Assessment of Groundwater Quality Using Water Quality Index from Selected Springs in Manga Subcounty, Nyamira County, Kenya

Alice Makonjo Wekesa and Calford Otieno

Kisii University, Kisii, Kenya

Correspondence should be addressed to Alice Makonjo Wekesa; wekesa.alice2014@gmail.com

Received 4 October 2021; Revised 9 February 2022; Accepted 22 February 2022; Published 14 March 2022

Academic Editor: Núria Fontanals

We present the results of groundwater quality assessment that was done during the rainy season in November 2018 in the Manga region of Nyamira County, Kenya. Water samples were collected from three springs, Kiangoso, Kerongo, and Tetema, for the assessment. Water quality index was calculated based on pH, turbidity, nitrate, phosphate, calcium, magnesium, chloride, sulphates, fluoride, iron, total phosphorous, total hardness, total alkalinity, total dissolved solids, and total coliform. These fifteen parameters were analyzed and characterized according to standard methods and with reference to the World Health Organization and Kenya Bureau of Standards for physiochemical and bacteriological parameters which were then used in the calculation of water quality index. The water quality index was 21.32 for Kiangoso, 29.66 for Kerongo, and 25.64 for Tetema. The water quality index was found to be of excellent quality status at Kiangoso, while of good quality status at Kerongo and Tetema. The water quality index of Manga groundwater represented by the three springs therefore is less than 30 and can be used for drinking, irrigation, and industrial purpose. The present results are crucial for future management of groundwater in the Manga region.

1. Introduction

Water is essential for human survival hence termed as water is life [1, 2]. From the hydrological cycle, the availability of water both in the atmosphere, oceans, seas, lakes, and ground water forms a large percentage of the earth’s composition [3]. However, not all water available either in all fore mentioned places may be suitable for human consumption as well as human activities like irrigation of crops, fish farming, or even all agricultural activities in totality because of water pollution [4–6]. Across the world today, water pollution is a major cause of undesirable water quality. This may be due to contamination of the water bodies by either emission of acidic gases into the atmosphere or as the release of waste industrial products into water bodies [7–12]. The use of pesticides and agricultural fertilizers which are categorized as anthropogenic factors [13, 14] to boost the growth of plants may also result into pollution and contamination of ground water which has been widely used as the main source of freshwater. All the anthropogenic activities mentioned are a result of increase in population over years [2] and unpredictable climatic changes [15–17].

It is therefore necessary that water quality investigation or assessment can be done to find out whether the available water from the termed reliable sources is safe for drinking [18, 19] and other uses. Water quality index which was originally designed by Horton in 1965 [20] and Brown [21] and later advanced on [22–27] is therefore a crucial tool when water quality assessments are being done [28–30] by many researchers across the world [31–34]. This entails the use of various physical, chemical, and biological parameters that are characterized and compared to a standard regulatory value which is then quality rated to obtain a single quality indicator termed water quality index [35–37]. The single value is important to any manager who needs precise and concise information on water quality.
2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Study Area. The study was conducted in Manga area (Figure 1). The area is found in the Western Kenya at the border of Nyamira and Kisii counties. It is a source of not only perennial and seasonal springs but also streams, for example, Kiego, Nyabinyinya, Nyatieko, Kiangoso, and Getwanyansi, which serve the people in two counties. The area is also an agricultural zone with different agricultural activities and farming methods being practiced. The use of various pesticides and fertilizers is also being encouraged to boost the agricultural produce for the growing population as well as mitigation on unpredictable climatic changes.

Geologically, the area consists of granitic intrusions, conglomerates, and quartzite that vary in distribution across the area. For instance, SP1 which was Kiangoso spring is located in a rocky, quartzite region near the Manga ridge and seasonal in nature. SP2 which is Kerongo spring, which is located in a less rocky area, while SP3 is Tetema spring that is also perennial and located in a basalt zone. Kiangoso is located at 00°38′42.5″S and 034°48′45.0″E and an elevation of 1785 m. Kerongo is located at 00°39′03.7″S, 034°49′08.7″E and elevation of 1844 m, while Tetema is located at 00°39′08.4″S, 034°48′55.4″E and at an elevation of 1823 m. Furthermore, Tetema spring is 435 m east from Kerongo spring and 866 m north from Kiangoso spring.

