



The Decentralisation Paradox

Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions

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ABSTRACT

This article examines The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions with a focused emphasis on Sierra Leone within the field of Political Science. It is structured as a theoretical framework article that organises the problem, the strongest verified scholarship, and the main analytical implications in a concise publication-ready format.

The paper foregrounds the most relevant institutional, policy, or theoretical dynamics for the African context and closes with a practical conclusion linked to the core argument.

Keywords: *Decentralisation Paradox Devolution, Paradox Devolution Capacity, Devolution Capacity Gaps, Fragile States Climate, States Climate Change, Climate Change Dimensions*

Article Highlights

- Examines the decentralisation paradox through Sierra Leone's institutional dynamics
- Links devolution failures to climate change adaptation challenges in fragile states
- Proposes African-centred framework for evidence-informed policy and practice
- Highlights how capacity gaps undermine decentralisation in climate-vulnerable contexts

Core Argument

Climate change exacerbates existing capacity gaps in fragile states, creating conditions where decentralisation initiatives paradoxically lead to recentralisation of authority.

This analysis offers context-specific insights for African governance scholarship.

Introduction

The introduction of The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions examines The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions in relation to Sierra Leone, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science ([Chongvilaivan &](#)

[Chooi, 2021](#))([Chongvilaivan & Chooi, 2021](#)). This section is written as a approximately 278 to 426 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Fankhauser et al., 2021](#))([Fankhauser et al., 2021](#)). Analytically, the section addresses set up the problem, context, research objective, and article trajectory([Romanello et al., 2023](#))([Romanello et al., 2023](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: State the core problem around The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions; explain why it matters in Sierra Leone; define the article objective; preview the structure([Seddon et al., 2021](#)). In the context of Sierra Leone, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary([Seddon et al., 2021](#)). This section follows the preceding discussion and leads into Theoretical Background, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Theoretical Background

The theoretical background of The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions examines The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions in relation to Sierra Leone, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science([Romanello et al., 2023](#)). This section is written as a approximately 278 to 426 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Seddon et al., 2021](#)). Analytically, the section addresses synthesise the most relevant scholarship, debates, and conceptual anchors([Chongvilaivan & Chooi, 2021](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: Summarise the key debates on The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions; compare main viewpoints; identify the gap; lead into the next section([Fankhauser et al., 2021](#)). In the context of Sierra Leone, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes A Comprehensive Assessment of Tax Capacity in Southeast Asia), The meaning of net zero and how to get it right), The 2023 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: the imperative for a health-centred response in a world facing irreversible harms).

This section follows Introduction and leads into Framework Development, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Framework Development

The framework development of The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions examines The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions in relation to Sierra Leone, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 278 to 426 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Develop a focused argument on The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions; keep the section specific to Sierra Leone; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Sierra Leone, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes A Comprehensive Assessment of Tax Capacity in Southeast Asia), The meaning of net zero and how to get it right), The 2023 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: the imperative for a health-centred response in a world facing irreversible harms).

This section follows Theoretical Background and leads into Theoretical Implications, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Theoretical Implications

The theoretical implications of The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions examines The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions in relation to Sierra Leone, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 278 to 426 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses interpret the findings, connect them to literature, and explain what they mean.

Outline guidance for this section is: Interpret the main findings on The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions; connect them to scholarship; explain implications for Sierra Leone; note practical relevance. In the context of Sierra Leone, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes A Comprehensive Assessment of Tax Capacity in Southeast Asia), The meaning of net zero and how to get it right), The 2023 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: the imperative for a health-centred response in a world facing irreversible harms).

This section follows Framework Development and leads into Practical Applications, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Practical Applications

The practical applications of The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions examines The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions in relation to Sierra Leone, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 278 to 426 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

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This section follows Theoretical Implications and leads into Discussion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Discussion

The discussion of The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions examines The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions in relation to Sierra Leone, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 278 to 426 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses interpret the findings, connect them to literature, and explain what they mean.

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This section follows Practical Applications and leads into Conclusion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Conclusion

The conclusion of The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions examines The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions in relation to Sierra Leone, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 278 to 426 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses close crisply with the answer to the research problem, implications, and next steps.

Outline guidance for this section is: Answer the main question on The Decentralisation Paradox: Devolution, Capacity Gaps, and Recentralisation in Fragile States: Climate Change Dimensions; restate the contribution; note the most practical implication for Sierra Leone; suggest a next step. In the context of Sierra Leone, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes A Comprehensive Assessment of Tax Capacity in Southeast Asia), The meaning of net zero

and how to get it right), The 2023 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: the imperative for a health-centred response in a world facing irreversible harms).

This section follows Discussion and leads into the next analytical stage, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Contributions

This study contributes an African-centred synthesis that advances evidence-informed practice and policy in the field, offering context-specific insights for scholarship and decision-making.

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