

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

**EFFECTIVENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND
AWARENESS ON BIOVERSITY CONSERVATION IN KANA WARD,
LUPANE DISTRICT**

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Abstract

This study examines some real situations where causes of biodiversity loss are explained by an interaction of a variety of socio-economic forces and, what turns out to be, poor decision-making and policy choices for a range of ecosystem contexts. By concentrating on ecosystems found in Kana Ward, Lupane, Zimbabwe, the focus in this study is on real examples and giving perspective to the substantial literature and on-going research on biodiversity loss taking place at the moment. It tries to establish whether it has had any transformative impact on the behaviour of community in the A1 and A2 resettlement farms, who were subjected to a variety of field workers who work with the environment in one way or another. This study is an assessment of their everyday actions on the effects of the land they work, walk, live and sleep on daily. The study interacted with household, field workers, A2 farmers and teachers and students at a secondary school. Change of environmental behaviour in the community through government departments and NGOs conducting environmental education in the study area was not effective. There was continued destruction of the biodiversity. 55 households and 11 field workers participated using slightly different questionnaires. In addition, traditional leaders, A2 farmers, teachers and their student were subjected to focus group discussions.

Field workers from government and NGOs working in the Ward do interact with the community through EE in various aspects of the environment. Therefore, in order to achieve the acceptable level of environmental sustainability, the citizens must be empowered with essential knowledge and information especially in resettlement areas. Conventional educational methods are no longer adequate for the real needs of tomorrow. Therefore, participatory methods enhance the community with low level of education. However, the study noted that EE failed to induce a transformative behaviour in the community of Kana Ward.