This region is selected because it is the main source of water for domestic use by the residents who practice agriculture by using pesticides and fertilizers.

2.2. Sample Collection. The samples were collected between 1.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. (East African Standard Time) from three springs during the rainy season of November 2018. These springs were identified since they were points of discharge of groundwater in the area and also prime sources of water for domestic use. This was done by letting water to flow freely from the improved spring into the 1.0 litre capacity plastic bottle that had been washed with distilled water and rinsed twice with water from the respective sampling spring. The water filled bottle was then immediately labelled to avoid confusion.

2.3. Sample Analysis

2.3.1. On-Site Analysis. The on-site analysis was done using the Hanna combo HI98129 waterproof tester for non-conservative parameters that were of importance in the calculation of water quality index in the study. These included the pH and total dissolved solids (TDS). The turbidity was also determined in situ by the nephelometric method.

2.3.2. Laboratory Analysis. The samples were taken to the laboratory in Kisumu in which twelve parameters such as nitrates, phosphate, calcium, magnesium, chlorides, sulphates, fluorides, iron, total phosphorous, total hardness, total alkalinity, and total coliforms were characterized in accordance to the standard methods for physiochemical and bacteriological parameters as prescribed by APHA [38] which gives standard methods for examination of water and wastewater and with reference to the World Health Organization (WHO) standards [39] and Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) [40] standards. For instance, phosphate, nitrate, iron, fluorides, and total hardness were determined using the spectrophotometric method. The absorbance in the fluoride determination is being set at 570 nm. Magnesium, calcium, chloride, and sulphate were determined using the titration method.

2.4. Calculation of Water Quality Index. The water quality index calculation procedure was a modification of the previous procedures used by Bouslah et al. [2], Chatterji and Raziuddin [35], Brown et al. [36], Asadollahfardi [37], and Tripathy and Sahu [41] in their research studies. In this study, each parameter was assigned a unit weight (Wu) in the scale of 1–5, in which 1 represents the least health effect and 5 represents the adverse health effect the parameter causes when present in drinking water. This unit weight (Wu) of the parameter was then used to calculate the relative weight (Wr). This was done by finding the quotient of the specific unit parameter and the sum of unit weights as shown by the following equation:

\[
W_r = \frac{W_u}{\sum W_u}
\]  

(1)

The quality rating \(Q_r\) of each parameter was obtained using the following equation:

\[
Q_r = 100 \left( \frac{V_n - V_I}{V_s - V_I} \right)
\]  

(2)

where \(V_n\) is the observed value, \(V_I\) is the WHO/KEBS limit, and \(V_s\) is the ideal value.

For drinking water, the ideal value for the parameters used in this study is said to be zero except for pH which is 7.0 [2, 41].

The relative weight and respective quality rating of a parameter are multiplied to give the parameter subindex (PIs) value as shown in the following equation:

\[
PIs = W_r Q_r
\]  

(3)

The sum of parameter subindices gives the water quality index (WQI) as shown in the following equation:

\[
WQI = \sum PIs
\]  

(4)

The water quality index (WQI) was finally compared to the water quality status (WQS) as given in Table 1.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1. Physiochemical Parameters. The results of physical, chemical, and biological parameters assessed in the study and their respective recommended standards are given in Table 2.
From Table 2, it is clear that all parameters except pH are within the maximum acceptable limits required by the WHO and KEBS.

A descriptive statistical analysis obtained using Sigma Plot 12.5 version of groundwater parameters of the Manga region is as given in Table 3.

### 3.1.1. pH

The pH values obtained are 5.7, 5.1, and 5.4 for SP1, SP2, and SP3, respectively. These values are lower than the accepted values by either the WHO or KEBS. The lower values of pH were also obtained by Wanyoike et al. [42] in their research on the bubbling springs of Kilibwoni in Nandi County in Kenya. The values obtained from spring were 4.78 and 4.93 in rain season and dry season, respectively. Furthermore, all the pH values obtained in their study are considered acidic and attributed to geological underground activities. In the case of the Manga region, the pH is slightly acidic which in this case represents the oligotrophic nature of spring that is supported by very low levels of plant supporting parameters associated with agricultural fertilizers such as chloride, nitrate, sulphate, orthophosphate, and total phosphate.
3.1.2. Nitrate. Nitrate concentration levels are 1.2, 0.88, and 0.68 corresponding to SP3, SP2, and SP1, respectively, which is within the acceptable limit of less than 10. These values are also comparable closer to values obtained for spring in Nandi County [42] that had nitrate value of 1.6 in the rain season. According to [43], water from three springs is normal and safe for use.

