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ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR IMPROVING THE MONTHLY SANITATION EXERCISE IN KANO METROPOLIS

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Abstract

The Paper discusses some observable environmental problems resulting from man's continuous interaction with the environment in kano metropolis. It was found necessary to use environmental education as an instrument to educate the people for better improvement of the monthly environmental sanitation exercise in the state. The monthly environmental sanitation exercise is carried out in the state at the end of every month in the last Saturday of the month. The exercise usually last for 3 hours starting from 7:00a.m to 10:00am with the hope of cleaning and keeping the environment tidy. Field observation and questionnaire were used to generate data for the study. The simple random sampling technique was used to select samples needed for the study. Tables and percentages were used to analyze the date. The study found that many people in the city usually seat at their homes within the said hours without cleaning or doing anything during the exercise. It was also found that the exercise is not properly monitored or supervised in the metropolis, except in some major roads and high ways leading to the city. The study recommends that environmental education is an important instrument that can be used to improve the monthly sanitation exercise in the metropolis. Social media and GSM text messages

can equally be used to disseminate information to the general public on the exercise for effective participation in the city. Civildefense, Kano Road Traffic Agency (karota) and Kano state Hisbah Board (Hisba) personals should be involved in the exercise for more proper participation and effectiveness.

Keywords

Environmental Education, Improving, Monthly, Sanitation, Kano Metropolis

1. Introduction

The 1972 Stockholm Conference, on human environment, among other things gave rise to the ideas on Global Environmental Education and its associated concepts and issues. This was due to the fact that natural resources and the entire earth are deteriorating. This calls for the need for education as a necessary avenue for creating awareness for better environmental management. In pursuing this goal, therefore, the International Environment Education Programme (IEEP) was created. Three years later at the Belgrade Charter (1975), a request was put forward that each country should formulate an appropriate Environment Education Programme in order to promote environmental quality.

The United Nation designated June 5 every year as World Environmental Day (WED) to provide opportunity to broaden the basis for enlightened opinion and responsible conduct by individuals, enterprises and communities in preserving and enhancing the environment (chidimma, 2019)

The Geographical Association's Environmental Education Working Group (1980), defined Environmental Education as a multitude of processes and activities by which an understanding of environment is developed and through which caring and committed responses are evolved. It is concerned with knowledge, emotions, feelings, attitudes and values.... Its aim is to produce informed and responsible citizens capable of playing an active role in which we all live, (Ahmad, 2002). According to UNESCO, environmental education is a way of implementing the goals of environmental protection. It is not a separate branch of science but lifelong interdisciplinary field of study. It means education towards protection and enhancement of the environment, and education as an instrument of development for improving the quality of life of human communities. www.yourarticlelibrary.com>environment-17/1/19

For the last three years, cases of mosquitoes and malaria fever are on the increase on daily basis in Kano city especially during the rainy season (Field observation, 2018). This is as a result of poor environmental sanitation which results to transmission of many infections diseases such as cholera, typhoid, polio, and malaria fever. This call for the need of the environment to be properly taken care of in the city using environmental education programme to improve the monthly sanitation exercise in the city.

Monthly is pertaining to a month, or to each month. Monthly usually refers to the scheduling of something every month. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org-12/1/19> Sanitation is the conditions relating to public health, especially the provision of clean drinking water and adequate sewage disposal. It is the process of keeping places clean and healthy, especially by providing a sewage system and a clean water supply.

<https://www.collinsdictionary.com>12/1/19> The monthly environmental sanitation is an exercise that is usually undertaken at the end of every month in Kano state, in the last Saturday of the month to keep the environment clean and healthy.

2. Aim

The aim of this study is to assess the monthly environmental sanitation exercise in Kano state with a view to identifying areas that may need policy intervention.

2.1 The Specific Objectives of the Study are

- i. To examine the effectiveness of the monthly sanitation exercise in the state.
- ii. To assess the compliance and participating of the General Public in the sanitation exercise in the city
- iii. Identify appropriate policy intervention needs for the exercise across the state.

