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Sub-themes:
- Enhancing quality in education
- Educational reforms and governance
- Research, innovation and knowledge transfer in education
- Application of ICT in education
- Resource mobilization and utilization in education
Influence of Education on Income among Fishermen of Lake Victoria Landing Beaches in Rachuonyo District, Kenya

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Abstract

It has long been recognized that an increase in level of education yields additional earnings for workers. This is quite clear among formal sector workers in urban areas. However, among the fishermen of Lake Victoria, a predominantly rural-based informal economic sector, explanation for a wide range of income inequalities is less obvious. Children of the fishermen do not go to school and the sector is dominated by people who do not exhibit qualities of educated men and women. The question to answer then is: Does education make a difference in income accruing to fishermen? Specific objectives included, among others: to determine effect of education on income among fishermen. We hypothesized that there is no significant relationship between level of education and income. Empirical data from interviews with 50 fishermen randomly selected from 10 landing beaches in Rachuonyo in present day Homa Bay County were used. The sample was drawn from a population of 3690 fishermen scattered in 39 landing beaches. Primary data generated from interviews were subjected to descriptive statistical analysis, multiple regression and correlation analysis. Results showed that the correlation coefficient for years of schooling was 0.028 which was significant (P=0.423) confidence levels in a one tailed test indicating a very weak positive relationship between years of schooling and income accruing from sales of fish. We concluded that Kenya's system of education does not enhance exploitation of fisheries and recommended curriculum review with a view to incorporating suitable skills and attitudes.

Key words: Education; income; fishermen; Lake Victoria; landing; beaches; Kenya