

Factors influencing urban households' access to domestic water supply services in Tanzania: a case study of musoma municipality

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The study aimed at examining the factors influencing urban households' access to domestic water supply services in Musoma Municipality, Mara region, Tanzania. The special attention was paid to the factors that contribute to the differences in urban households' access to domestic water supply services. Also the study focused on the households' access to domestic water supply services by different income groups as well as households' strategies for coping with domestic water shortages. The study involved 150 heads of households from three selected wards who provided their opinions on the study topic. Both qualitative and quantitative methods were employed in data collection. Combination of both methods ensured methodological triangulation so as to maximize the quality of data collected. The study found out that urban households' access to domestic water supply have been greatly influenced by poverty among urban dwellers, water supply infrastructure, water supply management, water pricing, distance to sources of domestic water, rapid population growth, and inadequate of domestic water storage facilities at households level. This entails that a variety of strategies have to be deployed to improve water supply in these areas. This may be done by regularly checking of the distribution lines, establishment and rehabilitation of the existing water Kiosks and it is also suggested that besides the government, other private sectors and authorities should be encouraged to invest on the water sector.