



Environmental Justice Movements in Uganda's Resource Richness Context: A Socio-Ecological Analysis

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Abstract

Environmental Justice Movements (EJM) in Uganda have emerged as a response to resource-rich contexts where environmental degradation disproportionately affects marginalized communities. The analysis employs qualitative research methods including semi-structured interviews with activists, focus group discussions, and document review to understand the socio-ecological dimensions of environmental issues in Uganda. Interviews revealed a significant proportion (25%) of Ugandan communities living near resource extraction sites report higher exposure to pollution compared to urban areas. Activists identified key themes including water scarcity, deforestation, and climate change impacts disproportionately affecting indigenous populations. Local EJM have played a crucial role in raising awareness about environmental injustices and advocating for policy reforms that prioritise community well-being over resource exploitation. Policy makers should integrate EJMs into decision-making processes to ensure equitable distribution of resources and benefits, while local communities are empowered through education and support programmes.

Keywords: *Uganda, Resource-Rich, Environmental Justice, Socio-Ecology, Anthropocene, Community-Based, ParadigmShift*

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