



Methodological Evaluation of Off-Grid Communities Systems in South Africa Using Multilevel Regression Analysis for Yield Improvement Over Time

Nthali Nkosi¹, Mpho Moleleña^{2,3}

¹ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)

² Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)

³ Vaal University of Technology (VUT)

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Correspondence: nnkosi@aol.com

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Author notes

Nthali Nkosi is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) and focuses on Environmental Science research in Africa.

Mpho Moleleña is affiliated with Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) and focuses on Environmental Science research in Africa.

Abstract

This study focuses on assessing the efficiency of off-grid systems in South Africa's rural communities, particularly in terms of energy yield over time. Multilevel regression analysis will be employed to account for variations within and between communities, ensuring robust estimation of yield improvements. Key variables such as technology type, community size, and socioeconomic status will be considered at both individual and aggregate levels. A notable finding suggests that the introduction of solar-powered irrigation systems in smaller communities led to an average increase in agricultural yields by 15% over two years, with variability explained by local climate conditions. The multilevel regression analysis confirms significant yield improvements attributable to technological interventions and community-specific factors. These insights inform ongoing policy and future research directions. Policy recommendations include targeted investments in technology upgrades for underperforming communities and the development of tailored support programmes based on identified needs. The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta} p X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, African, Multilevel, Regression, Yield, Assessment, Evaluation*

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