



Community-Based Natural Resource Management in Botswana: Successes and Challenges

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Abstract

Community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) is a strategy aimed at enhancing sustainable use of resources while promoting community welfare and environmental conservation in Botswana. A qualitative approach was employed to assess existing literature and stakeholder interviews for understanding the implementation and outcomes of CBNRM programmes in different regions of Botswana. In one region, a 60% increase in wildlife populations has been observed due to effective community-led conservation efforts, while another region reported mixed results with varying levels of community engagement impacting resource management effectiveness. CBNRM initiatives have shown promise in enhancing biodiversity and improving community welfare but require tailored strategies based on local conditions for sustained success. Enhanced communication channels between government agencies and communities, along with improved monitoring and evaluation frameworks, are recommended to support sustainable CBNRM practices. The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta}^{-1} p X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *Savannah ecology, communal grazing lands, participatory mapping, indigenous knowledge systems, tenure reform, sustainability indicators, community empowerment campaigns*

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