



Community Forest Management in Eastern Uganda: Perceptions and Environmental Impact

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Abstract

Community forest management initiatives in Eastern Uganda have been implemented to address wildlife conservation challenges. A mixed-methods approach was employed, including interviews with local stakeholders and ecological assessments. Local communities generally perceive the forest management positively but highlight issues related to resource allocation and governance inefficiencies. The findings suggest that while community involvement is crucial for conservation efforts, effective implementation requires addressing structural challenges in governance and resource distribution. Enhance transparency in decision-making processes and strengthen local governance structures to better integrate community needs into management strategies.

Keywords: *African Geography, Community Forestry, Conservation Ecology, Participatory Methods, Sustainable Development, Wildlife Management, Indigenous Knowledge*

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