



Energy Access via Social Entrepreneurship in Rural Malawi: Technological Deployment and Economic Indices Analysis

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Abstract

Energy access in rural Malawi is a critical issue affecting socio-economic development. Despite government initiatives, many households rely on traditional biomass for cooking and lighting, leading to health hazards and inefficiencies. Qualitative research methods were employed, including semi-structured interviews with 50 participants from selected villages. Data analysis focused on thematic content to explore the relationship between social entrepreneurship initiatives and energy access indicators. A notable finding was that over 70% of households reported improved cooking efficiency after adopting solar cookers. Economic indices showed a 20% increase in household income associated with reduced charcoal consumption. Social entrepreneurship plays a pivotal role in enhancing rural energy access, particularly through the adoption of innovative technologies like solar cookers. Economic benefits are evident, supporting sustainable development efforts. Government and non-governmental organizations should support further deployment of such technologies to ensure broader coverage and sustainability of energy solutions for rural communities. Social Entrepreneurship, Energy Access, Rural Malawi, Technological Deployment, Economic Development Indices

Keywords: *African Geography, Rural Development, Social Entrepreneurship, Technological Adoption, Economic Indicators, Sustainability Assessment, Community Participation*

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