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ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE DEFICIENCY OF PROTECTED AREAS IN MOROCCO, CASE OF AL HOCEIMA NATIONAL PARK

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Abstract

Morocco has ratified most of the international conventions for environmental protection and sustainable development through official policies to ensure global environmental governance. The purpose of this study is to analyze the main obstacles that hinder the good environmental governance of Al Hoceima National Park (AHNP) within the development strategies of the municipality and the supervisory methods of management minitry. The results demonstrated a deficient governance due in particular to the fact that the park is under the management of an old legislation with the absence of specific regalations for its marine environment. The institutional contribution is insufficient with very limited human resources. The coordination and consultation between different operational actors in this territory is anemic or even problematic. Also, the environmental dimension is underestimated in local development strategies due to the lack of competence and the absence of regulations that ensure the management of the protected areas within a legislative framework governing local authorities. Therefore, a coherent and clear mode of governance is essential in order to preserve the park's natural resources, safeguard the ecological and natural balances, which also will improve the living conditions of the local population.

Key words: Al Hoceima National Park, development strategies, environmental governance, legislation

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