



Challenges and Opportunities for Business in Post-Conflict African States: A South African Perspective

Tshabalala Motladi^{1,2}, Zola Ncube³, Makga Khumalo⁴, Sibusiso Mkhwanazi^{5,6}

¹ Agricultural Research Council (ARC)

² University of Johannesburg

³ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Agricultural Research Council (ARC)

⁴ Department of Research, Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)

⁵ Department of Advanced Studies, University of Johannesburg

⁶ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Council for Geoscience

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Correspondence: tmotladi@outlook.com

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Author notes

Tshabalala Motladi is affiliated with Agricultural Research Council (ARC) and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Zola Ncube is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Agricultural Research Council (ARC) and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Makga Khumalo is affiliated with Department of Research, Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Sibusiso Mkhwanazi is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, University of Johannesburg and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Abstract

Post-conflict African states in South Africa face a unique set of challenges and opportunities for businesses operating within these environments. The qualitative research approach was employed to gather insights from industry professionals, academic experts, and government officials involved in conflict resolution and economic development. A purposive sampling strategy was used to ensure a diverse set of case studies that reflect the varied challenges encountered by businesses in post-conflict settings. Businesses operating in post-conflict African states often face significant regulatory barriers and corruption issues, which can hinder their ability to invest and expand operations. However, there is also an opportunity for innovative business models that leverage local resources and community engagement to overcome these challenges. The findings suggest a need for more robust policy frameworks and international support to facilitate sustainable business growth in post-conflict environments. Additionally, businesses should adopt strategies that emphasise collaboration with local communities and stakeholders to mitigate risks and enhance profitability. Policy makers are urged to implement measures aimed at reducing corruption and improving regulatory clarity. Businesses are recommended to develop resilience plans and engage more deeply with local communities to foster sustainable growth.

Keywords: *Africanization, Conflict Studies, Ethnography, Post-Conflict, Qualitative Inquiry, Societal Dynamics, Transformation Economics*

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