

Is Water the Hidden Agenda of Agricultural Land Acquisition in Sub-Saharan Africa?

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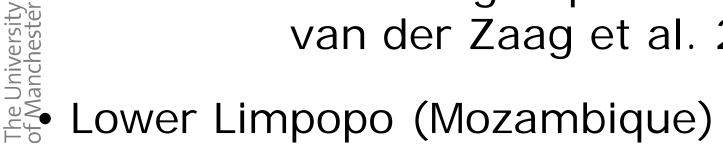
Water use may be implicit/obscured in land deals:

'blue' water use explicit: semi-arid areas, formal irrigation (e.g.Malibya, Office du Niger, Mali)

- 'Blue' water implicit: sub-humid savanna: 'adequate' total rainfall ('green water'), but unreliable:
 - High crop water requirements (sugarcane, rice)
 - Dry-season crops (wheat, vegetable, fruit)
 - Crops requiring supplementary irrigation (?)
- 'enhanced rainfed' farming: small-scale farmers (indigenous, improved?), large-scale commercial?



Estimating impacts 1 (after van der Zaag et al. 2010)



- Existing use (Mm3/yr)
 - Registered (formal irrigation) 95
 - Unregistered (informal irrig) 88
 - –Environment 240
 - -Total 423
 - -Projected (after comm invest) 1639
 - Available (Avg annual flow) 3670



Estimating Impacts



- of Manchester Power Limpobo
 - Existing irrigation (ha) 14,000
 - Projected total irrig 73,000
 - Taking account of annual flow variation
 - Water at 80% assurance 52,000 OR
 - Water at 100% assurance
 - Water at 60% assurance

30,000 22,000