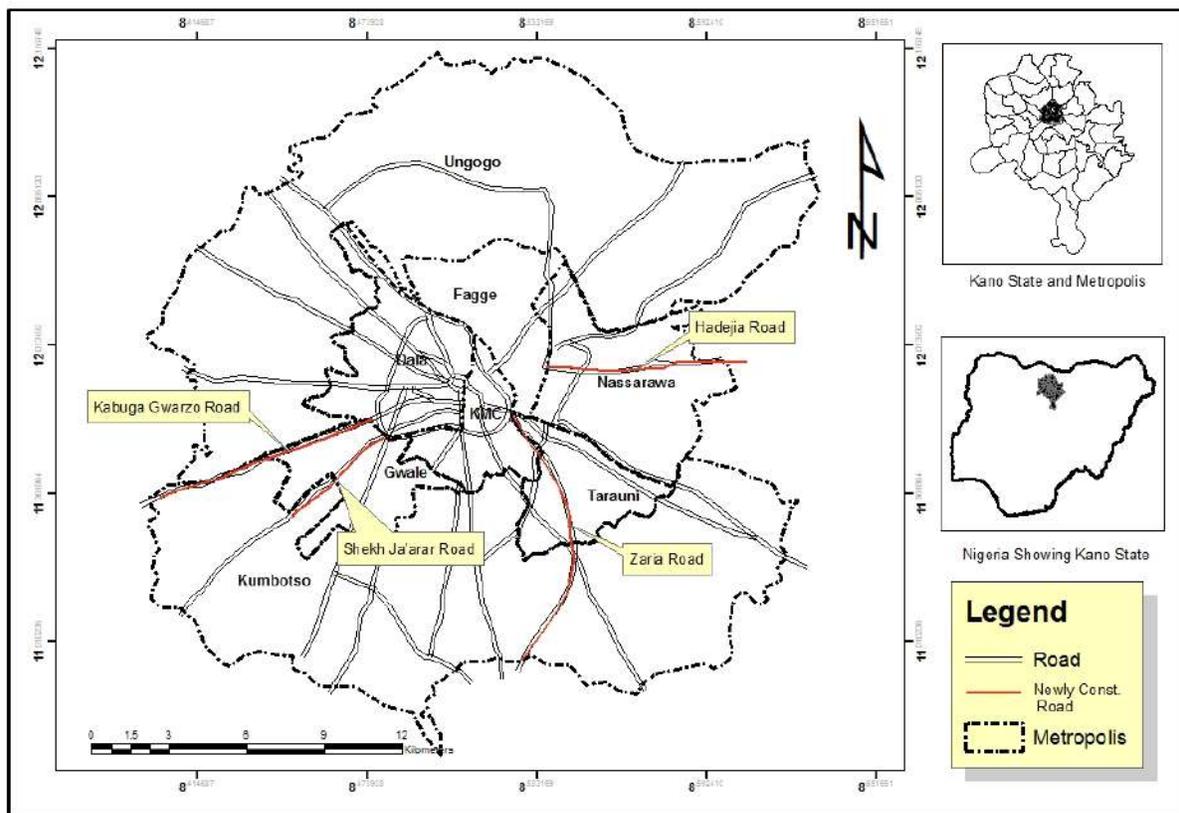
3. The Study Area

Kano metropolis is the capital of Kano state, and it lies on latitude 12⁰03¹N and longitude 8⁰32¹E. The largest city in the savanna belt of West Africa and the third largest city after Lagos and Ibadan in Nigeria. The metropolis comprises of eight (8) local government councils, namely, Dala, Gwale, Fagge, Nassarawa, Tarauni, Kano Municipal, Ungogo and Kumbotso (Figure 1). The Metropolis has a population of 2,828,861 (Table 1).

Table 1: The Population of Local Govt. Areas in Kano Metropolis

Local Government Areas	Male	Female	Total
Gwale	204,618	157,441	362,059
Dala	231,190	187,587	418,777
Fagge	107,889	90,939	198,828
Nassarawa	318,712	277,957	596,669
Kano Municipal	198,794	166,731	365,525
Tarauni	111,688	109,679	221,367
Ungogo	193,433	176,224	369,657
Kumbotso	149,447	146,532	295,979
Total	1,515,771	1,313,090	2,828,861

NPC, 2006 & Adamu, 2013



Sources: Drawn at the Dept. of Geography BUK (2013)

Figure 1: Map of Kano Metropolis Showing the Location of Kano Urban Area

4. Methods and Materials

The study was carried out in two stages. The First was the use of field observation method to observe the sanitation exercise in the eight (8) Local Government areas that constitute urban kano. The second stage was the use of structured questionnaire to a sample of the population in order to determine the opinion and views on the sanitation exercise in the metropolis. The simple random sampling techniques was used to select one hundred (100) participants from each of the eight local Government areas of the metropolis as shown in table 2. This gives a total of eight hundred (800) participants sampled for the study. The Questionnaire were administered to each local Government per month, starting from may 2018 to December, 2018. The Questionnaire were administered to diffident ward areas with the help of research assistants. Ten student research assistants were employed for the exercise in each Local Government during the sanitation period. The Data collected were presented and analyzed using cross tabulation and percentages.

