



The Informal Sector and the Legal Landscape in Urban Tanzania: An Analytical Framework

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Abstract

The Urban Informal Sector in Tanzania is a significant but under-researched area of economic activity, contributing substantially to urban employment and livelihoods. A qualitative approach was employed, drawing on secondary data from Tanzanian government reports, academic literature, and interviews with key stakeholders. The analysis reveals that despite legal restrictions, the Urban Informal Sector continues to grow at a rate of approximately 5% annually due to economic necessity and regulatory gaps. Policy recommendations include enhancing enforcement mechanisms for existing laws and exploring incentives for formalization within the sector. Enhance enforcement of existing labour and trade regulations, and consider targeted subsidies or other incentives for small businesses to transition into the formal economy.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, urbanization, informality, jurisprudence, governance, development, policy analysis*

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