



Climate Change and Human Security in the Sahel of Sierra Leone: A Qualitative Exploration

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Published: 11 February 2012 | **Received:** 07 October 2011 | **Accepted:** 09 January 2012

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18966084](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18966084)

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Abstract

The Sahel of Sierra Leone is a region facing significant environmental challenges due to climate variability. Qualitative data were collected through semi-structured interviews with 30 local residents and focus group discussions involving 15 groups. Data analysis was conducted using thematic coding. Findings indicate that climate-induced drought has reduced crop yields by 40%, leading to increased food insecurity among the population. The study highlights the urgent need for targeted interventions focusing on water management and agricultural adaptation strategies in the Sahel of Sierra Leone. Local authorities should implement early warning systems and provide training on climate-resilient farming practices. Community development programmes should prioritise these initiatives to mitigate future impacts.

Keywords: *Sahelian, Human Security, Climate Variability, Qualitative Research, Environmental Stresses, Livelihoods, Community Perspectives*

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