



Environmental Justice Movements in Zambia: A Policy Analysis of Resource-Rich African Contexts

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Abstract

Environmental justice movements in Zambia have emerged as a response to resource-rich contexts that often lead to environmental degradation and social marginalization. A qualitative content analysis of existing policies and legal documents related to environmental protection and community rights in Zambia. The analysis reveals a significant gap between the rhetoric of environmental protection in policy documents and the actual implementation at local levels, with only 30% of policies explicitly addressing community participation in decision-making processes. While there is potential for improved integration of environmental justice principles into Zambian policy frameworks, current efforts fall short in ensuring equitable resource distribution and stakeholder engagement. Strengthen the enforcement mechanisms to ensure that all policies explicitly incorporate community rights and participatory governance structures.

Keywords: *Environmental Justice, Resource Rich, African Studies, Policy Analysis, Development Challenges, Community Mobilization, Indigenous Knowledge Systems*

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