



Natural Resource Extraction and Political Economy in Central Africa: A Comparative Analysis in Nigeria,

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Abstract

Natural resource extraction in Nigeria's central regions has been a subject of intense political and economic scrutiny. The study examines how different stakeholders influence policy decisions regarding oil, gas, and minerals. The study employs qualitative research methods including interviews with policymakers, civil society organizations, and academic experts. Data is triangulated across multiple sources for robust analysis. A key finding is the significant influence of foreign corporations on policy formulation, particularly in terms of revenue sharing agreements and environmental regulations. In conclusion, this study highlights the complex interplay between state institutions, private sector interests, and civil society in shaping Nigeria's natural resource management policies. Recommendations include strengthening oversight mechanisms to ensure equitable distribution of resources among all stakeholders and improving public participation in decision-making processes.

Keywords: *Geography, Niger Delta, AfricanStudies, Ethno-politics, DualistEconomics, ComparativeMethodology, ResourceConflict*

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