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ASSESSMENT OF THE INVOLVEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROGRAMS IN PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN KAJIADO COUNTY, KENYA

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ABSTRACT

A recent Baseline Survey (2010) of the 22nd UNICEF WASH Programme districts found that overall, a third of schools have safe water sources in their compounds and have child friendly latrines. Although most of the schools had separate latrines for either gender, a majority of them did not meet the country standards regarding the number of latrines for girls and boys. This raises questions about the implementation of WASH programmes in public schools. Thus, the main purpose of this study was to assess the implementation of Sanitation and Hygiene programmes among public primary schools in Kajiado County. The specific objectives were: to examine the roles of various stake holders in the implementation of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programmes; to assess the nature of challenges facing the implementation of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programmes; and to suggest appropriate strategies that would reduce the inefficiency of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programmes among Public Primary Schools in Kajiado County. This study adopted descriptive research design. The target population was the 74 public primary school within Kajiado County. The researcher administered questionnaires to a total of 40 respondents. Purposive sampling was used to come up with a representative sample size. Secondary data was gathered from various authoritative sources including books, published articles, and on-line journals. Data was collected through questionnaires and then edited, classified, coded and tabulated in a systematic manner to allow for accurate analysis. Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used to generate results. The results were then presented in the form of summarized tables with percentage scores, statistical means and graphs. In the end, the study expects to find out whether or not there is a connection between effective utilization of resources, community participation; and water availability and utilization and implementation of Sanitation and Hygiene programmes among public primary schools in Kajiado County. From the results, most of the respondents disagreed with the statements that the schools have put in place a scheduling control system in the implementation of WASH programmes-72%; the schools conduct adequate monitoring and evaluation on implementation of WASH programmes-66%; the school has a competent manager handling implementation of WASH programmes-56%; the school management has made the philosophy of implementation of WASH programmes known-57% and that the schools have allocated sufficient resources towards implementation of WASH programmes at 57%. From the findings of the study, it can be concluded that most schools; have not put in place a scheduling control system in implementation of WASH programmes; do not conduct adequate monitoring and evaluation on implementation of WASH programmes; lack competent managers handling implementation of WASH programmes; have not made the philosophy of implementation of WASH programmes known; and have not allocated sufficient resources towards implementation of WASH programmes. The researcher suggests that a study should be conducted on the strategies being employed by school administrators to cope with the challenges faced in the implementation of sanitation and hygiene programmes.