with the existence of serious issues regarding the implementation of border control measures in Mandera. The concurrence attests to a shared recognition of system and operating issues to successful counterterrorism. Among the often-raised issues were the porosity of the border, terrain, limited resources, and logistical challenges in covering large and far-flung areas of the border. The study also outlines the complex sociopolitical environment of Mandera, where clan-based conflicts, cultural variations, and transborder family ties complicate efforts to enforce draconian control measures along the border.

Inadequate training and technical expertise of security personnel who are assigned to work along the border was one of the most often quoted challenges. Half (50%) of the interviewees reported that the staff lacked specialized training in modern counterterrorist techniques. Others attributed this to a shortage of proper technology infrastructure in terms of drones, surveillance cameras, and biometric systems. Also, competition and communication among agencies result in duplication of function, overlapping mandates, and tardy response to evolving threats. These institutional weaknesses compromise the integrated imposition of security steps, and room is left for penetration and smuggling activities by terror groups and criminal groups.

Nevertheless, the study also identified very significant opportunities. Some of the respondents emphasized the potential for enhancing inter-agency coordination and establishing permanent multi-agency task forces for border security. They further noted that regional cooperation, such as intelligence-sharing with the governments of Somalia and Ethiopia, has the potential to boost operational efficiency. Community policing and outreach at the grassroots level present further opportunities of accessing local expertise for early warning and prevention. Investment in training,

infrastructure, and institutional linkage with the relevant resources is the only thing needed to improve the border security architecture in Mandera. These opportunities, if well utilized, can transform the region into a model of cross-border terrorism resilience.

5.4 Conclusion of the Study

To contextualize the study, both Statism Theory and Securitization Theory were integrated to discuss the study's various objectives. Securitization Theory and Statism Theory informed this study to illustrate the theoretical concepts of border security strategies and counterterrorism in the country. The primary theory is Securitization Theory, which addresses the issues of border security and counterterrorism at the Mandera Border Point, Kenya. The study has revealed that emerging trends in terrorism complicate the implementation of holistic border control policies and security measures. Based on the presentation of the findings and discussions, the following conclusions can be drawn: the level of awareness regarding border management policies is relatively high. The most common policies within border management include visas, passports, entry/exit requirements, and immigration policies.

This study finds that border management policies have played a central role in the management of the movement of people into and out of the country, promoting national security. These policies have been implemented through coordination by several agencies involved in managing the borders in a bid to ensure national security. In order to achieve this, border management policies have employed measures such as electronic identification and scanners along the borders. As for the issues that impede the impact of border management policies on national security, this research discovers that border management is hampered by several factors such as a lack of adequate training among stakeholders, inadequate coordination among them, institutional interest conflicts, and cases of corruption. Inadequate infrastructure also impacts border management policies' effectiveness in improving national security in the nation.

The overall objective of this study was to assess the role of border control policies in improving national security in Kenya. From the analysis, this research discovers that it includes the implementation of entry/exit controls and visa regulations. Besides this, technology has been integrated through these measures to enhance strict entry controls, wherein passengers are scanned and their identities verified to prevent terrorists from entering the country's borders.

5.5 Recommendations of the Study

The following recommendations inform this study.

Regarding the first specific objective, the study, which aimed to assess the specific border security strategies applied at Mandera Border Point along the Kenya-Somalia border, recommends that since there are a few stakeholders who are not aware of the border management policies, more emphasis should be placed on creating awareness of these policies among the relevant stakeholders involved in implementing them. This can be achieved through workshops and briefings by various organizations.

For the second specific objective, the study recommends the enactment of the following essential measures: additional efforts must be made to see to it that border management policy plays an effective role in curbing human and drug trafficking to Kenya. Policy reform must be undertaken to comprehensively incorporate the application of information and communication technology into the practice of border management. Through ICT, the stakeholders can better cope with countries like Europe and the US, which have managed to integrate it into their border control. Interventions have to be done for those who have obvious visible signs of risk or vulnerability, aimed at strengthening protective factors and leading them away from violent extremism and radicalization routes. Adequate tools should be provided to family members, front-line workers, peers, and practitioners, i.e., police officers and mental health professionals, to work with high-risk individuals. The study advises stricter legislation and bills to be tabled in parliament to fight funding of terrorism successfully in the country.

Money-laundering routes and charities are currently being used by the terrorist organizations to finance their activities in the nation.

