

# **Relationship Between Gender and the use of Indigenous Knowledge Systems In Conservation Of Nuu Hill Forest**

Wanjiru, B N<sup>1</sup>, Koech, M<sup>1</sup> and Muthiani, N<sup>1</sup>

Kenyatta university, Department of Environmental Education

## **ABSTRACT**

This research was conducted to investigate the value, importance and attention given to the basic role of indigenous knowledge systems being practiced by the Nuu community in Nuu ward in Mwingi East Constituency in Kitui County, Kenya to conserve Nuu forest and how different forms of indigenous knowledge systems can be employed to maximize sustainable use of forests goods and services. The relationship between the use of indigenous knowledge systems and gender was investigated. Goods and services produced from forests drive rural communities as well as Kenya's economic growth and development for sustainable livelihoods. A survey research design in which convergent parallel mixed methods approach was used to collect the required data. A further, descriptive and exploratory research as well as semi-structured interviews was used in gathering of the data. Nuu community was the target population in which a total sample size of thirty respondents was sampled out through snowball sampling technique. Instrumentations of data collection was be done through qualitative in-depth interviews and quantitatively through a questionnaire. The study established that there is a high co relationship between gender and the conservation indigenous knowledge systems in conservation of the Nuu Forest.

**Keywords:** Indigenous Knowledge, Gender, Conservation