

Decentralization and Local Governance: Opportunities and Challenges

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Abstract. This paper analyzes the impact of decentralization on local governance, examining both opportunities and challenges. It explores how decentralization influences local decision-making, accountability, and service delivery. Through case studies from various regions, the study highlights successful decentralization initiatives and their outcomes. The research emphasizes the importance of capacity building and community engagement in enhancing local governance. Recommendations are provided for policymakers to navigate the complexities of decentralization, ensuring that it contributes to more effective and responsive local governance structures.

Keywords: Decentralization, Local Governance, Accountability, Decision-making, Service Delivery

Introduction

Decentralization has emerged as a prominent strategy for enhancing local governance, offering opportunities to improve decision-making, accountability, and service delivery at the local level. This paper analyzes the impact of decentralization on local governance, exploring both its opportunities and challenges. By examining case studies from various regions, the study highlights successful decentralization initiatives and their outcomes. The research underscores the importance of capacity building and community engagement in enhancing local governance. Recommendations are provided for policymakers to navigate the complexities of decentralization, ensuring it contributes to more effective and responsive local governance structures.

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