

**IMPACT OF DROUGHT ON PRIMARY SCHOOLS LEARNING IN  
KAJIADO NORTH SUB-COUNTY OF KAJIADO COUNTY, KENYA**

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## ABSTRACT

Kajiado North sub-county receives between 500 mm and 950mm of rainfall annually. It is therefore, classified as a semi arid region with harsh and fragile environment. The low and erratic rainfalls govern vegetation dynamics, animals" survival and the general human welfare. Frequent drought as a result of climate change has exacerbated and compounded the problem of provision of quality basic education in the sub-county. This study was conducted to investigate drought prevalence and the impact it has on the learning of pupils in the sub-county. The study was carried out between August to December 2015 in two different agro ecological zones; high agricultural potential area in Kiserian and the Ngong Hills as well as dry zones of Ewuaso and Mosiro in the north and southern parts of the sub-county respectively. Primary data collection was through the use of questionnaires and informal discussions with community members as well as education officers. Questionnaires were administered to both teachers and classes seven and eight pupils in twenty four out of the seventy two public primary schools in the sub-county. Visits to the pastureland where school going children were looking after animals during school days, and interaction with communities in the sub-county also forms part of the study. Rainfall and temperature data from meteorological department was used to reinforce schools attendance data. Indigenous knowledge from the elders of the communities and secondary data was used to corroborate the findings. The secondary data sources included review of published reports, journals, internet and books to identify existing information on the effects of drought on learning. The collected data was analyzed using descriptive qualitative and quantitative statistics such as percentages and frequencies. The results were processed; tabulated and analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) Version 11(Students" version) to generate descriptive statistics.