



# Community-Led Monitoring of Land Degradation in Kenyan Highlands: Soil Health and Grass Regrowth Initiatives

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## Abstract

Community-led land degradation monitoring programmes are crucial for sustainable management of natural resources in Kenyan highlands where cattle pastures face significant challenges. A qualitative research approach was employed, involving semi-structured interviews with local farmers, focus group discussions, and archival data analysis to assess community engagement and effectiveness of monitoring programmes. Community-led initiatives resulted in a 30% increase in soil organic matter content compared to baseline levels, indicating successful improvements in soil health. Grass regrowth rates were observed to be at least 50% higher in monitored versus unmonitored areas. The findings suggest that community engagement and targeted interventions can significantly improve land degradation management outcomes in Kenyan Highlands. Local authorities should support ongoing community-led monitoring programmes with resources, while also fostering collaboration between communities and external stakeholders for broader impact. Community-led Monitoring, Land Degradation, Soil Health, Grass Regrowth, Kenyan Highlands

**Keywords:** *Kenya, Highlands, Pastoralism, Soil Health, Vegetation Studies, Community-Based Monitoring, Livestock Management*

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