On the third specific objective, the study recommends that disengagement attempts should target individuals who have been directly involved in ideologically motivated violence. This includes individuals under peace bonds, those incarcerated for terrorism offenses, or those returning from conflict zones. Disengagement programs complement the comprehensive efforts of Kenya's National security and policing agencies in building, investigating, and monitoring cases for criminal prosecution purposes. The study noted that the government should enhance efficiency in monitoring, prosecution, and law enforcement through intelligence training, which will enable them to be proactive in preventing the spread of terror-related information in the country. Additionally, the study suggests that the government should censor and monitor online sites that promote terror propaganda and radicalization.

There is also a need for the government to coordinate all the NCTC activities in the country to improve their efficiency in monitoring and sharing factual intelligence on issues related to the dissemination of terror-related information. Additionally, platforms such as community policing should be utilized to sensitize the public about the possible avenues that terrorist groups are using to disseminate terrorism-related information. Hence, more impetus and government support should be placed on platforms such as the Nyumba Kumi Initiative. An important tool or platform for advancing community policing and local security is the Nyumba Kumi Initiative, which the government should promote and enhance with greater vigor, focus, funding, and political will.

One of the challenges faced was poor coordination. Therefore, it is recommended that reforms be implemented to promote proper cooperation among the different stakeholders. A joint task force should be organized, incorporating all stakeholders under a single mandate to promote national security through effective border management practices. Additionally, training should be provided for

stakeholders to enhance their capacity in implementing border security management. This training can take the form of workshops, seminars, and camps, where external trainers from developed nations can be invited to conduct sessions. There is also a need to improve infrastructure, particularly by integrating new technology into border management systems. Providing adequate infrastructure will enhance the effectiveness of border management policies in promoting national security, since policies may not be effectively executed without the necessary infrastructure.

5.6 Areas of Further Research

This study had inconclusive findings; therefore, more studies are needed in the areas of:

- i. The study should also take into account the impact of policies on national security to the one-stop border posts along the country's borders.
- ii. There is a need for comprehensive research to establish the issues or factors affecting stakeholder coordination within Kenya's border management systems.
- iii. Also, comparative analysis can be conducted to examine border management policy and national security in Kenya and the immediate bordering states, including Tanzania, Uganda, and Somalia.

REFERENCES

- (IOM), I. O. (2023). *Managing Migration: Challenges and Responses for People on the Move*. Geneva: IOM.
- (KNMP), K. N. (2023). *Kenya National Migration Policy*. Nairobi: Government of Kenya Press.
- Adamson, F. B. (2006). Crossing borders: International migration and national security. *International security*, 31(1), 165-199.
- Amutabi, M. N., & Hamasi, a. L. (2023). Pastoralism and the Northern Kenya Economy. In M. N. Amutabi, & a. L. Hamasi, *The Palgrave Handbook of Contemporary Kenya* (pp. 97-108). Cham: Springer International Publishing.
- Babbie, E., & Edgerton, a. J. (2023). *Fundamentals of social research*. Cengage Canada.
- Bariagaber, A. (2023). States, Migrants, and the Challenge of International Human Smuggling and Trafficking in the Horn of Africa. *Journal of Global South Studies*, 40(2), 249-273.
- Bassey, M. E., & Udofia, a. E. (2023). Super Powers' Invasion and the Rise of Violent Extremism in Afghanistan. *International Journal of Social Sciences*, 15(2), 74-93.
- Baylis, J., Smith, S., & and Patricia Owens, e. (2020). *The globalization of world politics: An introduction to international relations*. Oxford university press, USA.
- Berger, L. (2022). Securitization across borders—commonalities and contradictions in European and Arab counterterrorism discourses. In L. Berger, *Collective Securitization and Crisification of EU Policy Change* (pp. 195-212). Routledge.
- Boaz, D. e. (2015). *The libertarian reader: Classic & contemporary writings from Lao-Tzu to Milton Friedman*. Simon and Schuster.
- Buzan, B., Wæver, O., & Wilde, a. J. (1998). *Security: A new framework for analysis*. Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- Chan, J., Logan, S., & Moses, a. L. (2022). Rules in information sharing for security. *Criminology & criminal justice*, 22(2), 304-322.

