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COMMUNITY ADAPTATION TO DIMINISHING WOOD FUEL RESOURCES IN CHEMA SUBCOUNTY, KAPCHORWA DISTRICT, UGANDA.

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ABSTRACT

The study was carried out to assess community adaptation to diminishing wood fuel resources in Chema Subcounty; the research was carried out with aim of assessing Community adaptation to diminishing wood fuel resources in Chema Subcounty, Kapchorwa District, Uganda. The study used questionnaires, interview schedule and observation in data collection. A total sample of 229 respondents was used in this study that included household heads who are key informant and community conservation warden, conservation area manager and resources use committee as general interview respondent. Systematic and purposive sampling techniques were used. Analysis of the data was done by use of correlation coefficient and ANOVA while result was presented by use of percentages, pie chart. The findings disagree with those finding of Karanja (1999) where by age had a significant correlation with low adoption of energy saving stove There is also a strong correlation between the distance walked to the collecting point and time spent on gathering of the wood fuels ($r = 0.507$, $n = 169$ and $p = 0.00$). When analysis of variance was done the F statistics was found to be 9.114 with a significance value of less than 0.05 (Appendix 4.1). These results indicate that the overall model was statistically significant ($F = 9.114$, $p = 0.000$). Majority of the respondents (84.6%) obtains their wood fuel from protected forest; Majority of the respondents 51.5% did not respond to the question concerning alternative energy sources used for cooking in their homes and majority of respondents (58.6%) are willing to shift to alternative energy sources while (41.4%) are not. The level of awareness on drastic changes was found to be high (90%). There is need for various stakeholders to distribute of quality charcoal stoves at an affordable price as well as intensifying promotion especially in the rural areas where majority of the people depend on firewood as their main source of fuel. There is also need to invest in the development and promotion of other renewable energy technologies such as biogas and solar energy whose uptake was negligible in the st