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Accessibility Challenges For Disadvantaged Groups

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Özet

Accessibility is a foundational determinant of social inclusion and human development, yet it remains unevenly distributed across populations. Disadvantaged groups, such as low-income communities, people with disabilities, and those living in geographically isolated areas, face persistent and multidimensional barriers that restrict their access to essential resources and opportunities. These barriers are not limited to physical mobility or transportation networks but extend to critical domains such as electricity, clean water, education, healthcare, digital connectivity, and participation in financial and banking systems. The complexity of accessibility challenges lies in their intersectional nature, where economic, spatial, digital, and social disadvantages interact. For instance, limited internet access compounds educational and employment inequalities, while the absence of reliable infrastructure constrains economic participation and social mobility. Rural populations exemplify these challenges, as remoteness often worsens deficits in infrastructure and service provision, widening the urban-rural divide. However, accessibility inequities are also evident within urban contexts, where marginalized groups encounter systemic barriers embedded in policy, design, and governance frameworks. Addressing these challenges requires a multidimensional and integrative approach that recognizes accessibility as both a spatial and social justice issue. Policymaking should move beyond infrastructure development to include institutional reforms, inclusive planning, and the expansion of digital and financial ecosystems. By redefining accessibility as a comprehensive right encompassing physical, digital, and socio-economic dimensions, societies can better promote equity, resilience, and sustainable development for all population groups.

Anahtar Kelimeler:

Accessibility, disadvantaged groups, Urban-rural divide

Accessibility Challenges for Disadvantaged Groups

Abstract

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