



Renewable Energy Microgrids and Livelihood Security in Sierra Leonean Urban Slums: A Comparative Study in Tanzania

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Abstract

Renewable energy microgrids have been proposed as a solution to enhance livelihood security in urban slums, particularly in regions facing energy poverty and infrastructure challenges. The study employs a mixed-method approach, combining quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews to assess changes in household income sources and energy consumption patterns among participants. In one Tanzanian slum, households reported an increase of 20% in income from renewable microgrid activities over the past year. Renewable energy microgrids have shown promise in improving livelihood security for urban slum dwellers in Tanzania. Further research is recommended to explore their scalability and sustainability in Sierra Leonean contexts. Local governments should prioritise funding and policy support for renewable energy projects in urban slums, alongside community engagement strategies to ensure equitable access and benefits distribution.

Keywords: *African geography, Microgrids, Renewable energy, Energy poverty, Livelihood security, Community development, Case study*

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