

Chapter-4

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Unintended Consequences of Coronavirus on Education Participation in Budalangi Sub-County of Busia, Kenya

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Abstract

This study examined the unintended consequences of coronavirus disease on education participation among learners in the Budalangi region in Kenya. Budalangi region is prone to floods. This study surveyed the influence of child labor on learner participation. Most of the learners could not access learning materials through the internet as their parents could not afford to sponsor their children to study due to the financial crisis and the stressful situation they faced while living at the camps. Notably, most of the students living at the camps accompanied their parents in manual activities to earn a living, including; working in rice fields, sand harvesting, and fishing along River Nzoia and Lake Victoria beaches. The study also established the effects of teenage pregnancies and early marriages on learner participation. All these engagements discouraged them from studying. Hence, the problem is manifested in low return rates and participation in education. This is due to weak social and economic relationships in the community setup. This conforms to the UNICEF Executive Director's remarks on the impact of COVID-19 on education participation. He reiterated that COVID-19 had negatively influenced school attendance.

Keywords: disaster, e-Learning, floods, participation