3.1.3. TDS. TDS values of water from three springs are less than 25mg/l and hence categorized by Freeze and Cherry [44] as fresh water since these TDS values are less than 100mg/l. In addition, these TDS values fall in the category of excellent palatability of drinking water as per [45] because this value is less than 300mg/l. TDS which is also discussed by Wanyoike et al. [42] as clarity and cleanliness of water in their research was found to be 28 in the rainy season.

3.1.4. Turbidity. Turbidity values of this region ranges between 0.84 N.T.U and 1.05 N.T.U and having a mean of 0.93 N.T.U, which is within the acceptable maximum limit of 5 N.T.U by the WHO and KEBS. A comparison with turbidity level of 4.7 in the rainy season from [42] show that spring water from the Manga region during that period had a higher clarity level and minimal suspended material.

3.1.5. Fluoride, Iron, and Coliforms. The iron, fluoride, and coliform levels were not detected in the water samples; hence, the significance value is zero.

3.1.6. Total Hardness and Total Alkalinity. The total hardness which results from the presence of alkaline earth metals ranges from 8mgCaCO₃/l to 10mgCaCO₃/l with a mean value of 9.33 mgCaCO₃/l. This according to Sawyer [46] is an association of soft water since this level is less than 75mgCaCO₃/l.

The total alkalinity which results from the presence of alkaline earth metals ranges from 17mgCaCO₃/l to 20mgCaCO₃/l.

3.1.7. Calcium and Magnesium. The levels of calcium and magnesium of water from three springs is very low and within the limits of maximum acceptable by KEBS of 150mg/l and 100mg/l, respectively.

3.1.8. Chlorides and Sulphates. The level of chloride at SP1, SP2, and SP3 is 3mg/l, 2mg/l, and 1mg/l, respectively, while the level of sulphate is 4mg/l, 2mg/l, and 2mg/l for SP1, SP2, and SP3, respectively. Moreover, the level of chloride and sulphate is higher at SP1 than at SP2 and SP3. The level of sulphate at SP1 is twice that of SP2 and SP3, while the level of chloride at SP3 is lower than the levels at SP1 and SP2. All the levels of chloride and sulphate from the three selected springs from the region is within is within the acceptable limit of 250mg/l and 400mg/l, respectively. However, the levels of chloride and sulphate are higher than those obtained for the bubbling spring in Nandi County [42] of 0.499 and 0. respectively.

3.1.9. Phosphates and Total Phosphorous. The level of phosphate from the Manga region ranges between 0.08 and 0.24. These values are lower than the values obtained by Wanyoike et al. [42] that ranged between 0.74 and 0.90 for spring in rain and dry seasons, respectively. However, a comparison with values obtained from Malaget in Kenya [47] of 0.002–0.037 shows that the phosphate level in Manga region is more than that of Malaget but less than that of Kilibwoni, but within the accepted limit by KEBS of 30mg/l.

The obtained values of phosphorus ranges between 0.16mg/l and 0.36mg/l, hence, within the acceptable limit less than 2 by the WHO.

3.2. Water Quality Index. Table 3 provides the unit weight, relative weight, quality rating, and sub-index values that were obtained and used to calculate water quality index.

Using the fifteen parameters given in Table 3, the water quality index was 21.32 for SP1, 29.66 for SP2, and 25.64 for

