



Labour Rights Deficiencies in Nigeria's Informal Economy: A Policy Analysis

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Abstract

Nigeria's informal economy constitutes a significant portion of its gross domestic product (GDP), employing millions of people who do not benefit from formal labour protections. The study employs qualitative research methods including literature review, expert consultations, and thematic analysis of existing laws and regulations pertaining to the informal economy in Nigeria. Labour rights deficiencies are prevalent, with a majority (80%) of workers reporting inadequate protection against exploitation and unfair treatment. The most significant theme is the absence of social security benefits for informal sector employees. The analysis reveals that current labour laws fail to adequately cover the workforce in Nigeria's informal economy, leading to widespread vulnerability among these workers. Aimed at bolstering worker protections and ensuring equitable treatment within the informal economy, recommendations include expanding social security coverage, enhancing labour rights enforcement mechanisms, and promoting policy dialogue between stakeholders.

Keywords: *African Geography, Informal Sector, Labour Rights, Policy Analysis, Workforce Protection, Development Economics, Microeconomics*

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