



The Political Economy of Natural Resource Extraction in Tanzanian Central Africa: A Comparative Study

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Abstract

Natural resource extraction has been a significant economic driver in Central Africa, including Tanzania, where it plays a crucial role in government revenue and regional development. The research employs a mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with quantitative data analysis on government records and media reports. Comparative case studies are used to highlight variations between regions. Findings indicate that resource-rich districts experience higher economic growth but also face significant governance challenges, such as corruption and inequality in distribution of benefits. The study concludes that effective governance is essential for equitable resource extraction outcomes. Recommendations focus on strengthening regulatory frameworks and enhancing transparency to mitigate negative impacts. Policy recommendations include the establishment of independent oversight bodies, public participation mechanisms, and improved fiscal policies.

Keywords: *African geography, resource curse, governance, extraction industries, economic dependency, comparative analysis, neo-colonialism*

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