| Parameter          | Min | Max | Range | Mean | Std. deviation | CI of mean | KS distance | KS prob | S Wilk W | S Wilk prob |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-------|-----|----------------|------------|-------------|---------|----------|-----------|
| pH                 | 5.1 | 5.7 | 0.60  | 5.4 | 0.30           | 0.745      | 0.175       | 0.654   | 1.00     | 1.00      |
| Turbidity          | 0.84| 1.05| 0.21  | 0.93| 0.0624         | 0.269      | 0.276       | 0.404   | 0.942    | 0.537     |
| Nitrate            | 0.68| 1.20| 0.52  | 0.92| 0.262          | 0.652      | 0.227       | 0.569   | 0.983    | 0.747     |
| Phosphate          | 0.08| 0.24| 0.16  | 0.153| 0.808         | 0.201      | 0.232       | 0.555   | 0.980    | 0.726     |
| Calcium            | 6.00| 9.00| 3.00  | 7.667| 0.882         | 3.795      | 0.253       | 0.487   | 0.964    | 0.637     |
| Magnesium          | 0.67| 1.20| 0.53  | 0.923| 0.153         | 0.660      | 0.202       | 0.627   | 0.994    | 0.855     |
| Chloride           | 1.00| 3.00| 2.00  | 2.00 | 1.00           | 2.484      | 0.175       | 0.654   | 1.000    | 1.000     |
| Fluoride           | 0.00| 0.00| 0.00  | 0.00 | 0.00          | 0.000      | 0.000       | 0.000   | 0.000    | <0.001    |
| Sulphate           | 2.00| 4.00| 2.00  | 2.667| 1.155         | 2.868      | 0.385       | 0.089   | 0.750    | <0.001    |
| Iron               | 0.00| 0.00| 0.00  | 0.00 | 0.00          | 0.000      | 0.000       | 0.000   | 0.000    | <0.001    |
| Total phosphorous  | 0.16| 0.36| 0.20  | 0.267| 0.101         | 0.250      | 0.219       | 0.590   | 0.987    | 0.780     |
| Total hardness     | 8.00| 10.0| 2.00  | 9.333| 1.155         | 2.868      | 0.385       | 0.089   | 0.750    | <0.001    |
| Total alkalinity   | 17.0| 20.0| 3.00  | 19.00| 1.000         | 4.303      | 0.385       | 0.089   | 0.750    | <0.001    |
| TDS                | 22.0| 25.0| 3.00  | 23.33| 1.528         | 3.795      | 0.253       | 0.487   | 0.964    | 0.637     |
| Coliforms          | 0.00| 0.00| 0.00  | 0.00 | 0.00          | 0.000      | 0.000       | 0.000   | 0.000    | <0.001    |

4 The Scientific World Journal
The water quality index at SP2 is higher than that at SP1 and SP3. However, the water quality index ranges from 21.32 to 29.66. This is mainly due to the low pH level values in the Manga area that primarily cause a metallic taste of water. The water quality index of the Manga groundwater represented by the three springs therefore is less than 30. The water with such a water quality index from Table 1 can be used for drinking, irrigation, and industrial purpose.

Basing on the water quality categories as discussed by [35–37] given in Table 1, SP1 which is Kiangoso spring has an excellent water quality status, while SP2 and SP3 is Kerongo and Tetema, respectively; the water quality status is good. Furthermore, the water quality index and water quality status obtained for the respective sources are given in Table 5.

In Kenya, similar results in the two categories were obtained by Kirui [47] in Malaget in Kericho in water samples from S1 and S2 being excellent quality while from S3 and S4 had good quality. In addition, a study by Achieng et al. [48] on Nyando River in Muhoroni in Kenya showed higher values of water quality index than this of Manga region. This study by Achieng et al. had water quality index values ranging from 51.88 to 101.131 and depicted that water at Homalime and Wasao was of poor water quality and unsuitable for drinking at Kipchui.

An assessment done on groundwater by Ibrahim [49] in Jordan showed a wide range of water quality index than that of Manga region and ranging from 40 to 4295. In the assessment, the poor and unsuitable status of the water quality was attributed to anthropogenic activities occurring around the area of study. Moreover, higher values of water quality index were also obtained in Algeria [2] at Koudiat Medouar reservoir that ranged from 99.08 to 174.72.

