



Water Scarcity and Conflict Dynamics in Niger’s Nile Basin Communities: An Ethnographic Exploration

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Abstract

Water scarcity is a pressing issue in Niger's Nile Basin communities, where competition for limited water resources has escalated into conflicts. The study employed participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions with local community leaders and residents to understand their perceptions and experiences related to water scarcity and conflicts. A significant proportion (45%) of respondents reported frequent disputes over water usage, primarily due to seasonal variations in water availability and competition for irrigation purposes. Themes included mistrust among neighbors and reliance on traditional conflict resolution methods. The findings suggest that a combination of community-based water management initiatives and inter-community dialogue could help mitigate ongoing conflicts. Communities should develop shared water usage plans, while local leaders and NGOs should facilitate regular communication sessions to address grievances and promote peace-building efforts.

Keywords: *Geographical, Basin, Ethnography, Conflict, Sustainability, Anthropology, Ecology*

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