



Afrofuturism as a Lens on African Futures in Democratic Republic of Congo

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Abstract

Afrofuturism is a contemporary cultural movement that explores African heritage through futuristic lenses, often addressing issues of identity and social justice in Africa and diaspora contexts. The research employs a qualitative approach involving semi-structured interviews with experts in DRC academia and activists, supplemented by document analysis of Afrofuturist literature. Data was analysed using thematic content analysis. Interviews revealed a significant interest among participants in envisioning a future where technology is integrated into sustainable agricultural practices (30%), highlighting the importance of technological innovation for environmental stewardship. Afrofuturism offers valuable insights into how DRC society might navigate complex socio-economic challenges, emphasising the role of futuristic thinking and collaboration across disciplines. Policy makers should consider incorporating Afrofuturist perspectives in planning initiatives to promote sustainable development and equitable social progress. Academia can further study these themes through interdisciplinary research methodologies.

Keywords: *Congo, Futurity Studies, Diaspora, Heritage Studies, Afrocentricity, Pan-Africanism, Decolonial Theory*

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