- Channuwong, S., Phudarat, B. S., Jirachottrakul, P., Pleansamai, J. L., Khamson, S., & Kanhabutr, a. A. (2024). Strategic management for sustainable business development: Concepts, theories and practices. *Sciences of Conservation and Archaeology*, 36(3), 11-22.
- Cheruiyot, S., & Rotich, a. G. (2018). Factors affecting the implementation of one stop border post strategy: A case study of the Malaba border. *International Academic Journal of Human Resource and Business Administration*, 3(1), 303-324.
- Das, B. K., Jha, D. N., Sahu, S. K., Yadav, A. K., Raman, R. K., & Kartikeyan, a. M. (2022). Analysis of variance (ANOVA) and design of experiments. In B. K. Das, D. N. Jha, S. K. Sahu, A. K. Yadav, R. K. Raman, & a. M. Kartikeyan, *Concept Building in Fisheries Data Analysis* (pp. 119-136). Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore.
- Dehalwar, K., & Sharma, a. S. (2023). *Fundamentals of research writing and uses of research methodologies*. Edupedia Publications Pvt Ltd.
- Dougherty, M. V. (2021). The use of confidentiality and anonymity protections as a cover for fraudulent fieldwork data. *Research Ethics*, 17(4), 480-500.
- Eyikorogha, Q. (2021). Trans-National Terrorist Alliance and Cross Border Security Management in Lake Chad Region, 2015-2020. *Otuoke Journal of Social Sciences*, 1(2), 1-18.
- Ezeji, C. L. (2024). The role of South Africa Border Management Authority in tackling border crime: evaluating security networks and evidence-based policing approaches. *International Journal of Business Ecosystem & Strategy* (2687-2293), 6(4), 393-407.
- Flynn, M. (2022). Domains of Peace. *Journal of Strategic Security*, 15(4), 1-13.
- Ghanad, A. (2023). An overview of quantitative research methods. *International journal of multidisciplinary research and analysis*, 6(08), 3794-3803.
- Gituanja, P. N. (2013). *Border Management and National Security: An Analysis of the Implementation of Border Policies in Kenya*. Doctoral dissertation, University of Nairobi.
- Goita, M. (2024). *West Africa's Growing Terrorist Threat: Confronting AQIM's Sahelian Strategy*. Africa Security Brief, Number 11.

- Grieco, E. (2023). White-collar crime and terrorism: Examining the links and challenges. In E. Grieco, *Countering terrorist and criminal financing* (pp. 127-138). CRC Press.
- Grinin, L. (2022). Evolution and typology of revolutions. In L. Grinin, *Handbook of revolutions in the 21st century: The new waves of revolutions, and the causes and effects of disruptive political change* (pp. 173-200). Cham: Springer International Publishing.
- Hirose, M., & Creswell, a. J. (2023). Applying core quality criteria of mixed methods research to an empirical study. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 17(1), 12-28.
- Hrebiniak, L. G. (2013). *Making strategy work: Leading effective execution and change*. Ft Press.
- Jenkins, B. M. (2001). Terrorism and beyond: a 21st century perspective. *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, 24(5), 321-327.
- Kamba, J. N. (2019). *Border Management Strategies Used to Curb Insecurity in Liboi Border Post of Kenya from 2007-2015*. Doctoral dissertation, Kenyatta University.
- Kasura, S. (2021). *The Impact of Border Management Strategy in Advancing Regional Security in Africa: a Case Study of Kenya and Somalia*. Doctoral dissertation, University of Nairobi.
- Kenda, W. J. (2022). *Determinants of Effectiveness of Inter-agency Cooperation as a Counter-terrorism Strategy in Kenya*. Doctoral dissertation, University of Nairobi.
- Kirimi, J. M. (2022). *Multi-Agency Approach and International Boundaries Security in Kenya*. Doctoral dissertation, Kenyatta University.
- Kombo, D. K., & Tromp, a. D. (2006). Proposal and thesis writing: An introduction. *Nairobi: Paulines Publications Africa*, 5(1), 814-30.
- Kostakopoulou, T. (2024)). Citizenship, identity and immigration in the European Union: Between past and future. In T. Kostakopoulou, *Citizenship, identity and immigration in the European Union*. Manchester University Press.
- Lamptey, A. A. (2013). *Rethinking border management strategies in West Africa: Experience from the Sahel*.

