



Agricultural Policy Reforms and Livelihood Stability in Zimbabwe: An Ecological Assessment

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Abstract

In recent years, Zimbabwe has implemented a series of agricultural policy reforms aimed at improving food security and rural livelihoods. This assessment utilizes a combination of field surveys, remote sensing data, and statistical modelling techniques to analyse the ecological impacts of agricultural policies. The analysis reveals that while there has been an increase in crop yields (by 15% in maize production), this growth is accompanied by significant soil degradation (20% loss of organic matter) and a decline in pollinator populations (30% reduction). Despite some positive outcomes, the overall ecological balance remains fragile due to policy-induced environmental pressures. Policy makers should implement integrated agricultural management practices that prioritise soil conservation and biodiversity protection to mitigate negative impacts on rural livelihoods. The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta} p X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *African Geography, Agricultural Policy Analysis, Livelihood Dynamics, Ecological Economics, Sustainable Development, Food Security Studies, Rural Transformation*

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