African Human Geography

Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in West African Coastal Communities,

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Abstract

Climate change impacts on coastal communities in West Africa are significant, affecting livelihoods and ecosystems. Understanding adaptation strategies is crucial for mitigating these effects. A comprehensive search of peer-reviewed journals and grey literature was conducted using keywords related to climate change, adaptation, and West Africa. Studies published between and were included. Adaptation strategies varied widely but common themes included early warning systems (EWS), community-based initiatives, and infrastructure improvements. EWS effectiveness was reported with a moderate positive impact on reducing flood-related damages by 45% in some communities. West African coastal communities have adopted diverse adaptation measures to cope with climate change impacts. Further research is needed to evaluate the long-term efficacy of these strategies. Policymakers should prioritise investment in EWS and community resilience programmes, alongside infrastructure development for sustainable adaptation. The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta}^{\rightarrow} p\, X + varepsilon$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *Geography, Africa, Nigeria, Costal, Zone, Adaptation, Socioeconomic, Environmental, Ecosystems, Case Studies, Indicators, Migration, Water Management, Health, Habitat, Vulnerability, Food Security, Hydrology, Climate Change Impacts, Policy Analysis, Conservation, Resource Utilization*

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