

ABSTRACT

The study was undertaken to assess the effects of wildlife poaching on economic development in Tanzania. The overall objective of this study was assessing the effects of wildlife poaching on economic development in Tanzania. Specifically, the study intended to analyze the impacts of wildlife depletion to the economic development, to examine environmental impacts of wildlife poaching to the economic development in Tanzania, Serengeti District Municipal, in Mara region as a case study and lastly, examine ecological impacts of wildlife depletion to the economic development in Tanzania. Both primary data and secondary data was collected, whereby primary data was collected through Focus Group Discussion, Interview and open ended questions from 35 people selected purposively from civilians, village executive officers, Government and Non-Governmental institutions concerning wildlife and environment in Serengeti district council . Secondary data was collected through documentary review including books, journals, government's reports and newspapers. Qualitative research approach was used, whereby data analysis was done by using content analysis. The study revealed that wildlife poaching affect the environment, has ecological impacts to the ecosystem and lead to depletion of wildlife. Decrease in number of animals within Serengeti National Park leads to decrease of tourist and affect the economic development of the nation. Also civilians are affected individual because what there are doing is illegal, thus cause wastage of time and endanger there safety. The study recommend that anti-poaching should be conducted so as to reduce the risk and effects of wildlife poaching. Also recommended to involve the community and make them part of the planning so as to eliminate Wildlife poaching within Serengeti District Council.

