



Natural Resource Governance in DRC and Tanzania: A Survey of Local Community Rights and Legal Frameworks

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Abstract

Natural resource governance in DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo) and Tanzania has been a subject of increasing legal scrutiny due to their abundant mineral wealth. A mixed-methods approach was employed, including interviews with stakeholders, document analysis of relevant laws and regulations, and a comparative study of legal texts. Findings indicate that while both countries have enacted legislation to protect local communities' rights over natural resources, implementation varies significantly between the two nations. In DRC, community participation in resource management is often limited by weak governance structures; in Tanzania, there are more robust mechanisms for consultation and consent processes. Despite progress in establishing legal frameworks, challenges remain in ensuring effective enforcement of these laws to benefit local communities equitably. Recommendations include strengthening implementation strategies, enhancing community engagement through participatory decision-making processes, and fostering collaboration between governments and civil society organizations.

Keywords: *Democratic Republic of Congo, Resource Governance, Community Rights, Legal Frameworks, Land Tenure Systems, Indigenous Knowledge, Mixed Methods*

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