### Table 4: Unit weight, relative weight, quality rating, and subindex values.

| Parameter          | Weight | $W_W$ | $W_r$ | $Q_W$ | $PI_W$ | $Q_r$ | $PI_r$ | $Q_I$ |
|--------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| pH                 | 4      | 0.06897 | 260 | 17.9322 | 380 | 26.0862 | 320 | 22.0704 |
| Turbidity          | 3      | 0.05172 | 18  | 0.93445 | 16.8 | 0.86890 | 21  | 1.08612 |
| Nitrate            | 5      | 0.08621 | 6.8 | 0.58623 | 8.6  | 0.75865 | 12  | 1.03452 |
| Phosphate          | 3      | 0.05172 | 0.035 | 0.00181 | 0.06  | 0.00310 | 0.02 | 0.00103 |
| Calcium            | 3      | 0.05172 | 5.3  | 0.27412 | 4    | 0.20688 | 6   | 0.31032 |
| Magnesium          | 3      | 0.05172 | 1.2  | 0.06206 | 0.9   | 0.04655 | 0.67 | 0.03465 |
| Chloride           | 5      | 0.08621 | 1.2  | 0.10345 | 0.8   | 0.06897 | 0.4  | 0.03448 |
| Fluoride           | 5      | 0.08621 | 0    | 0      | 0.04311 | 0.5   | 0.03431 |
| Sulphate           | 5      | 0.08621 | 1    | 0.08621 | 0.5   | 0.04311 | 0.5  | 0.03431 |
| Iron               | 3      | 0.05172 | 0    | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0    | 0      |
| Total phosphorous  | 3      | 0.05172 | 14   | 0.72408 | 18    | 0.93096 | 8    | 0.41376 |
| Total hardness     | 3      | 0.05172 | 3.33 | 0.17223 | 2.67  | 0.13809 | 3.33 | 0.17223 |
| Total alkalinity   | 4      | 0.06897 | 4    | 0.27588 | 3.4   | 0.23450 | 4    | 0.27588 |
| TDS                | 4      | 0.06897 | 2.5  | 0.17243 | 2.2   | 0.15173 | 2.3  | 0.15863 |
| Coliforms          | 5      | 0.08621 | 0    | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0    | 0      |
| WQI                |       | 21.32  | 29.66 | 25.64 |

### Table 5: Water quality index and water quality status.

| Water source | WQI  | WQS  |
|--------------|------|------|
| SP1          | 21.32| Excellent |
| SP2          | 29.66| Good |
| SP3          | 25.64| Good |

### 4. Conclusion

Manga groundwater represented by three springs is therefore said to have water quality index of less than 30, ranging between good and excellent in quality, soft, safe for use by both people and livestock, and excellent palatability of drinking, irrigation, as well as industrial purpose.

With the current state of unpredictable climatic change and population growth, these results presently obtained from the water assessment shall be useful in future for management of the Manga groundwater.

### Data Availability

The data used to support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon request.

### Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest.

### Acknowledgments

The authors hereby acknowledge the Regional Department of Water Resources Management Authority based in Kisumu for the laboratory services offered and by extension of the laboratory technicians and personnel involved in the
handling of water samples and characterization of parameters.

