

Poverty Reduction Co-benefits through Indigenous Knowledge in Climate Change Adaptation: A Study within the eThekweni Municipality

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ABSTRACT The research utilizes mixed methods to discuss the incorporation of concepts of sustainable livelihoods for climate change adaptation in the eThekweni municipality, South Africa. The municipality identified and implemented climate change adaptation programs incorporating biodiversity, human elements of local economic development and poverty reduction. In poverty reduction co-benefits, the intervention incorporated community-focused incentives, which mix local biodiversity awareness and efforts to compensate community members who are serving to protect their surrounding natural habitat. Although there is a noted shift in the inclusion of human development, little is reported around the utilization of indigenous knowledge in the project's sustainability and future continuation within the community. The study recommended that climate change adaptation programs for environmental protection can be holistic if local communities' cultural practices are incorporated for effective and sustainable interventions.