- Law, R. D. (2024). *Terrorism: A history*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Lederman, N. G., & Lederman, a. J. (2015). What is a theoretical framework? A practical answer. *Journal of Science Teacher Education*, 26(7), 593-597.
- Lichtman, M. (2023). *Qualitative research in education: A user's guide*. Routledge.
- Mazurchenko, A. (2025). Fundamentals of Researches, Methodology, and Solution Procedure. In A. Mazurchenko, *The Impact of the Digitalization on the Human Resource Management* (pp. 1-30). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Mchopa, A. (2021). Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches By: OLIVE M MUGENDA AND ABEL G MUGENDA. AFRICAN CENTRE FOR TECHNOLOGY STUDIES (ACTS) PRESS, NAIROBI–KENYA, 2003. ISBN: 9966-41-107-0. 256 PP. *Journal of Co-Operative and Business Studies (JCBS)*, 5(1).
- Metet, M. C., Gitonga, D., & Kipsang, a. S. (2021). *Effectiveness of risk management strategies on performance of the Customs and Border Control Department in Kenya*. Doctoral dissertation, KESRA/Moi University.
- Moragori, C. K. (2021). *Assessment of border management policies on national security in Nairobi County, Kenya*. Doctoral dissertation, Africa Nazarene University.
- Mouton, C., Rabie, B., Cloete, F., & Coning, a. C. (2014). Historical development & practice of evaluation. In C. Mouton, B. Rabie, F. Cloete, & a. C. Coning, *Evaluation Management in South Africa and Africa*, 1 (pp. 28-78).
- Mutunga, M. N., Mulandi, Q. W., Mwaniki, Z. W., & Kamau, a. F. (2023). *Strategic Management in Disruptive Environment*. IPR Journals and Book Publishers.
- Ndunda, R. M. (2013). *Implementation of one stop border post strategy at the Busia Border, Kenya*. Doctoral dissertation, University of Nairobi.
- Norman, I. D. (2022). Statism and the growth of authoritarianism in Sub-Saharan Africa. *European Journal of Law and Political Science*, 1(2), 15-27.

- Oando, S. (2025). Overcoming ambiguities in war on terror mechanisms in Africa: Acknowledging Africa is not a country. *European Journal of International Security*, 10(1), 78-96.
- Okolie-Osemene, J., & Romaniuk, S. N. (2024). Jihad in the Horn of Africa: Somalia's Al-Shabaab Islamist Insurgency. In J. Okolie-Osemene, & S. N. Romaniuk, *Handbook of Terrorist and Insurgent Groups* (pp. 261-270). CRC Press.
- Okumu, W., & Ikelegbe, a. A. (2018). *Militias, Rebels and Islamist Militants: Human Insecurity and State Crises in Africa*. The Institute for Security Studies (ISS).
- Omair, A. (2025). Sample size estimation and sampling techniques for selecting a representative sample. *Journal of Health specialties*, 2(4), 142.
- Opon, D. (2021). *The Impact of Migration Governance on National Security in Africa: a Case of Kenya*. Doctoral dissertation, University of Nairobi.
- Opon, D. O., Okoth, P. G., & Onkware, a. K. (2015). Immigration border control human resource challenges and opportunities affecting counter-terrorism strategies in Kenya. *International Journal of Education and Research*, 3(5), 301.
- Osunkoya, O. A., & BELLO, a. M. (2024). Regional Integration and Mobility in Sub-Saharan Africa: An Assessment. *Fountain University Journal of Arts and Humanities*, 1(2).
- Otenyo, E. E. (2004). New terrorism: Toward an explanation of cases in Kenya. *African Security Studies*, 13(3), 75-84.
- Papademetriou, D. G., & Collett, a. E. (2011). *A new architecture for border management*. Migration Policy Institute, Washington, DC.
- Renard, T., & Kerchove, a. G. (2021). *The Evolution of Counter-Terrorism Since 9/11: Understanding the Paradigm Shift in Liberal Democracies*. Routledge.
- Robson, C. (2024). *Real world research*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Shipoli, E. A., & Shipoli, a. E. (2018). The Securitization Theory. In E. A. Shipoli, & a. E. Shipoli, *Islam, Securitization, and US Foreign Policy* (pp. 71-100).

Smith, K. B., & Larimer, a. C. (2018). *The public policy theory primer*. Routledge.

Wagner, J. (2022). The European Union's model of Integrated Border Management: preventing transnational threats, cross-border crime and irregular migration in the context of the EU's security policies and strategies. In J. Wagner, *Patterns in Border Security* (pp. 76-100). Routledge.

