



Youth Engagement in Southern Mozambique: Longitudinal Analysis of Participation Rates and Replanting Success in Forest Conservation Initiatives

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Abstract

Southern Mozambique faces significant deforestation issues, necessitating innovative youth engagement strategies in forest conservation initiatives. Longitudinal data collection from multiple forest conservation programmes across Southern Mozambique; mixed-methods approach including surveys, interviews, and community observations. A consistent theme is the preference by young people for reforestation over other activities (78%), with an average participation rate of 45% across all projects. Replanting success varied significantly based on project duration and local support level. Young Mozambicans show strong interest in forest conservation but require sustained community engagement and supportive policies to enhance reforestation outcomes. Develop targeted youth-focused educational programmes, increase community support for projects, and implement long-term policy frameworks that incentivize reforestation efforts.

Keywords: *African geography, youth participation, social forestry, participatory research, deforestation mitigation*

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