Table 2: *Sample Size*

S/N	Name of Local Government Area	Number of Questionnaire Distributed	Number of Questionnaire returned
1	Gwale	100	98
2	Dala	100	91
3	Fagge	100	95
4	Nassarawa	100	90
5	Kano Municipal	100	95
6	Tarauni	100	94
7	Ungogo	100	92
8	Kumbotso	100	93
TOTAL		800748	

Fieldwork, 2018

5. Results and Findings

The analysis of the study is based on the data collected by the researcher and research assistants.

Table 3: *Observation of the Monthly Sanitation Exercise in Kano Metropolis*

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Observation of the monthly sanitation exercise	748	100
Do not observe the monthly sanitation exercise	0	0
Total	748	100

Fieldwork / Observation, 2018

From the table 3 it is clear that everybody observed the monthly sanitation exercise in the metropolis (100%). Observation of the exercise does not mean participation in the exercise.

Table 4: *The Importance of the Monthly Sanitation Exercise in the Metropolis*

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Clean the environment and Houses	741	99.1
To Rest and sleep at Home	0	0
None of the above	7	0.9
Total	748	100

Fieldwork, 2018

Most of the people in the metropolis are aware of the important of the monthly environmental sanitation in the state. (Table 4)The excess of the exercise is to keep the environment clean, tidy and healthy (99.1%).

Table 5: *Level of Peoples' Participation in the Monthly Sanitation Exercise*

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Participate activity in the exercise for cleaning Houses and premises	328	43.9
Do not participate activity in the exercise	420	56.1
Total	748	100

Fieldwork, 2018

From table 5, it is very clear that many people in the metropolis do not participate activity in the sanitation exercise between 7:00a.m to 10:00am, (56.1%). This means that most of the people seat at home between 7:00am and 10:00a.m during the period/hours of the exercise without doing anything. Only (43.9%) of the people participates activity in the exercise.

Table 6: *Supervision of the Sanitation Exercise in Various Places in the Study Area*

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
The monthly sanitation is Supervised by Government Officials in ward areas.	0	0
The exercise is supervised at major Roads	317	42.4
The exercise is not supervised by anybody anywhere	235	31.4
None of the above	196	26.2
Total	748	100

Fieldwork, 2018

Table 6 shows that the monthly sanitation exercise is not supervised by government officials at the ward areas level. The exercise is only supervised by police men in some major roads leading to the city (42.4%). Some people even claim that the sanitation exercise is not supervised by anybody at anywhere in the city and state (31.4%).

5.1 Discussion

The Last Saturday of the month serves as the people’s day for doing something positive for the environment, galvanizing individuals actions into a collective power that generates an exponential positive impact on the planet. From the questionnaire and general discussion with the people in the city, it was suggested that environmental education should be used to educate the society to create more awareness to the people on the importance of the environmental sanitation exercise in the city (93.3%). This could be done through adult education programmes, Festival celebration such as Sallah, Wedding and Naming ceremonies, mosque, and Market places. It was also suggested that Mass and social media should be used to educate the people by sending text messages to mobile phones in the city (96.8%) Radio and television houses should also be used to disseminate information to the general public on the important and need of the

monthly sanitation exercise. Ward heads, karota, Hisba personnel should be used to supervise the exercise in the ward areas and quarters in addition to the police personnel (94.9%).

6. Conclusion

From the result of this research, it is clearly shown that the monthly sanitation exercise in kano metropolis is very important and useful to humanity. It is also clearly shown that the exercise is meant for the cleaning of the environment and keeping it healthy for living, but lack of proper supervision and lack of law enforcement agent results to low turnout of participants.

7. Recommendations

The following recommendations are made for the improvement of the monthly environmental sanitation exercise in the study area.

- i. Social media and GSM text messages should be used to disseminate information to the general public on the importance and need to participate in the exercise.
- ii. Ward head leaders, civil defence, karota, Hisba and police personels should be involved in the exercise for more proper participation and supervision in all areas of the exercise.
- iii. Defaulters should be fined by the government through the use of mobile court.

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