

## **Assessment of Factors that Could Influence Preference for Alternate Redress on Restitution Land Claims in Vhembe District, South Africa**

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**ABSTRACT** Due to slow progress of land redistribution in South Africa, and the relative success of the restitution component, the South African government passed legislation in 2014 that reopened land right claims for a five year period. This study was conducted in two villages of the Vhembe District Municipality with the aim of assessing factors that could contribute towards preference for financial compensation. A multistage sampling technique was used to select municipalities, villages and respondents. The latter were subjected to a random selection process at the village level. Quantitative data were collected by means of a pre-tested questionnaire and analysed using descriptive and inferential statistical techniques. The study found that the financial compensation was put to various uses including housing construction and acquisition of moveable household assets. Inferential statistical analyses revealed positive associations between preference for financial compensation and three explanatory variables, that is, household size, use of financial compensation and challenges experienced. A negative relationship was found between preference for financial compensation and asset ownership. The paper recommended for joint rather than extended family representative submissions of land rights claims and for government to devise strategies that would discourage preference for financial compensation.