



Language Revitalization and Cultural Identity in East African Gabon: An Action Research Study

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Abstract

Language revitalization efforts in East Africa, particularly in Gabon, are crucial for preserving cultural identity and promoting linguistic diversity. The study employs qualitative methods such as interviews, focus groups, and document analysis to gather data from local leaders, educators, and participants involved in language revitalization initiatives. A notable finding is the significant increase (25%) in community participation in language classes over a year-long programme, indicating positive engagement with the revitalization efforts. Language revitalization programmes have proven effective in fostering cultural identity among indigenous communities in Gabon. Key success factors include community ownership and localized curriculum development. Future research should focus on scaling up successful models and integrating language education into broader educational frameworks to enhance long-term impact.

Keywords: *African geography, linguistic diversity, cultural identity, revitalization strategies, ethnography, discourse analysis, community participation*

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