



Utilising Open-Source GIS Mapping Tools for Rural Livelihood Support Programmes in Cape Town, South Africa: Success Metrics for Youth Unemployment Mitigation

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Abstract

Open-source Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping tools have become increasingly popular in supporting rural livelihoods by identifying areas with potential for development and targeting specific groups such as youth facing unemployment. The research methodology employed a mixed-methods approach including semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions, and document analysis. Data collection was conducted through field visits and online surveys targeting stakeholders involved in the rural development projects. Findings indicate that Open-source GIS tools significantly enhanced targeted interventions by clearly identifying geographical areas with high youth unemployment rates and facilitating better resource allocation for support programmes. The study concludes that Open-Source GIS mapping tools are effective in supporting rural livelihoods, particularly in targeting youth unemployment. These tools provide a clear framework for assessing the success of development initiatives. Future research should explore the scalability and replicability of these findings across other regions with similar challenges to ensure broad application and impact. Open-source GIS, Rural Livelihood Support, Youth Unemployment Mitigation, Cape Town, South Africa

Keywords: *Geography, GIS, Open-source, Remote sensing, Community development, Rural economy, Qualitative analysis*

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