

**WORRYING DELUGE: INFLUENCE ON HOUSEHOLD'S WELLBEING AND  
ACCESS TO EDUCATION IN LOWER NYANDO BASIN, KISUMU COUNTY,  
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**ABSTRACT**

Floods affect households each year in Lower Nyando basin and have significant detrimental impacts on the people. Immediate impacts include loss of human life, damage to property, destruction of crops, non-functioning infrastructure and deterioration of health conditions. This study examines the impacts of floods on Education, sanitation conditions along with flood induced health problems. The study targeted 384 heads of households, Govt. officials, heads of NGOs, FBOs, as well as CBOs. The research adopted the cross-sectional research design. Simple random technique was used to select the household heads who were the main respondents from three locations vulnerable to flooding namely Wawidhi, Kakola and Ombeyi. Questionnaires, interviews, FGDs; direct observation and document analysis enriched this study. Descriptive statistics were used in data analysis. The investigation revealed that floods cause loss of learning hours, poor academic performance, high pupil absentees, poor syllabus coverage, and a high turnover of teachers. Physical health impacts of floods revealed include overwhelming psycho-social effects, water-borne and respiratory illnesses. Sanitation facilities became unusable during and after floods. The study recommends provision of learning facilities in relocation camps in order to ensure learning is not disrupted as well as enforcement of building codes during construction of school infrastructure. Flood warnings and insurance can also help to mitigate flood impacts. The study concludes that, both government and households recognize the seriousness of the flooding problem and realize the need to mitigate its impact.

**Keywords:** Floods, Households, Impacts, Nyando basin, Education, Health.