



ISSN NO. 2320-5407

ISSN(O): 2320-5407 | ISSN(P): 3107-4928

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-56593

Title: Une Étude Socio-Anthropologique de Confrontation de Logiques d'Acteurs en Contexte de Mise en Œuvre de la Politique de Sécurisation Foncière Rurale chez les Peuples de Tiapoum et de Dikodougou (Côte d'Ivoire).

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision.....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity	✓			
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: Faheem Abdul Muneeb

Reviewer's Comment

This manuscript presents a socio-anthropological analysis of the implementation of rural land tenure security policies in Côte d'Ivoire, focusing specifically on the localities of Tiapoum in the south-east and Dikodougou in the northern region of the country. The study investigates how the policy of land certification introduced under the 1998 rural land law has interacted with existing customary land governance systems and how these interactions have produced new forms of social tension and land conflicts.

The article situates land tenure security within a broader socio-political context where land is not only an economic resource but also a marker of identity, authority, and social legitimacy. By examining the confrontation of actor logics—state authorities, customary leaders, migrants, farmers, and administrative institutions—the research highlights the complex social dynamics that emerge when formal legal frameworks attempt to regulate land relations historically governed by customary norms.

The topic addressed in the manuscript is highly relevant within the fields of rural sociology, land governance, and development studies. Land tenure reforms have been widely implemented across Africa

REVIEWER'S REPORT

as mechanisms to enhance agricultural investment and reduce conflicts, yet empirical studies often reveal unintended consequences. This research contributes to that body of knowledge by offering a detailed socio-anthropological perspective on the local dynamics that shape the outcomes of land reform policies.

Scientific Contribution and Empirical Strength

The study makes a valuable contribution by demonstrating that land tenure security reforms may paradoxically intensify conflicts rather than resolve them. The empirical findings indicate that the process of land certification and village boundary delimitation has exposed latent disputes and reconfigured local power relations in both Tiapoum and Dikodougou.

One important contribution of the research lies in its comparative analysis of two socio-cultural contexts within Côte d'Ivoire. While Tiapoum is characterized by strong land commercialization and the presence of migrant populations, Dikodougou represents a more community-based land governance system shaped by the Senoufo cultural institution of the Poro. This comparative framework allows the author to illustrate how similar policies generate different forms of conflict depending on local social structures and historical land management practices.

The study also provides a detailed typology of land conflicts observed in the field, including intrafamilial disputes, interfamilial conflicts, and inter-village boundary disputes. These conflicts often arise from differing interpretations of historical land transactions, ambiguities in customary rights, and the formalization of land ownership through certification processes.

Another notable contribution of the manuscript is its integration of sociological theories of power relations, particularly the frameworks developed by Pierre Bourdieu and by Crozier and Friedberg. These theoretical perspectives help explain how land governance operates as a field of negotiation and contestation where actors mobilize social, symbolic, and institutional resources to defend or advance their claims.

However, while the empirical observations are rich and insightful, the discussion could benefit from deeper engagement with comparative studies on land tenure reforms in other African contexts. Such comparisons would help situate the findings within broader debates on land governance and rural transformation.

Methodology and Analytical Approach

REVIEWER'S REPORT

The research adopts a socio-anthropological approach based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Tiapoum and Dikodougou. The study relies on qualitative data collected from 355 respondents selected through a purposive sampling strategy that accounts for social and land tenure diversity among participants.

The inclusion of different categories of actors—customary authorities, farmers, migrants, and administrative officials—strengthens the analytical depth of the research by capturing multiple perspectives on land governance and conflict dynamics. The ethnographic approach is appropriate for understanding how policies are interpreted, negotiated, and sometimes contested within local social systems.

The article also provides detailed contextual descriptions of the socio-historical characteristics of the two study areas, including their cultural institutions, migration histories, and traditional land management practices. These contextual insights help explain why land reform policies produce varying outcomes across different local settings.

Nevertheless, the methodology section could benefit from further clarification regarding the specific data collection techniques used during fieldwork, such as interviews, participant observation, or document analysis. Providing more detail about the analytical procedures applied to interpret the qualitative data would further strengthen the methodological transparency of the study.

Structure, Style, and Presentation

The manuscript is well organized and follows a logical structure, beginning with an introduction to the theoretical and policy context of rural land tenure security in Côte d'Ivoire. The subsequent sections provide detailed descriptions of the legal framework, historical land governance systems, and the processes of land delimitation and certification.

The comparative analysis between Tiapoum and Dikodougou is particularly effective in illustrating the diversity of local land governance systems and the complex interaction between customary institutions and state-led reforms.

The discussion section successfully connects the empirical findings to broader theoretical debates on land governance, power relations, and legal pluralism. The use of sociological frameworks strengthens the interpretative dimension of the analysis.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

However, several minor improvements could enhance the clarity and readability of the manuscript. Some paragraphs are relatively dense and could be simplified to improve readability. Additionally, minor grammatical inconsistencies and formatting issues should be revised during the editing process.

Final Recommendation

Overall, the manuscript addresses an important issue concerning land tenure reform and rural governance in Côte d'Ivoire. The study provides valuable socio-anthropological insights into the complex interaction between state policies, customary institutions, and local power dynamics.

With minor revisions focusing on improving methodological clarity, strengthening comparative discussion, and refining language and presentation, the manuscript would make a meaningful contribution to research on land governance, rural sociology, and development studies.

Decision: Accepted with minor revisions.