Walsh, J. (2008). Navigating globalization: Immigration policy in Canada and Australia, 1945–2007. In J. Walsh, *Sociological forum* 23, (4) (pp. 786-813). Oxford, UK: Blackwell Publishing Ltd.

Wong Villanueva, J. L., Kidokoro, T., & Seta, a. F. (2022). Cross-border integration, cooperation and governance: A systems approach for evaluating “good” governance in cross-border regions. *Journal of Borderlands Studies*, 37(5), 1047-1070.

APPENDICES**APPENDIX I: INTRODUCTION LETTER**

Africa Nazarene University,

P.O. Box 53067-00200

Nairobi, Kenya

Dear Respondent,

RE: REQUEST FOR RESEARCH DATA

I am Osolika Wakhungu Allan, a master's student in Governance, Peace and Security, in the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies of Africa Nazarene University wish to undertake a study on: *Evaluation of Border Security and Counterterrorism Strategies: A Case Study of the Mandera Border Point in Kenya.* ". I therefore sincerely request you to assist in filling this questionnaire. The information collected will be used for academic purposes only and all confidentiality will be kept.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Osolika Wakhungu Allan

.....

Africa Nazarene University

APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE

Instructions

This questionnaire is meant to collect data for my Master of Science in Governance, Peace and Security. The title of the study is on evaluating the effect of border security and counterterrorism with a focus on Mandera Border Point, along Kenya Somalia. You have been selected as one of the respondents, and if you consent to participate, you are kindly requested to be sincere with your answers. Please note that any information you will give will be treated with utmost confidentiality and privacy, and will only be used for academic purposes.

SECTION A: PERSONAL DATA

1. Gender

Male ☐

Female ☐

2. Age Bracket

20 Yrs-25Yrs ☐

26-30 Years ☐

31-35Years ☐

36-40 Years ☐

Above 40Years ☐

3. Highest Educational Level

KCSE Certificate ☐

College Diploma ☐

Degree ☐

Master's Degree ☐

PhD ☐

4. How long have you served within your current occupation?

Less than 5 years ☐

5-10 years ☐

More than 10 Years ☐

5. In the decade, has the adoption of more border security strategies improved (?)

Increased ☐

Reduced ☐

Remained the same ☐

I don't know ☐

SECTION B: BORDER SECURITY STRATEGIES

6. a) Are you aware of border security strategies have been put in place at the Mandera Border Security point along the Kenya-Somalia border?

Yes ☐

No ☐

b) If Yes Explain

.....

.....

.....

7. Among the following, which is the best border security strategy used in addressing various mode of terror attacks in the country?

Intelligence Led policing ☐

Community policing ☐

Target hardening ☐

Surveillance systems ☐

Border security/patrol ☐

Formation special units ☐

Enactment of new laws ☐

Nyumba Kumi Initiative ☐

8. Suggest on any other border security interventions which the government can use to address the emerging trend of terror above? Explain

.....

.....

.....

9. How effective are the following policies in terms of border management? Kindly tick (✓) where appropriate

	Not effective	Not Sure	Effective
Visa Policy			
Entry Exist Policies			
Immigration policies			
Migration Policies			

SECTION C: THE EFFECTIVENESS OF UTILIZATION OF BORDER SECURITY STRATEGIES ON COUNTERTERRORISM

10. By use of a tick (✓), indicate your extent of agreement or disagreement on the following statements regarding the utilization of border management policies.

	A	UD	D
The policies have facilitated a smooth control of the immigration and migration activities at the border points in the country.			
Through the integration of ICT in border management, security at the border points and especially the airport has been improved.			
Due to the improved border management structures, human, drugs and weapon trafficking has been reduced.			
Enhanced coordination among agencies in the border points has helped to address the refugee crisis in the country.			

11. In what other ways, are the border security management strategies utilized in the country for national security purposes?

12. To what extent has the utilization of border management policies promoted national security in the country?

a) To a greater extent []

b) To some extent []

c) Not at all []

d) Not sure []

13. On a scale of 1-5 where 1= very important, 2= Important, 3= Moderately Important? Rate the importance of the following border security management strategies addressing the issue of terrorism recruitment in the country

Utilization Of Border Management Policies	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important
Improving legal framework			
Intelligence gathering			
Creation of employment			
Proactive border patrols			
Religious teachings			

Monitoring of activities			
--------------------------	--	--	--

b) Explain the responses above

.....

