

# **A study of primary teachers' attitudes towards environmental education in some schools in Bureti division Kericho district**

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## **Abstract:**

The objective of the study was to find out attitudes held by Primary Teachers in Bureti Division towards environmental education. The study also aimed at finding out the following:- i) Primary school teachers awareness on environmental issues. ii) The opinions of primary school teachers on the introduction of environmental education as a separate subject. iii) The problems encountered by teachers when teaching environmental education topics. iv) The extent to which environmental education has been incorporated in the various subjects. The study was carried out in eight schools in Bureti Division in Kericho District. The schools are Kaplong Girls Primary, Tengecha Boarding Primary, Kimawit, Kaptele, Kapkisiara, Chemoiben, Chesilyot, and Kapkatet. Forty teachers were used for the study. There were thirty-one male teachers and nine female teachers. Instrument One instrument was used to collect the information. This was a questionnaire, which consisted of three sections. The forty teachers teaching science, agriculture and geography completed the questionnaires. Findings This study found out that: i) 100 of the primary school teachers used for the study have positive attitudes towards environmental education. ii) 92.5 of the teachers felt that environmental education should be taught at all levels of education in Kenya. iii) 62.5 of the teachers felt that the objectives of environmental education in their various subjects were well stated but it requires sound participation both by the teachers and pupils for these objectives to be achieved. iv) Majority of the teachers was aware of the major environmental issues. v) There are various problems encountered by the teachers during the teaching and learning of environmental education topics. On the basis of the finding, the following recommendations were made by the researcher. - Environmental officers should regularly organize seminars and workshops so as to sensitize the teachers and pupils on major environmental issues. - Teachers and pupils should participate fully in solving environmental problems. - The Ministry of Education should develop materials for the teaching and learning of environmental education. -There should be more stress on the objectives of environmental education in primary teachers colleges for the trainees to develop the correct attitudes. - There should be frequent and proper in-service courses for teachers in the field to enlighten them on the major environmental issues.

Description: The GF 28.C48