



Eco-Friendly Agriculture Practices and Their Environmental Impact on Northern Ethiopian Smallholder Farmers: A Policy Analysis

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Abstract

Northern Ethiopia's smallholder farmers are grappling with environmental challenges exacerbated by climate change and unsustainable agricultural practices. A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews and quantitative surveys was employed to gather data from smallholder farmers in selected regions of Northern Ethiopia. The adoption rate of organic farming methods among smallholders is approximately 30%, with significant reductions in soil erosion (up to 45%) observed in areas where these practices were implemented. Eco-friendly agricultural interventions show promise in mitigating environmental degradation without compromising food security, highlighting the need for targeted policy support and farmer education initiatives. Policymakers should prioritise funding for extension services to promote organic farming techniques and provide financial incentives for farmers adopting these practices.

Keywords: *African Geography, Smallholder Farming, Sustainable Agriculture, Policy Evaluation, Environmental Impact Studies, Climate Change Adaptation, Participatory Research*

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