



Adoption Rates and Sustainability Outcomes of Incentive-Driven Conservation Agricultural Techniques in Cameroon's Cross River Forests,

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Abstract

The Cross River Forests in Cameroon are a critical biodiversity hotspot under threat from deforestation driven by agricultural practices. Conservation techniques incentivized by local governments and NGOs aim to mitigate these impacts. A mixed-method approach was employed, combining qualitative interviews with quantitative surveys among farmers to evaluate technique uptake and long-term impacts. Among incentivized farmers, adoption rates for conservation agricultural practices reached an average of 58%, with significant variance across different agro-ecological zones. Despite high initial engagement, sustained compliance remains challenging, highlighting the need for more robust policy support and community involvement in long-term conservation efforts. Enhanced financial incentives coupled with educational programmes tailored to local contexts are recommended to improve technique sustainability and farmer participation.

Keywords: *Cameroon, Cross River Forests, Biodiversity Hotspot, Conservation Techniques, Agricultural Practices, Deforestation, Incentives, Sustainability Studies, Participatory Methods, Community-Based Monitoring*

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