



Community Engagement Workshops and Soil Fertility Improvements in Southern Ethiopian Communities: A Mixed Methods Study

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Abstract

Soil fertility improvements are crucial for agricultural productivity in Southern Ethiopia's communities, particularly given their reliance on rain-fed agriculture. A mixed methods approach was employed, including quantitative surveys for assessing changes in soil quality indicators and qualitative interviews to gather insights into participants' experiences and perceptions. Community workshops led to a significant increase (30%) in the adoption of recommended agricultural practices by participating farmers, contributing to improved soil health. The community engagement workshops had a positive impact on enhancing soil fertility and environmental conservation efforts among Southern Ethiopian communities. Further research should explore long-term sustainability measures and replication of these workshops in other regions with similar conditions.

Keywords: *Ethiopia, Geographic, Mixed Methods, Community Engagement, Soil Fertility, Conservation, Participatory Approach*

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