



Youth Empowerment and Livelihoods Projects in Rural Malawi: Two-Year Economic Growth and Wellbeing Outcomes Analysis

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Abstract

Youth empowerment initiatives in rural Malawi have been implemented to enhance economic growth and improve wellbeing outcomes among community members. A comparative case-study approach was employed, involving quantitative data collection through surveys and interviews with participants from two distinct villages implementing similar projects. During the study period, there was a significant increase (25%) in employment rates among young adults who participated in livelihoods programmes compared to those not involved. The findings suggest that youth empowerment initiatives can effectively contribute to economic growth and improve wellbeing, particularly when tailored to local needs. Local governments should prioritise the replication of successful projects with additional support for infrastructure development and skills training. Youth Empowerment, Livelihoods Projects, Economic Growth, Wellbeing Outcomes, Malawi

Keywords: *African Geography, Empowerment Studies, Livelihoods Development, Methodological Comparison, Socioeconomic Dynamics, Wellbeing Indicators, Rural Communities*

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