



Southern African Governance Transitions: A Review of "Traditional Governance Structures and Modern Democracy

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Abstract

Southern Africa has experienced significant governance transitions in recent decades, blending traditional indigenous structures with modern democratic principles. The analysis draws on existing literature and case studies to evaluate the integration of traditional and modern governance approaches. A notable finding is the successful adaptation of traditional councils into contemporary community-based decision-making structures in Cape Verdean villages. There is a need for further empirical research to assess the long-term effectiveness of hybrid governance models across Southern Africa. Policy makers should consider fostering intergenerational dialogue and ensuring equitable representation within new democratic frameworks.

Keywords: *Cape Verde, Southern Africa, Governance Transitions, Traditional Institutions, Modernization Theory, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Democratic Practice*

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