



# Gendered Power Transitions in Beninese Political Reforms

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## Abstract

Benin, a West African nation, has experienced various political reforms over the years, reflecting broader trends in African urban development studies. Qualitative analysis of existing documents, interviews with policymakers, and secondary data from government reports and international organizations were used. Findings indicate a significant increase in female participation in local governance bodies by 20% over the last decade, highlighting a clear trend towards gender integration in political structures. The study concludes that while there has been progress in integrating women into political processes, challenges persist related to representation and policy implementation. Recommendation for policymakers is to implement targeted training programmes for female leaders to enhance their effectiveness and ensure equitable governance outcomes.

**Keywords:** *African geography, gender studies, power dynamics, urban development, qualitative analysis, transformation theory, ethnography*

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