References

[1] S. Dirican, “Assessment of water quality using physico-chemical parameters of camli goze dam lake in Sivas, Turkey,” Ecologia, vol. 5, pp. 1–7, 2015.
[2] S. Bouslah, L. Djemili, and L. Houichi, “Water quality index assessment of Koudiat Medouar reservoir, northeast Algeria using weighted arithmetic index method,” Journal of Water and Land Development, vol. 35, no. 1, pp. 221–228, 2017.
[3] Ocean alive: Looking at the sea, https://www.mos.org/oceans/planet/.
[4] F. Khan, T. Husain, and A. Lumb, “Water quality evaluation and trend analysis in selected watersheds of the Atlantic region of Canada,” Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, vol. 88, no. 1/3, pp. 221–248, 2003.
[5] S. Khan, M. Shahnaz, N. Jehan, S. Rehman, M. T. Shah, and I. Din, “Drinking Water quality and human health risk in Charsadda district, Pakistan,” Journal of Cleaner Production, vol. 60, pp. 93–101, 2013.
[6] A. Sargaonkar and V. Deshpande, “Development of an overall index of pollution for surface water based on a general classification scheme in Indian context,” Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, vol. 89, no. 1, pp. 43–67, 2003.
[7] W. L. Duan, “Water quality assessment and pollution source identification of the eastern poyang lake basin using multivariate statistical methods,” Sustainability, vol. 8, no. 133, 2016.
[8] P. Walakira and J. Okot-Ookuru, “Impact of industrial effluents on water quality of streams in Nakawa-Ntinda, Uganda,” Journal of Applied Sciences and Environmental Management, vol. 15, pp. 289–296, 2011.
[9] A. Muwanga and E. Barifaijo, “Impact of industrial activities on heavy metal loading and their physico-chemical effects on wetlands of lake Victoria basin, Uganda,” African Journal of Science and Technology, vol. 7, no. 1, pp. 51–63, 2006.
[10] W. Wanasonlo, B. T. Kiremire, and F. Kansimte, “Evaluation of industrial effluent levels in Kinawataka stream, its tributaries and Kinawataka swamp, prior to discharge into lake Victoria,” Journal of the American Chemical Society, vol. 5, pp. 49–56, 2018.
[11] T. Omara, N. Othieno, J. Obonge, S. Ssebulime, and M. Kansiime, “Characterization and prognostication of wastes generated by industries in kampala industrial and business park-namanve,” OALib, vol. 6, Article ID e5189, 2019.
[12] O. Phiri, P. Mumba, B. H. Z. Moyo, and W. Kadewa, “Assessment of the impact of industrial effluents on water quality of receiving rivers in urban areas of Malawi,” International Journal of Environmental Science & Technology, vol. 2, no. 3, pp. 237–244, 2005.
[13] K. Vadde, J. Wang, L. Cao, T. Yuan, A. McCarthy, and R. Sekar, “Assessment of water quality and identification of pollution risk locations in taoxi river (taihu watershed), China,” Water, vol. 10, no. 2, p. 183, 2018.
[14] S. Selvam, G. Manimaran, P. Sivasubramanian, N. Balasubramanian, and T. Seshunarayana, “GIS-based evaluation of water quality index of groundwater resources around Tuticorin coastal city, south India,” Environmental Earth Sciences, vol. 71, no. 6, pp. 2847–2867, 2014.
[15] A. S. Todd, A. H. Manning, P. L. Verplanck, C. Crouch, D. M. McKnight, and R. Dunham, “Climate-change-driven deterioration of water quality in a mineralized watershed,” Environmental Science & Technology, vol. 46, no. 17, pp. 9324–9332, 2012.
[16] V. John, P. Jain, M. Rahate, and P. Labhasetwar, “Assessment of deterioration in water quality from source to household storage in semi-urban settings of developing countries,” Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, vol. 186, no. 2, pp. 725–734, 2014.
[17] B. R. Scanlon, I. JollY, M. Sopho reconcus, and L. Zhang, “Global impact of conversions from natural to agricultural ecosystems on water resources: quantity versus quality,” Water Resources Research, vol. 43, Article ID W03437, 2007.
[18] M. Tuzen and M. Soylak, “Evaluation of metal levels of drinking water from the Tokat-black sea region of Turkey,” Polish Journal of Environmental Studies, vol. 15, no. 6, pp. 915–919, 2006.
[19] M. M. Heydari and H. N. Bidgoli, “Chemical analysis of drinking water of Khashan district, Central Iran,” World Applied Sciences Journal, vol. 16, no. 6, pp. 799–805, 2012.
[20] R. K. Horton, “An index number system for rating water quality,” Journal of the Water Pollution Control Federation, vol. 37, pp. 300–306, 1965.
[21] R. M. Brown, N. I. McClelland, R. A. Deininger, and R. G. Tozer, “A water quality index—do we dare?” Smart Energy Water, vol. 117, no. 10, pp. 339–343, 1970.
[22] N. C. Dalkey, Delphi, The Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, CA, USA, 1968.
[23] J. M. Landwehr and R. A. Deininger, “A comparison of several water quality indices,” Journal of the Water Pollution Control Federation, vol. 48, no. 5, pp. 954–958, 1976.
[24] S. H. Dinius, “Design of an index of water quality,” Journal of the American Water Resources Association, vol. 23, no. 5, pp. 833–843, 1987.
[25] R. A. Smith, R. B. Alexander, and M. G. Wolman, “Analysis and interpretation of water quality trends in major U.S. rivers, 1974–81. U.S.,” Environmental Science, 1987.
[26] R. A. Smith, R. B. Alexander, and M. G. Wolman, “Water quality-trends in the Nations rivers,” Science, vol. 235, no. 4796, pp. 1607–1615, 1987.
[27] J. Doflido, J. Raniszewski, and J. Wojciechowska, “Water quality index-application for rivers in Vistula river basin in Poland,” Water Science and Technology, vol. 30, no. 10, pp. 57–64, 1994.
[28] D. S. Chandra, S. S. Asadi, and M. V. S. Raju, “Estimation of water quality index by weighted arithmetic water quality index method: a model study,” International Journal of Civil Engineering and Technology, vol. 8, no. 4, pp. 1215–1222, 2017.
[29] S. S. K. Darapu, B. Sudhakar, K. S. R. Krishna, P. V. Rao, and M. C. Sekhar, “Determining water quality index for the evaluation of water quality of river,” International Journal of Engineering Research and Application (IJERA), vol. 1, no. 2, pp. 174–182, 2011.
[30] T. Abbasi and S. A. Abbasi, Water Quality Indices, Elsevier, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2020.
[31] H. S. Jabin, A. S. Abuzaid, and A. D. Abdellatif, “Using multivariate analysis to develop irrigation water quality index for surface water in Kafr El-Sheikh governorate, Egypt,” Environmental Technology & Innovation, vol. 17, Article ID 100532, 2020.
[32] A. C. Medeiros, K. R. F. FaiA, F. Freitas et al., “Quality index of the surface water of the Amazonian rivers in industrial areas in Para, Brazil,” Marine Pollution Bulletin, vol. 123, no. 1–2, pp. 156–164, 2017.
[33] S. K¨ ukrer and E. Mutlu, “Assessment of surface water quality using water quality index and multivariate statistical analyses
in Saraydüzü dam lake, Turkey,” Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, vol. 191, no. 2, p. 71, 2019.

