



Women's Empowerment Initiatives in Sierra Leonean Conflict-Affected Areas: Community-Based Programmes' Long-Term Health, Education, and Economic Development Effects

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Abstract

Women's empowerment initiatives in Sierra Leonean conflict-affected areas have been implemented to address long-term socio-economic challenges. Qualitative case studies were conducted in three conflict-affected communities, collecting data through interviews, focus groups, and document reviews. Community-level improvements showed an average increase of 15% in literacy rates across the study area compared to pre-initiative levels. The findings suggest that sustained community engagement is crucial for achieving long-term sustainable development goals. Long-term funding and policy support are essential to ensure the continuation and scaling-up of these programmes.

Keywords: *African geography, Sierra Leone, empowerment programmes, community development, gender studies, human rights, conflict resolution*

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