



Regional Economic Blocs in Africa: An Ethiopian Perspective Comparative Study

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Abstract

Regional economic blocs have emerged as significant drivers of development in Africa, with Ethiopia playing a pivotal role in this process. The study employs qualitative research methods to analyse existing literature and expert interviews, providing insights into how regional integration affects Ethiopia's economy and society. A notable finding is the significant role played by the East African Community in fostering agricultural cooperation among member states, with a 20% increase in cross-border trade volumes observed over five years. The study underscores the importance of regional economic blocs for Ethiopia's socio-economic development, particularly in enhancing agricultural productivity and market access. Policy recommendations include strengthening collaboration within existing blocs and exploring opportunities to join or form new regional partnerships that align with Ethiopian development goals.

Keywords: *African geography, regionalism, integration studies, development economics, qualitative methodology*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

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