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Human Dimensions of Climate Change Phenomena: Implications for Adaptation and Mitigation Endeavors in Urban Settings in Africa

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Abstract

Climate change poses critical risks for African cities, where rapid urbanization intersects with socio-economic inequalities and weak institutional capacity. While scientific and technological solutions dominate adaptation and mitigation discourse, the human dimension-encompassing social equity, cultural values, behavioral change, and governance-remains underexplored. This paper examines how human factors shape the success or failure of climate actions, emphasizing the need for inclusive, participatory, and context-sensitive approaches. Drawing on interdisciplinary research, it argues that climate strategies must integrate local knowledge, address social vulnerabilities, and promote justice to be truly sustainable.

Keywords: Climate Change; Urban Sustainability; Human Dimensions; Africa; Adaptation; Mitigation: Urban Settings