



Community-Based Wildlife Conservation and Livelihood Security in Namibia's Etosha National Park: An Economic Stability Study,

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Abstract

Etosha National Park in Namibia is a significant wildlife conservation area that encompasses diverse ecosystems and human settlements. Community-based conservation programmes have become increasingly prevalent as an alternative to traditional park management strategies aimed at balancing ecological preservation with local livelihood enhancement. The research methodology employed mixed methods, including surveys, interviews, and case studies. Data collection focused on assessing community perceptions, financial impacts, and socio-economic indicators to evaluate the programme's efficacy. Community-based conservation efforts led to an average annual growth rate of 5% in local employment opportunities across various sectors such as tourism and agriculture, contributing significantly to overall economic stability within affected communities. The findings suggest that community-based wildlife conservation programmes have a substantial positive impact on the socio-economic conditions of nearby populations. However, challenges remain related to resource allocation and governance structures. Recommendations include enhancing transparency in financial management, improving access to resources for marginalized groups, and fostering cross-community collaboration to ensure equitable distribution of benefits from conservation efforts.

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Wildlife

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Conservation Economics, Community Development

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