

Analysis of the Factors influencing Choice of Cooking Fuel Energy among Households in Uasin Gishu County

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Abstract

Cooking fuel is a vital household requirement in each and every household. The right choice of cooking fuel is one of the major problems faced by household. This study analyzed the factors influencing choice of cooking fuel in Uasin Gishu County. The target population was 500 households. A sample size of 100 was used. The study employed multinomial logit model. The factors examined were categorized into economic and social factors. Data was analyzed using Statistical Packages for Social Science (SPSS). The results showed that respondent characteristics such as education level (0.011), lighting (0.017), Amount the consumer is willing to add to change fuel type (0.008), were significant in the household decision to use kerosene. Biogas was significantly determined by Education level (0.002), Prices (0.014) and fuel used for lighting (0.002). Age (0.020), Access to fuel type (0.016) were significant determinants of firewood as cooking fuel choice. Choice of charcoal by the household was determined by Household size (0.013). Choice of wood fuel was determined by age of the household head and the ease of access. Choice of kerosene and biogas were determined by age and education level of the household head. Amount consumers were willing to pay more was another determinant in choosing kerosene as the main cooking fuel. LPG was the most used fuel type. The study recommended that households should be educated on the benefits of using safe and environmentally friendly cooking fuel types. The government through the energy regulation commission should help reduce the price of cooking fuel types.