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**WATER SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN RURAL
SETTLEMENTS: AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL
APPROACH**

by

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This anthropological focus on the Swazi residents of two rural settlements in the Nsikazi district (Mpumalanga) contributes to an understanding of the water utilisation practices of rural residents. These practices result from the current state of their settlements' water supply. The effect of utilisation practices on residents' perception of quality of life was also examined.

The study provides an overview of the role and function of local government bodies in residents' daily water supply and of the role of these institutions in developing and maintaining water supply systems. The study gives a detailed account of the functioning of water utilisation facilities used by residents on a daily basis.

The study is based on the realities faced by rural residents who suffer from inadequate daily water supply. The inadequacy of the water supply was found to be due to factors caused both by water suppliers and the residents themselves.

List of key terms:

- Water supply
- Quality of life
- Rural settlements
- Water utilisation practices
- Local government bodies
- Water utilisation facilities
- Swazi residents
- Nsikazi district
- Development
- Maintenance

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SUMMARY

WATER SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN RURAL SETTLEMENTS: AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL APPROACH

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Degree: MA (Anthropology)

The study focuses on the Swazi residents of two rural settlements, Makoko and Phameni, in the Nsikazi district in Mpumalanga. The study contributes to an understanding of the water utilisation practices of rural residents. These practices are the result of the current state of their settlements' water supply. The effect of these utilisation practices on the residents' perception of their quality of life was also examined.

The study provides an overview of the role and function of local government institutions in residents' daily water supply and also of the role of these institutions in the development and maintenance of water supply systems. The study gives a detailed account of the functioning of the water utilisation facilities used by the residents of Makoko and Phameni on a daily basis.

The study is based on the realities faced by rural residents who suffer from inadequate daily water supply. The inadequacy of the water supply was found to be due to factors caused by both the water suppliers and the residents themselves. The residents' conviction that their inadequate water supply has a negative influence on their quality of life, increases understanding for the perception that the government is responsible for improving their quality of life.

OPSOMMING

WATEROORSIENING EN LEWENSKWALITEIT IN LANDELIKE NEDERSETTINGS: 'n ANTROPOLOGIESE BENADERING

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Die studie fokus op die Swazi inwoners van twee landelike nedersettings, Makoko en Phameni, in die Nsikazidistrik in Mpumalanga. Die studie dra by tot 'n beter begrip van die waterverbruikaktiwiteite van landelike inwoners. Hierdie aktiwiteite word veroorsaak deur die huidige stand van hierdie nedersettings se watertoevoer. Die uitwerking van hierdie verbruikspartone op die inwoners se siening van hulle lewenskwalityeit is ook ondersoek.

Die studie bied 'n oorsig van die rol en funksie van plaaslike regeringsliggame in die inwoners se daaglikse watervoorsiening en ook die rol wat hierdie liggame speel in die ontwikkeling en onderhoud van watervoorsieningstelsels. Die studie bied 'n gedetailleerde weergawe van die werking van die waterverbruikaktiwiteite wat daaglik deur die inwoners van Makoko en Phameni gebruik word.

Die studie is gebaseer op die werklikhede van daaglikse onvoldoende watervoorsiening wat elke dag deur landelike inwoners verduur word. Die faktore wat tot onvoldoende watervoorsiening lei, word veroorsaak deur beide die watervoorsieners en die inwoners self. Die inwoners se oortuiging dat hul watertoevoer hul lewenskwalityeit negatief beïnvloed, bied insig rakende hul oortuiging dat die regering verantwoordelik is vir die verbetering van hul lewenskwalityeit.

2.5 THE LAND TENURE SYSTEM IN MAKOKO AND PHAMENI



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ACRONYMS USED IN THE TEXT

BEC	Branch Executive Committee
C-MIP	Consolidated Municipal Infrastructural Programme
DC	District Council
DWAF	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
GNP	Gross National Product
HDPE	High density polyethylene



LC	Local Council
LEDC	Lowveld and Escarpment District Council
MC	Metropolitan Council
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RC	Representative Council
RDC	Reconstruction and Development Committee
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

MAPS

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