



Urbanization, Informal Settlements, and Social Welfare in Côte d'Ivoire: An Action Research Perspective

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Abstract

Urbanization in Côte d'Ivoire has led to significant growth, particularly in informal settlements where social welfare services are often inadequate. An action research approach was employed, involving community consultations, surveys, and policy analysis to understand the challenges faced by residents in accessing essential services like healthcare and education. Community feedback highlighted a significant disparity in service provision with over 70% of respondents reporting difficulties in obtaining basic social welfare benefits. The research underscores the urgent need for integrated urban planning that prioritizes equitable access to social services, especially in informal settlements. Policy recommendations include strengthening community-based support networks and advocating for inclusive urban development policies that cater specifically to marginalized populations.

Keywords: *Geographic, Urbanization, Informal Settlements, Social Policy, Participatory Research, Community Development, Spatial Analysis*

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