.....

.....

14. a) Rate the government frequency in involvement in border security management strategies on counterterrorism in Kenya?

Always ☐

Very often ☐

Sometimes ☐

Rarely ☐

Never ☐

b) In relation to your choice in question 27(a) above do you think that the measures have been effective? (Explain)

.....

.....

.....

(c) Suggest on the interventions which can be utilized to prevent the issue of border security in the country? Explain

.....

.....

SECTION D: THE CHALLENGES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BORDER SECURITY STRATEGIES

15. Are there challenges experienced in the implementation of border management policies in the country?

Yes []

No []

16. By use of a tick (✓), indicate your extent of agreement or disagreement on the following statements regarding the challenges faced in the implementation of border management strategies on counterterrorism

STATEMENTS	A	UD	D
The agencies involved in border management do not have up to date training on handling various security threats that may be experienced at the border points.			
There is poor coordination among border management agencies due to lack of clear mandates on border management.			
Corruption cases also pose a challenge to the proper implementation of border management policies in the country.			
The infrastructure available for border management purposes is inadequate and this affects the overall implementation of border management policies.			

17. What other challenges are experienced in the border management that may have a threat to the response on terrorism?

18. To what extent has the above-mentioned challenges in border management posed a threat to the counterterrorism response?

To a greater extent ☐

To some extent ☐

Not at all ☐

Not sure ☐

19. What are the measures that can be put in place to address border management policies and counterterrorism in the border entry/exit points of the country?

Thank you for your cooperation

APPENDIX III: INTERVIEW GUIDE

Introduction

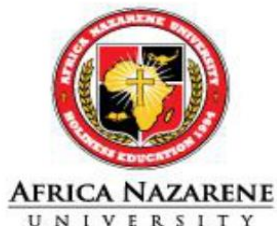
This interview is meant to collect data for my Master of Science in Governance, Peace and Security. The title of the study is “Assessment of the Effectiveness of Border Security and Counterterrorism Measures: A Case Study of Mandera Border Point, Kenya.”. You have been selected as one of the respondents, and if you consent to participate, you are kindly requested to be sincere with your answers. Please note that any information you give will be treated with utmost confidentiality and privacy, and will only be used for academic purposes.

- 1. What are the existing border management security strategies in Kenya?
.....
.....
.....
- 2. How effective are the existing border management security strategies? Kindly explain
.....
.....
.....
- 3. What are the challenges facing the implementation of border security management strategies?
.....
.....
.....
- 4. What are the measures that can be put in place to address border management policies and counterterrorism in the border entry/exit points of the country?
.....
.....
.....

APPENDIX IV: NACOSTI PERMIT

 REPUBLIC OF KENYA	 NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION
Ref No: 166183	Date of Issue: 23/May/2024
RESEARCH LICENSE	
	
This is to Certify that Mr. OSOLIKA ALLAN WAKHUNGU of Africa Nazarene University, has been licensed to conduct research as per the provision of the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 (Rev.2014) in Mandera, Nairobi on the topic: ASSESSMENT OF THE BORDER SECURITY AND COUNTER-TERRORISM MEASURES ALONG KENYA-SOMALIA BORDER: A CASE STUDY OF MANDERA BORDER POINT, KENYA. for the period ending : 23/May/2025.	
License No: NACOSTI/P/24/35793	
166183 Applicant Identification Number	Director General NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION
Verification QR Code 	
NOTE: This is a computer generated License. To verify the authenticity of this document, Scan the QR Code using QR scanner application.	
See overleaf for conditions	

APPENDIX V: ANU TRANSMITTAL LETTER



P.O.Box: 53067 – 00200
Nairobi, Kenya.
Tel: 020 252 7170/1 – 5
Email: vc@anu.ac.ke
www.anu.ac.ke

23rd April 2024

RE: TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Osolika Wakhungu Allan (18J03DMGP027) is a bonafide student at Africa Nazarene University. He has finished his course work and has defended his thesis proposal entitled: -

“Assessment of the Border Security and Counter-Terrorism Measures Along Kenya-Somalia Border: A Case Study of Mandera Border Point, Kenya”.

Any assistance accorded to him to facilitate data collection and finish his thesis is highly welcomed.



