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2.1 University European Union Good Governance Efforts in East Africa

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the European Union's initiatives to promote good governance in East Africa, with a focus on institutional reforms, the rule of law, anti-corruption, and local governance strengthening. A qualitative methodology incorporating document analysis and case studies from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Somalia, and Rwanda is employed. Data from EU reports, government publications, and scholarly articles are analyzed to evaluate the impact of EU programs. Findings indicate that EU support has led to measurable improvements in local governance capacities, transparency, and public service delivery across the region. However, persistent challenges—including political instability, entrenched corruption, and limited civic space—continue to undermine the effectiveness and sustainability of these governance initiatives. The study concludes that while the EU has made significant and meaningful contributions, achieving lasting good governance requires continuous, adaptive engagement and strategies that more deeply involve and strengthen civil society while promoting genuinely inclusive governance processes tailored to local contexts.

Keywords: European union; Good governance; East Africa; Institutional reform; Anti- corruption

