



The Political Economy of Natural Resource Extraction in Central African Countries: An Ethiopian Perspective

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Abstract

This study examines the political economy of natural resource extraction in Central Africa from an Ethiopian perspective. A mixed-methods approach was employed, incorporating qualitative interviews ($n=20$) and quantitative data analysis of government reports. A thematic analysis of stakeholder interactions and resource management practices was conducted to understand the dynamics at play. The findings indicate that corruption is a significant barrier to sustainable development, with over 70% of respondents citing it as a critical issue. Additionally, there is a notable variation in governance structures across different regions, affecting resource extraction outcomes. This research underscores the importance of transparent governance and anti-corruption measures to mitigate negative impacts on local communities and ecosystems from natural resource exploitation. Policy recommendations include strengthening legal frameworks, enhancing transparency in resource management, and promoting community participation in decision-making processes regarding natural resources.

Keywords: Sub-Saharan, African, Ethiopia, Socioeconomic, Political Science, Development Studies, Qualitative Analysis

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