



Youth Engagement in Education Reform in Guinea-Bissau: An Action Research Study

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Abstract

Youth engagement in education reform is crucial for sustainable development in Guinea-Bissau, a country with significant educational challenges. An action research study was conducted involving key informants from government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and youth-led initiatives. Focus groups and interviews were used to gather data on current engagement levels and potential reforms. Youth reported a moderate level of engagement in educational activities, with over half participating in community-based learning programmes. The study found that increased access to technology and mentorship opportunities could significantly boost youth participation in education reform efforts. Implementing digital literacy training for youths and establishing more mentorship programmes are recommended strategies.

Keywords: *Africanization, Community Engagement, Participatory Research, Stakeholder Collaboration, Youth Empowerment, Critical Pedagogy, Indigenous Knowledge Systems*

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