



Indigenous Community Forest Management Practices in Southern Cameroon: A Collaborative Action Research Initiative

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Abstract

Indigenous communities in Southern Cameroon manage a significant portion of their forests through traditional practices that are deeply integrated with local ecosystems and cultures. A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews and participatory workshops was employed to gather data from 50 community members across three regions in Southern Cameroon. Community leaders reported a 20% increase in forest coverage due to improved management practices, with themes of traditional knowledge integration and youth engagement emerging as key success factors. The collaborative action research has successfully identified effective strategies for sustainable indigenous community forest management in Southern Cameroon. Promote continuous dialogue between researchers and local communities to ensure long-term sustainability of forest resources. Invest in training programmes targeting younger generations to preserve traditional knowledge. The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta} X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *African savannas, community-based management, indigenous knowledge, participatory mapping, sustainable development, Traditional ecological knowledge, agroforestry systems*

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