African Transboundary Studies (Rivers, Resources, etc. - Interdisciplinary)

Survival Rates and Economic Benefits of Community-Based Olive Tree Replanting Programmes in Moroccan Coastal Forests,

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Abstract

This study examines community-based forest management programmes in Moroccan coastal forests to reintroduce olive trees, focusing on their survival rates and economic benefits. A mixed methods study combining quantitative data on tree survival with qualitative insights through interviews and focus groups among stakeholders in affected communities. Survival rates of reintroduced olive trees were notably high, exceeding 85% over the decade. Economic models indicate a significant positive return on investment for local communities, with an average annual income increase of $120 per hectare from tree sales and oil production. Community-based forest management programmes have proven effective in promoting olive tree survival and generating substantial economic benefits, demonstrating their value as sustainable practices. These findings suggest the importance of continued support for such programmes to ensure long-term ecological and socio-economic sustainability. Recommendations include leveraging existing community networks and integrating educational components into reforestation efforts.

Keywords: *Community-Based Forestry, Mediterranean Ecology, Participatory Research, Forest Restoration, Community Development, GIS Applications, Economic Indicators*

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