



# Youth Engagement in Local Governance Initiatives: An Analytical Study of Policy Adoption Rates and Community Outcomes in Uganda 2009

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## Abstract

Youth engagement in local governance initiatives has been a topic of increasing interest in Uganda due to its potential to address socio-economic challenges and promote inclusive development. The research employed a qualitative approach involving semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions with key informants including policymakers, community leaders, and young participants. Data was analysed using thematic content analysis to identify recurring themes and patterns. A notable finding is the significant disparity in policy adoption rates between urban and rural areas, with only 30% of proposed policies being fully implemented in rural settings compared to 55% in cities. The study highlights the challenges faced by youth in local governance, particularly related to resource allocation and community mobilization efforts. It underscores the need for targeted interventions to enhance policy adoption and community outcomes. Policymakers should prioritise equitable funding and support mechanisms that address specific needs of rural communities. Community leaders are encouraged to foster inclusive dialogue platforms that involve young people in decision-making processes.

**Keywords:** *African geography, qualitative research, youth activism, community development, participatory governance, ethnography, social policy analysis*

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