



# Evaluating Policy Changes on Indigenous Land Rights in Zimbabwe's Highlands, 2006 – 2006

Musibirwa Nyakudya<sup>1,2</sup>, Chimurika Mudziwairo<sup>1</sup>, Tsvangirai Mushanga<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Africa University

<sup>2</sup> Department of Research, Great Zimbabwe University

<sup>3</sup> Midlands State University

**Published:** 16 January 2006 | **Received:** 04 November 2005 | **Accepted:** 25 December 2005

**Correspondence:** [mnyakudya@hotmail.com](mailto:mnyakudya@hotmail.com)

**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18830487](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18830487)

## Author notes

*Musibirwa Nyakudya is affiliated with Africa University and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.  
Chimurika Mudziwairo is affiliated with Africa University and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.  
Tsvangirai Mushanga is affiliated with Department of Research, Great Zimbabwe University and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.*

## Abstract

The study examines the impact of policy changes on indigenous land rights in Zimbabwe's Highlands, a region with significant historical and cultural ties to indigenous communities. Fieldwork was conducted through participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions with key stakeholders including land rights activists, traditional leaders, and local residents. Data collection took place in the rural areas of Mashonaland East Province over a period of six months. Indigenous communities reported mixed experiences; while some saw improvements in access to formal legal documentation, others experienced increased surveillance by authorities, leading to heightened tensions with neighboring communities. The policy changes have not uniformly benefited all indigenous groups, highlighting the need for tailored approaches that consider local contexts and community dynamics. Policy makers should engage more closely with indigenous communities during legislative processes to ensure their voices are heard and needs are adequately addressed. Additionally, support mechanisms should be strengthened to mitigate potential conflicts arising from policy changes. Land Rights, Indigenous Communities, Policy Evaluation, Zimbabwe Highlands

**Keywords:** *Geographic, Highlands, Indigenous, Policy Evaluation, Land Rights, Ethnography, Community Engagement*

## ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

**Email:** [info@parj.africa](mailto:info@parj.africa)

Request your copy of the full paper today!

## SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

**Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!**

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

**Submit at:** [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)



Scan to visit [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)

**Open Access Scholarship from PARJ**

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge