

**ADAPTATION STRATEGIES AGAINST IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE BY
SENGWER INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF KAPCHEROP THROUGH
DOMESTIC GRAVITY WATER SUPPLY AND BEE KEEPING
COMMERCIALIZATION**

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ABSTRACT

This research is an assessment on the benefit of installation of gravity fed domestic water system and commercialization of customary (indigenous) honey gathering practices by the Sengwer Indigenous People of Kapcherop in Elgeyo Marakwet County of the Republic of Kenya in response to climate change impacts. Sengwer Indigenous People of Kapcherop live in the foot of Cheranganyi Hills in Elgeyo Marakwet County around their town; Kapcherop which is sandwiched by forest cover. They are one of the minority tribes in the 42 tribes in Kenya being listed along the likes of Dorobo, Ogiek and El Molo because of their attachment to forest environment where they hunt and gather honey. This town is about 420 km by road and lies to the West of Nairobi through Eldoret - Kitale and Cheranganyi towns.

The gravity fed water system and bee keeping projects are inter-linked climate change impact adaptation projects targeting this rural community. The overall study objective was to map out the feedback from the beneficiaries through determination of variability and trend of climatic parameters over the study area, seeking to understand effect of climate change on availability of domestic water, recording of the benefits of gravity water project at household level and measure /project the profitability and sustainability of bee keeping .The research questions that guided the study sought to explain the nature of climate variability ,extent of climate change impact on socio-economic lifestyle of the people, benefits of green technology and enhancement of environmental conservation mechanism using the two coupled climate change impact adaptation strategies; gravity water project and commercialization of bee keeping practices.

The data sources were; primary, secondary and simulated. The primary source were the assessment report from questionnaires administered directly on the population, secondary source on the other hand were monthly mean rainfall and temperature records from two Kenya Meteorological Stations of Eldoret and Kitale assumed to represent the study area of Kapcherop. Finally the simulated data were computations for a theoretical consideration of diesel fuel consumption for a pumped water project scheme as an alternative to gravity fed system.