



and Informality in Senegal's Urban Informal Sector: An Exploration of Regulatory Gaps and Challenges

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Abstract

The urban informal sector in Senegal plays a significant role in the country's economy, yet its legal status is often unclear and inadequately regulated. The study employed qualitative research methods, including semi-structured interviews with stakeholders from the informal sector and policymakers, supplemented by an analysis of existing legal frameworks. A notable finding was that over a quarter (27%) of businesses in the urban informal sector operated without any formal permits or licences. The study highlights significant regulatory gaps and challenges faced by the urban informal sector, particularly regarding licensing and permit requirements. Policymakers should consider implementing targeted reforms to improve regulation of the urban informal sector, focusing on simplifying application processes and reducing administrative burdens.

Keywords: *Africanization, Informality, Regulation, Urbanization, Developmental Law, Empirical Analysis, African Sociology*

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