

THE INFLUENCE OF AVAILABILITY OF CLEAN WATER ON LEARNER'S PERFORMANCE IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN MWINGI CENTRAL DISTRICT, KITUI COUNTY

Degree Programme: [MASTER OF ARTS IN PROJECT PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT](#) [1]

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The purpose of the study was to investigate the influence of availability of clean water on the learner's performance in primary schools in Mwingi Central District, Kitui County. The main objectives of the study addressed sources of clean water, the cost of clean water, the distances between the sources of clean water and the learners all geared towards better performance. Data was collected from a total two hundred respondents, from twenty primary schools, selected randomly from Mwingi Central District. Questionnaires were administered to the respondents and the data collected was analyzed and tabulated by using descriptive statistics like simple tables, frequencies and percentages.

The finding of the study would be an eye opener to all the stakeholders so as to find long term solutions to the water shortage in primary school in Mwingi Central District. The results of the study would also be used by stakeholders to formulate policies that would be used to safeguard sanitation and accessibility to safe water in primary schools. The study revealed unavailability of clean water in Mwingi Central District influence the learners' performance in primary schools. Therefore, the study recommends that; all the educational stakeholders in Mwingi Central District should come together to marshal resources so as to bring water resources closer to the communities. This will save the time wasted in collection of water and the long distance walked in search of water. It would avail security to both girls and mothers who have to walk during the early morning hours in search of water. This would avail time for learners to attend schooling regularly and improve performance. It would also allow mothers sufficient time to cook and care for the children which in turn helps in the development of better cognitive function which provides a better basis for improved performance.

The government should subsidise the water cost so that the communities using the water may afford to pay for it. More boreholes, water tanks, earth dams and subsurface dams should be constructed in the area to provide more water sources. The community should be taught how to treat this water so that it may be safe for use.

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Project Supervisor: DR. ANGELINE MULWA

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