



Community-Based Water Source Protection Projects in Ghana: An Ethnographic Analysis

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Abstract

Community-based water source protection projects have been implemented in various parts of Ghana to address water scarcity and improve hygiene standards. An ethnographic approach was employed, involving participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions with stakeholders from affected communities in Ghana's coastal regions. Community engagement varied significantly across project sites, with some initiatives showing clear success in water management practices but facing challenges related to resource allocation and community leadership. The analysis reveals that while community-based projects can be effective catalysts for change, sustained support and local governance structures are crucial for long-term success. Future interventions should prioritise capacity building among communities and strengthen collaborative efforts between stakeholders to ensure project sustainability.

Keywords: *Africanization, Communitas, Ethnography, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Participatory Action Research, Social Capital, Water Rights*

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