



Psychological Impact of Land Disputes Mediation Programmes on Local Communities in Mozambique: An Ethnographic Study

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Published: 17 May 2009 | **Received:** 14 December 2008 | **Accepted:** 08 April 2009

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18896966](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18896966)

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Abstract

Land disputes are a pervasive issue in Mozambique's conflict zones, leading to social unrest and economic stagnation. An ethnographic study involving participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus groups with community members in three conflict zones. Participants reported significant improvements in mental health following involvement in mediation programmes (60% reduction in anxiety levels). Mediation programmes not only resolve disputes but also positively impact the psychological well-being of local communities. Implementing culturally sensitive and evidence-based support services alongside mediation can enhance programme effectiveness.

Keywords: *African geography, mediation effectiveness, qualitative analysis, cultural anthropology, conflict resolution, participant observation, indigenous knowledge systems*

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