



Land Law Reforms and Tenure Security in Rwanda: A Qualitative Inquiry into 2011 Land Legislation Effects

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Abstract

Rwanda's legal framework for land governance has undergone significant reforms since , with a particular focus on securing tenure security through legislative changes aimed at addressing historical injustices and promoting equitable land distribution. The research employs a qualitative inquiry approach, involving in-depth interviews with beneficiaries who have directly benefited from the land reforms, as well as consultations with key stakeholders such as local authorities and community leaders. Data collection also includes document analysis of legal documents and records related to land transactions and disputes post-reform. Interviews revealed that while many beneficiaries reported improved legal standing over their lands, challenges persist in terms of securing long-term stability, particularly among marginalized groups who face ongoing socio-economic barriers. Document review identified a significant increase in formal land registration processes post- reforms. The analysis underscores the mixed outcomes of Rwanda's recent land law reforms on tenure security and socio-economic stability, highlighting both beneficial effects and persistent disparities that require continued attention and support from governance bodies. Given the identified challenges, recommendations include strengthening legal frameworks to ensure inclusivity for all beneficiaries, enhancing dispute resolution mechanisms, and promoting community engagement in ongoing reform processes to foster sustainable tenure security and equitable socio-economic development.

Keywords: *Geography, African, Land, Governance, Qualitative, Reform, Ethos*

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