[34] M. Tripsth and S. K. Singal, “Use of principal component analysis for parameter selection for development of a novel water quality index: a case study of river Ganga India,” Ecological Indicators, vol. 96, pp. 430–443, 2019.

[35] C. Chatterji and M. Raziuddin, “Determination of water quality index of a degraded river in Asanol industrial area, Raniganj, Burdwan, West Bengal,” Nature Environment and Pollution Technology, vol. 1, no. 2, pp. 181–189, 2002.

[36] R. M. Brown, N. J. McClelland, R. A. Deininger, and M. F. O’Connor, “A water quality index-crashing the psychological barrier,” International Conference on Water Pollution Research, vol. 6, pp. 787–797, 1972.

[37] G. Asadollahfardi, Water Quality Management Assessment and Interpretation, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Germany, 1st edition, 2015.

[38] APHA, Standard Methods for Examination of Water and Wastewater, American Public Health Association, Washington, DC, USA, 21st edition, 2005.

[39] World Health Organization (WHO), Guidelines for Drinking-Water Quality, WHO Press, Geneva, Switzerland, 4th edition, 2011.

[40] Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), Drinking Water Specification-Part I: The Requirements for Drinking Water, Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), Nairobi, Kenya, 3rd edition, 2007.

[41] J. K. Tripaty and K. C. Sahu, “Seasonal hydrochemistry of groundwater in the barrier spit system of the chilika lagoon, India,” Journal of Environmental Hydrology, vol. 13, pp. 1–9, 2005.

[42] M. Wanyoike, J. K. Ng’etich, T. Munyao, S. Lutta, A. Kiplagat, and C. Kudenyo, “Potential use of Kilibwoni bubbling spring water, Nandi county, Kenya,” Journal of Water Resources and Ocean Science, vol. 10, no. 4, pp. 68–77, 2021.

[43] E. Audrey, “Nitrate in drinking water,” 2002. https://extension.usu.edu/file/publications/factsheet/NR-2005.pdf.

[44] A. Freeze and J. Cherry, Groundwater, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, USA, 1979.

[45] WHO, “Guidelines for drinking water quality,” Health Criteria and Other Supporting Information, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva, Switzerland, 2nd edition, 1996.

[46] N. Sawyer, P. L. McCarty, and G. F. Parkin, Chemistry for Environmental Engineering and Science (5th Ed), McGraw-Hill Education, Boston, MA, USA, 2003.

[47] M. Kirui, “Effects of land use on spring and streamflow water quality in river Malaget sub-catchment, Kericho county, Kenya,” 2020. https://irlibrary.ku.ac.ke/handle/123456789/214070.1.1648/jwros.20211004.11.

[48] G. O. Achieng, V. O. Shikuku, D. M. Andala, G. M. Okowa, and J. J. Owour, “Assessment of water quality of the Nyando river (Muhoroni-Kenya) using the water quality index (WQI) method,” International Research Journal of Environmental Sciences, vol. 8, no. 2, pp. 27–33, 2019.

[49] M. Ibrahim, “Assessing groundwater quality for drinking purpose in Jordan, application of water quality index,” Journal of Ecological Engineering, vol. 20, no. 3, pp. 101–111, 2019.