



# Rural Women's Agricultural Innovation Adoption Through Farmer Field Schools in Namibia, 2009

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## Abstract

Rural women in Namibia face significant challenges in adopting agricultural innovations due to limited access to resources and knowledge. Qualitative research methods including semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions were employed to gather insights from participants involved in FFS programmes across different regions of Namibia. Women reported a significant increase (54%) in their confidence levels after participating in FFS, leading to improved adoption rates of new agricultural technologies such as drought-resistant crops and organic fertilizers. The effectiveness of FFS in enhancing knowledge transfer and skill development among rural women is evident, contributing positively to sustainable agriculture practices. Further research should investigate the scalability of FFS models across other regions with similar socio-economic conditions. Policy makers are encouraged to support and expand such educational programmes for greater impact.

**Keywords:** *African geography, rural development, qualitative research, innovation adoption, participatory action research, Farmer Field Schools, community empowerment*

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