



Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Conservation Practices within Botswana's Ecosystems

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Abstract

Traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) among indigenous communities in Botswana has been recognised for its potential to inform modern conservation practices. A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with quantitative surveys was employed to collect data from local communities and park managers. Statistical analysis used logistic regression models to determine the significance of TEK in conservation outcomes. The findings suggest that traditional ecological knowledge significantly enhances biodiversity conservation efforts, particularly in maintaining sustainable land use practices across different ecosystems within Botswana's protected areas. This study highlights the importance of integrating traditional ecological knowledge into modern conservation strategies to achieve more effective and culturally sensitive wildlife management and habitat preservation. Policy makers should prioritise the integration of TEK in environmental policies, alongside traditional practices, to ensure sustainable ecosystems and biodiversity conservation in Botswana. Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), Conservation Practices, Botswana, Okavango Delta, Chobe National Park The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta}^{-1} p X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *Botswana, Geographic Focus, Indigenous Knowledge, Methodology, Conservation Ecology, Qualitative Research, Quantitative Analysis*

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