



Innovative Community-Based Approaches in Botswana's Natural Resource Management: A Methodological Review

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Abstract

Community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) has been implemented in various parts of Africa to enhance sustainable use and conservation of natural resources. In Botswana, CBNRM has played a significant role in managing communal lands by involving local communities directly in decision-making processes. The study employs a mixed-methods approach combining qualitative case studies with quantitative analysis of community participation indices. Data collection includes surveys, interviews, and observations to assess community engagement levels and resource management outcomes. Community participation in CBNRM initiatives varied significantly across different regions, with some areas showing high levels of active involvement (over 80%) compared to others where participation was less robust (around 50%). The review highlights the importance of tailored intervention strategies and continuous stakeholder engagement for successful CBNRM implementation. Future research should focus on replicating successful models in diverse contexts, with particular emphasis on enhancing community capacity building and long-term sustainability mechanisms. The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta} p X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *Community-Based Natural Resource Management, African Geography, Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation, Ecosystem Services, Conservation Economics, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Adaptive Management*

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