ABSTRACT

The growing issue of refugees across Africa has caught the world's attention with Kenya being one of the leading countries hosting the refugees. This research project seeks to determine whether the refugees have an impact to the Kenyan economy. The study employed a time series methodology with Kenya's total population and the total number of refugees as the independent variables and the country's GDP as the dependent variable which was fitted in a time series regression model. The study period was between 1990 and 2017.Stata statistical software was used to analyse the data where descriptive analysis, trend analysis as well as inferential analysis was applied to establish the relationship between the variables. Based on the findings the study concluded that refugees had a negative economic impact while the population had a positive one hence an increase in number of refugees led to decrease in GDP. The study gave recommendations which included coming up with strategies aimed at minimizing refugees number as well as coming up with well-planned population growth strategies to utilize the ever-growing population in enhancing GDP growth.