Prof. Rodney Reed
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs

APPENDIX VI: WORK PLAN

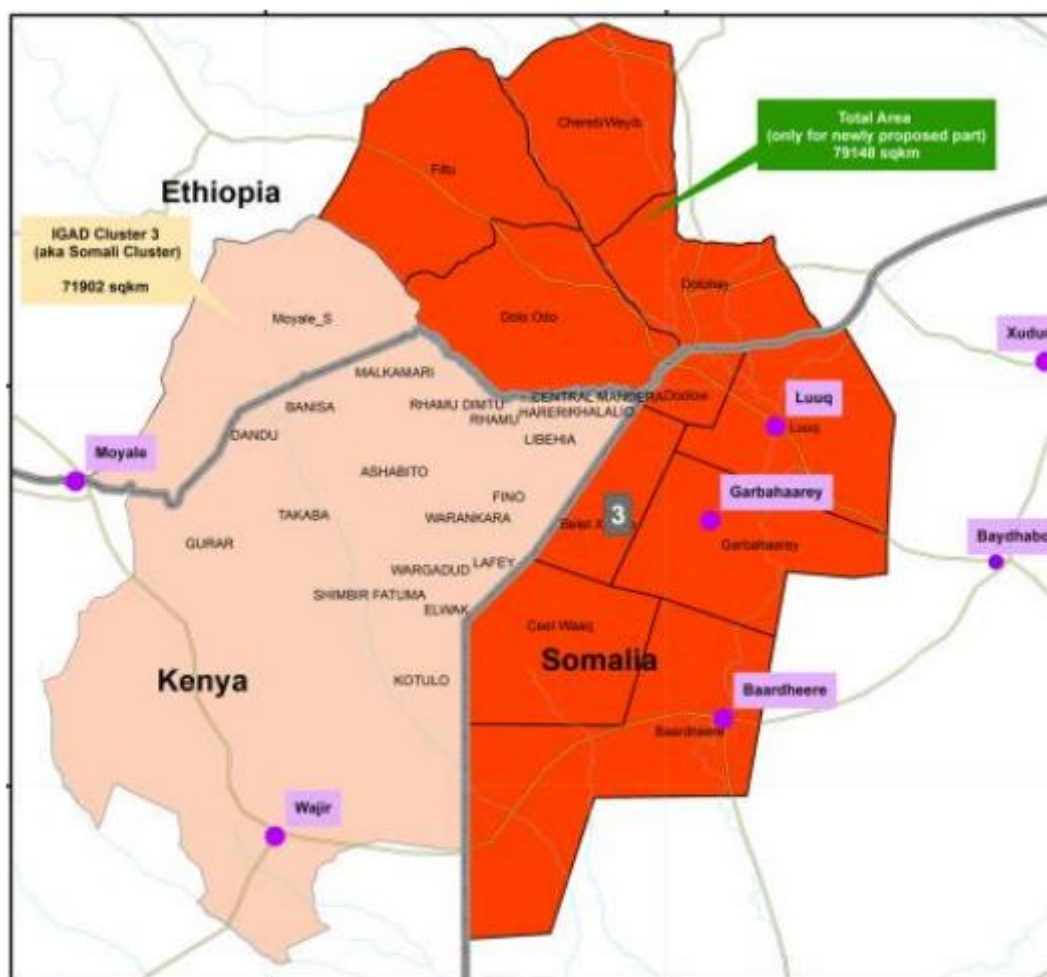
ACTIVITY	Mar 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	July 2024	Aug 2024
Writing of Chap. 1 Introduction								
Writing of Chap.2 Literature								
Writing of Chap 3 Data Collection								
Research Proposal Submission								
Administration of data collection tools								
Discussion of Chap. 4 results								
Writing of Chap. 5								
Submission of the final thesis								

Source: Author (2023)

APPENDIX VII BUDGET

	ACTIVITY	AMOUNT(KSH)
I	Questionnaires	3000.00
	Stationery	3500.00
	Traveling Expenses	10000.00
II	Subsistence Allowances	3500.00
	Computer time/internet	9000.00
	Printing/Binding	6450.00
III	Consultation	40,000.00
	Data Collection	30,000.00
	Overhead Expenses	6000.00
	10% contingency	10,100
	TOTAL	101,500/=

APPENDIX VIII: APPENDIX VI: MAP OF STUDY AREA



Map of the cluster area

Source: Manderla tri-border region EUTF, (2016)