



Labour Perceptions in Zambia's Informal Economy: A Qualitative Exploration of Workers' Rights Under Labour Law Context

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Abstract

Zambia's informal economy is a significant part of its labour market but lacks comprehensive legal protection under existing labour laws. A qualitative study employing semi-structured interviews to gather data from informally employed individuals across various sectors in urban and rural areas of Zambia. Among 120 participants interviewed, over 75% reported experiencing violations of basic labour rights such as inadequate wages and lack of social security benefits. The study highlights the urgent need for comprehensive legal reforms to address the specific needs of informal economy workers in Zambia. Zambian policymakers should prioritise amending existing laws to better protect the rights of informal sector workers, including those in agriculture and construction.

Keywords: *Zambia, Informal Economy, Qualitative Research, Labour Law, Workers' Rights, Legal Studies, Anthropology*

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