



Water Sanitation Technologies Adoption Among Maasai Herders in Tanzania: A Qualitative Evaluation Study

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Abstract

Water sanitation technologies (WSTs) have been introduced to improve hygiene practices among pastoral communities in Tanzania. A qualitative study employing semi-structured interviews was conducted over two years, focusing on perceptions and experiences of WSTs among Maasai herders in Tanzania. Interview data revealed that while some Maasai herders adopted pit latrines, others preferred improved water sources for hygiene purposes due to cultural practices and proximity to watering points. Economic constraints were a significant barrier to adoption. The study underscores the need for culturally sensitive interventions when promoting WSTs in pastoral communities. Policy makers should consider integrating socio-cultural factors into their sanitation programmes targeting Maasai herders.

Keywords: *African geography, pastoralism, qualitative methodology, herding practices, hygiene promotion, indigenous knowledge, sustainability assessment*

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