FUELWOOD CONSUMPTION PATTERN AROUND SUPPORT ZONE COMMUNITIES OF OLD OYO NATIONAL PARK, OYO STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the socio-economic factors that affect fuelwood consumption pattern in 5 villages within the support zone communities of Old Oyo National Park. The socio-economic aspects of fuelwood consumption pattern within the support zones of the national park was studied with the specific objective of providing information that is useful in designing conservation initiatives to mitigate the level of consumption around the National Park.

Consumption pattern is studied both at the level of the household as well as at the level of the village by means of household questionnaire surveys. 200 questionnaire was administered. The result shows that female are the highest consumer of fuelwood (60.50%) and their family size ranges from 4 – 6 members per household. Also, 44.20% of the respondents had no formal education. The result showed that fuelwood is mostly used for cooking and domestic purposes.

Further more, 69.80% of the consumers gathers fuelwood from the forest, villages closer to the forest have a greater proportion of households dependence on the forests as a source of fuelwood. This shows that the use of fuelwood from forest is influenced by the location of a village. Some of the trees commonly used include *Prosopis Africana, Azadiranchta indica, Tectona grandis, Gmelina arborea, Adansonia digitata* etc.