

A Sub-group Decomposition of Land Inequality in the Limpopo River Basin of South Africa

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ABSTRACT Land inequality in South Africa is a problem that is deeply rooted in land use policy of the dethroned apartheid government. Although land reform is advocated as a means for rectifying the havocs of the past and ensuring that economic development process that favours the poorest segments of the population is set in motion, government has faced a lot of difficulties in its implementation. This study therefore analyzed the degree of inequality in the Limpopo River Basin. The data were collected by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy in Africa (CEEPA) in 2005. Data analysis was implemented with descriptive statistics and Gini sub-group inequality decomposition. Results show that land inequality was high with over all Gini being 0.9212. Also, inequality between the groups accounted for the highest share of total Gini. It was recommended that efforts at ensuring equity in land ownership should be speeded up with due consideration of inequality across the districts.