



Water Scarcity and Conflict Dynamics in the Nile Basin of Nigeria: A Qualitative Exploration

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Abstract

The Nile Basin in Nigeria is facing increasing water scarcity due to climate change and population growth, which has led to socio-economic tensions and potential conflicts. Qualitative data were collected through semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions among stakeholders including farmers, government officials, and community leaders. Data analysis involved thematic coding and content analysis. The qualitative research revealed that water scarcity in the Nile Basin is affecting agricultural productivity, leading to increased competition for limited resources and contributing to social unrest in some communities. This study highlights the urgent need for integrated water management strategies and community-based conflict resolution mechanisms to mitigate potential conflicts arising from water scarcity in the Nile Basin of Nigeria. Policy recommendations include enhancing dialogue between different stakeholders, implementing sustainable agricultural practices, and developing early warning systems for water scarcity events.

Keywords: *Nile Basin, Nigeria, Water Scarcity, Conflict Dynamics, Qualitative Research, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Ethnography*

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