学位論文の要旨（論文の内容の要旨）
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論 文 題 目
Dissertation title
A Critical Assessment of Conflict Transformation Capacity in the Southern African Development Community (SADC): Deepening the Search for a Self-Sustainable and Effective Regional Infrastructure for Peace (RI4P)

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博士課程後期　　　開　発　科　学　専　攻
Doctoral Program　　Division of Development Science

学 生 番 号
Student ID No.　　　D115734

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## Summary of Dissertation

Emerging international trends have seen regional organizations engaging in efforts to transform themselves in response to changing demands of the environment as well as the changing needs and problems of their member states. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is one such organization which was originally formed with a mandate to reduce economic reliance on then apartheid South Africa but which has now expanded its mandate to include the maintenance of peace and security in Southern Africa. As such it is the desire of this research to investigate SADC's efforts to transform itself for this new responsibility as well as to assess its capacity to transform the context, structure, content, issues, actors and rules of conflicts within the region towards the realization of long lasting and durable peace. The focus is also on how this transformation has embraced and respected the role of local actors as opposed to celebrating only the role of external actors as the panacea to local conflicts.

The research conducts its assessment of SADC's conflict transformation capacity at three levels; the systemic, institutional and member state levels. This is in recognition of its status a

s an Inter-governmental organisation made up of fifteen member states.[1] Conflict transform ation capacity is also assessed through the lens of Human Security which is a cross cutting i ssue needing attention at all the above three levels. The relationship between Human Securi ty and conflict stems from a recognition of poverty as a conflict issue which both triggers a nd exacerbates pre-existing conflicts. As such the research assesses SADC's capacity to tra nsform the human security aspects of conflicts in the region. A key finding of the study is t hat although the number and extent of regional conflicts has generally abated, some membe r states are still entangled in cycles of deep rooted protracted social conflicts. These are a re sult of a multiplicity of factors including historical and colonial legacies of injustice and un derdevelopment, incomplete DDR and reconciliation programmes, mediation failures, econ omic inequalities, poor service delivery, recurring cycles of violence, democratic deficits, c orruption and economic mismanagement and elitist and authoritarian cultures of governanc e just to mention a few examples.

The findings of the research reveal the fact that SADC has developed at a minimum establis hed a rudimentary capacity to transform the context, content, structure, actors, issues and ru les of regional conflicts at the systemic, institutional and member state levels. This finding extends to a recognition of the existence of at least some modicum of capacity to transform the human security aspects of regional conflicts. However these efforts have only gone skin deep in managing the conflicts but have failed to bring an end to violence at the national an d regional levels. More importantly they have failed to contain and transform the sources an d drivers of residual tension which often escalate into violence in the communities of memb er states. This was revealed in the three mini case studies of the Democratic Republic of Co ngo, Zimbabwe and Lesotho all of which are SADC member states in which SADC has rec ently intervened in an effort to transform their conflicts. The findings show that SADC does possess the capacity to initiate interventions in its member states although the impact of its interventions have  only borne short term fragile peace outcomes as opposed to long term s elf-sustainable durable peace.  In its analysis the research thus sought to explore more dyna mic and innovative methods of capacitating SADC to be able to adequately and effectively intervene in these intricate and sensitive contexts of protracted conflicts rooted in cultures o f violence and repeated conflict. The research findings thus walk the tight rope of recomme nding that SADC ought to at the risk of violating the sovereignty of its member states, earn

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[1] These are: Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe

estly develop a capacity to root out the deep seated sources and drivers of conflicts in its member states both in the short and long term. In recognition of these findings and in tandem with emerging global consensus, this study recommends that SADC should create a Regional Infrastructure for Peace (RI4P) in an effort to develop and deepen SADC's capacity to transform conflicts at the above mentioned levels.

At the systemic level it is argued that the RI4P would fill the policy and strategy vacuum that would help SADC better engage with stakeholders and project the right image to all by clarifying its common values and interests. At the institutional level, the RI4P would help to enhance SADC's efficiency by introducing institutional, strategic and policy reforms which will turn SADC into a tight ship with capacity to transform conflicts. At the member state level, the research proposes the creation of an elaborate infrastructure of peace committees starting from the lowest ward, district and regional levels in member states feeding into national peace councils and fully fledged ministries of peace on a case by case basis. Another cog in the machinery of the RI4P would ensure that SADC develops a more concerted and deliberate capacity to transform the human security aspects of regional conflicts. This will be through the creation of dedicated human security institutions, strategies and policies targeted at addressing the drivers and causes of conflicts and capacity constraints at the systemic, institutional and member state levels.

The research utilizes conflict transformation theory as its conceptual and theoretical lens which equips it with guiding posts and indicators in its assessment. The data collection and analysis is guided by the use of Qualitative research methods. A key conclusion from the research findings is that SADC has established the minimum capacity to transform conflicts which is hamstrung by implementation failures, resource constraints and the absence of an efficient and dependable institutional and policy framework underpinned by the appropriate strategies. The dissertation is comprised of seven chapters. Chapter one provides an introduction, background, literature review and identifies the problem of the study and outlines the theoretical framework. The methodology for data collection and analysis is also outline in chapter one. Chapter two to six present the findings, discussion and analysis of the findings. Chapter two conducts an assessment of SADC's Conflict Transformation capacity at the systemic level. Chapter three conducts an assessment of SADC's Conflict Transformation capacity at the institutional level. Chapter four assesses SADC's Conflict Transformation capacity at the national and member state level. Chapter five identifies the Human Security challenges in the region and conducts an assessment of SADC's capacity to transform them.

Based on the findings of the previous chapters which reveal that SADC has limited capacity to transform regional conflicts, Chapter six proposes the creation of a Regional Infrastructure for Peace (RI4P) which provides an elaborate framework to enhance SADC's conflict transformation capacity at all levels. Chapter seven concludes the study and proposes some recommendations.