



## CONFERÊNCIA ONLINE

### INDÚSTRIA EXTRACTIVA EM MOÇAMBIQUE: DESAFIOS, SUCESSOS E PERSPECTIVAS

*Repensar Indústria Extractiva em Moçambique no Século XXI*

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### Researching Vale in Mozambique: a (self-)critical reflection

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#### ABSTRACT

Throughout the 2000s and 2010s, Brazil's rapprochement with Africa became the topic of a growing number of country-specific and field-based works by Brazilian scholars. Accordingly, many have drawn on Vale's presence in Mozambique to problematize the "Brazil in Africa" story altogether, scrutinizing and interrogating the oft-hailed desirability of South–South relations. Yet one part of this South–South encounter remains a missing perspective: the interactions between the (Brazilian) researcher and their Mozambican subjects and settings of research. As a Brazilian scholar myself, and drawing on four years of ethnography-based PhD research (2016-2020) on Vale's engagement in Mozambique, I propose to enrich this discussion through a methodological reflection. Data collection practices, field interactions, and ethical considerations all become issues to navigate in tandem with the wider politics of research praxis and my study has been no exception. As such, I heed on ethnographers' call for more self-reflexivity to think about Vale's trajectory and Mozambique's extractive mode of development. How are researchers' actions received and perceived? How do participants shape and contest the research project? What kind of insights does this provide to understand the impacts and inequalities of extraction more at large? And, finally, as Vale leaves, what are the (self-critical) take-aways for us researchers and our research?

ACESSO PÚBLICO



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