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Description automatically generated

This archive contains files containing data from the following project:

**Grant Number**: ES/V012568/1

**Sponsor: ESRC**

**Project title**: **Exploring the impacts of hybridisation on the local conflict trajectories of Madagascar.**

**The School of Politics and International Relations at the University of Reading received a funding from ESRC via Dr Velomahanina Razakamaharavo to carry out a project studying processes of hybridisation in peace and conflict processes in Madagascar. The project started on September 1, 2021 and ended on 31 March 2024.**

**Exploring the impacts of hybridisation on the local conflict trajectories of Madagascar.**

**Author: Velomahanina Tahinjanahary Razakamaharavo. Data narrative**

**Credits to: Lalatiana Rakotondranaivo (ARAKE), Tommy Jocelyno Solofoniaina (ISTRCE), Minohery Mahatoky (ARAKE)**

**Data deposited:**

* **Narrative workshops and interview transcripts (in Malagasy and English/ French)**
* **Narrative workshops and interview sounds**
* **Codes**

Project Overview

This project studies the impacts of hybridisation processes in peace and conflict processes in Madagascar. Specifically, it examines the effects of the interaction of the international and the local on conflict trajectories in both the centre (Antananarivo) and the periphery ( Antsiranana (Diego), Fenoarivo Atsinanana (Fenerive Est), Toamasina (Tamatave), Mahajanga (Majunga), and Marovoay), and over three periods of time, each with different international influences: post-1945 French colonial rule (1945 - 1960), the post-colonial period (1960 - 1991), and the post-cold war period (since 1991).

Narrative workshops and semi-structured interviews were conducted to discuss the following topics: the understanding of the conflicts in Madagascar by the participants, external influences in Madagascar and the roles these play in peace and conflict processes in the country, conflict resolution and mediation initiatives to address root causes of conflicts in Madagascar, gendered aspects of these processes, and opinions of the participants regarding the best ways to address conflict recurrence in the country. The results of this research project have the potential to develop evidence-based solutions and interventions to address the unintended consequences of external interventions in Madagascar and resolve internal problems among key actors as well structural factors causing (re)occurrences of conflicts at various levels (community-wise, local, regional, and national levels)

Data Collection Overview

The Principal Investigator, alongside the research team, conducted 33 narrative workshops engaging 207 participants across various locations: Tamatave (Atsinanana region), Fenerive-Est (Analanjirofo Region), Antananarivo (Analamanga region), Marovoay and Mahajanga (Boeny region), and Antsiranana (DIANA region). Participants, carefully selected through intersectional approaches with a consideration for gender issues, represented diverse backgrounds and generations, including youth, elders, men, women, politicians, traditional leaders, diplomats, washerwomen, state officials, activists, NGO leaders, association members and more, with ages ranging from 22 to 84.

These narrative workshops were conducted in confidential and intimate settings to foster an environment where participants could freely express themselves without fear of reprisals. Depending on participants' willingness and requests, session durations varied from 1 hour and 30 minutes to 5 hours. Employing the Delphi Technique across three separate sessions with breaks, a series of questions were posed to facilitate discussions.

At the conclusion of each workshop, the research team withdrew to outline preliminary findings and identify key shared narratives. Participants were then given the opportunity to express their agreement, disagreement, or indecision regarding these shared narratives.

Subsequently, to delve deeper into identified themes, the research team conducted in-depth semi-directed interviews with 38 participants selected for their expertise in and experience related to relevant topics.

All narrative workshops and interviews were meticulously recorded, transcribed, coded and analyzed using discourse analysis. Prior to each session, participants provided oral or written consent, retaining the right to withdraw from the project at any time. Raw data were accessible only to research team members bound by confidentiality agreements and stored securely on password-protected equipment.

In adherence to Malagasy cultural norms, for easy re-use and re-coding, and out of respect for participants' time investment, full transcripts of the narrative workshops are made available, albeit with anonymized data to safeguard participants' identities. However, upon their own request, participants who wished to have their names disclosed are specially mentioned on the research project's website.

Selection and Organization of Shared Data

The data files consist of a folder containing transcripts from narrative workshops and interviews conducted in Malagasy and/or French, along with corresponding English translations, as well as sanitized audio recordings devoid of any identifying information to protect participant confidentiality. Voice alterations were applied to further ensure anonymity.

The second folder contains documentation files including the participant consent form, this data narrative, and an administrative README file for clarity and organization and the codes which allowed the categorization of information that were instrumental in addressing the research questions:

1. What dynamics underlie hybridization, particularly the emergence of international (liberal/illiberal) and local/non-liberal institutions, practices, and values in Madagascar?
2. How do these dynamics influence local conflict trajectories, including escalation, de-escalation, and the prolongation of conflict stages in the country?