



Natural Resource Governance in DRC and its Impact on Local Community Rights in Nigeria: A Legal Perspective from 2007 to Present

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Abstract

Natural resource governance in DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo) has significant implications for local communities in Nigeria. A review of legal texts, case law, and scholarly articles to analyse governance structures and policies affecting resource management in DRC and Nigeria. There is a notable trend towards decentralization in natural resource decision-making processes in both countries, although implementation varies significantly. Current governance models often fail to adequately protect local community rights despite legal frameworks that theoretically support them. Enhanced participatory approaches and stronger enforcement mechanisms are recommended to better safeguard community interests.

Keywords: *Democratic Republic of Congo, Land Rights, Natural Resources Law, Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights, Customary Jurisprudence, Legal Pluralism*

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