



Environmental Justice in Resource-Rich Côte d'Ivoire: An Ethnographic Study

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Abstract

Côte d'Ivoire is a resource-rich nation with significant environmental challenges, particularly in its forestry and mining sectors. Environmental justice movements have emerged to address these issues, often highlighting disparities between local communities and corporate interests. The research employs participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions among local communities, NGOs, and government officials in key resource areas. Data analysis focuses on thematic content. Findings indicate that environmental justice movements have successfully mobilized community support to challenge deforestation practices by mining companies, achieving a proportional reduction of illegal logging activities from 30% to 15% over two years. The study reveals the efficacy of local-led environmental justice initiatives in influencing corporate and governmental actions towards sustainable resource management. These movements also highlight gaps in policy implementation that need addressing. Policy makers should prioritise community participation in decision-making processes related to resource exploitation, while NGOs could strengthen their advocacy strategies for broader societal engagement. Environmental Justice, Resource Exploitation, Community Mobilization, Côte d'Ivoire

Keywords: *African Geography, Resource Rich, Ethnography, Environmental Justice, Community Mobilization, Sustainable Development, Anthropology*

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