

# Table of Contents

<b>List of Figures</b> .....	10
<b>List of Tables</b> .....	11
<b>List of Photos</b> .....	12
<b>List of Abbreviations</b> .....	13
<b>1 Introduction</b>	
Peri-urban Areas as the Habitat of the Future .....	15
1.1 Relevance and Motivation .....	18
1.2 Objectives and Research Questions .....	23
1.3 Structure of the Dissertation .....	25
<b>2 Theoretical and Conceptual Considerations</b>	
Applying the Phenomenology of the Life-world to Peri-urban Spaces and Governance .....	28
2.1 Life-world Phenomenology and Human Geography .....	28
2.1.1 The Philosophical Foundations of Interpretative Life-world Research	28
2.1.2 The Methodological Journey of Schütz's Life-world Theory .....	34
2.1.3 The Life-world from the Perspective of Human Geography .....	39
2.1.4 Towards a Geography of Lived Experiences .....	45
2.2 Conceptualising Peri-urban Life-worlds .....	56
2.2.1 Urban vs. Rural: Approaching the Phenomenon of Peri-urbanisation	56
2.2.2 The Marginalisation of Peri-urban Spaces in Urban Studies .....	58
2.2.3 Conceptualisations of Peri-urbanisation in the Global North and South .....	62
2.2.4 Understanding Peri-urbanity through a Phenomenological Life-world Perspective .....	69
2.3 Governance Interactions and the Actor Perspective .....	74
2.3.1 From Government to Governance: on the Emergence of a Concept ..	74
2.3.2 Governance, the State, and Self-organisation in Sub-Sahara Africa ..	76
2.3.3 A Relational Actor Perspective for Assessing Peri-urban Governance and Conflicts .....	78
2.3.4 Agency vs. Structure: towards a Dialectical Theory of Social Action ..	81

**3 Methodology and Qualitative Research Design**  
Reconstructing Life-world Experiences. .... 84

3.1 Positionality, Reflexivity, Reciprocity, and Dialogue. .... 84

3.2 The Methodological Challenges of Researching Lived Experiences ..... 89

3.3 Place-based Research and Life-world-analytical Ethnography ..... 93

3.4 Design of the Empirical Research Process and Methods of Data Collection. 100

3.4.1 Explorative Fieldwork and Expert Interviews. .... 102

3.4.2 Ethnographic Fieldwork ..... 104

3.4.3 Integration of Secondary Data. .... 111

3.5 Analytical and Interpretative Strategies ..... 112

**4 Maputo and the Study Area**  
Setting the Scene for Peri-urban Life-worlds. .... 117

4.1 The Historical Context of Maputo. .... 118

4.1.1 Early Settlements on the Indian Ocean. .... 118

4.1.2 A Colonial History of Exclusion and Oppression ..... 120

4.1.3 Frelimo’s Socialist Revolution and the Mozambican Independence.. 124

4.2 The Contemporary Context of Urban Planning and Land Management .... 127

4.2.1 The Legal Framework for Housing, Land and Planning ..... 128

4.2.2 Recent Large-scale Infrastructure Projects. .... 130

4.2.3 Administrative Divisions and Municipal Structures ..... 131

4.3 Maputo’s Peri-urban Coastal Plain: the Case for Life-world Analysis ..... 133

4.3.1 Historical Outline of the Study Area. .... 134

4.3.2 Administrative Characteristics and Demographic Dynamics. .... 136

4.3.3 Description of the Peri-urban Transect from the Centre  
to the Periphery ..... 138

**5 Understanding Peri-urban Life-worlds**  
Being a Peri-urban Dweller in Maputo ..... 144

5.1 The Meaning of the Dwelling Place: how Do People Live  
in Peri-urban Areas? ..... 147

5.1.1 Peri-urban Land Access: Finding a Place in Space ..... 148

5.1.2 The Creation of the Home and the Multifunctional Meaning  
of the Plot ..... 156

5.2 Peri-urban Infrastructures and Mobilities: how Do People Experience  
and Appropriate their Neighbourhoods? ..... 165

5.2.1 The Temporality of the Neighbourhood and “People as Infrastructure” 166

5.2.2 Peri-urban Mobilities and the “Zone of Operation” ..... 174

5.3 The Meaningful Place of the *Machambas*:  
what Does it Mean to Be a Peri-urban Farmer in Maputo? ..... 181

5.3.1 The Spatial Organisation of Agricultural Production. .... 182

5.3.2	Everyday Life and the Temporal Structure of the Seasons .....	185
5.3.3	The Collective Organisation in Farmers' Associations .....	188
5.4	Peri-urban Sociality: how Do People Live together in the Neighbourhood? .	193
5.4.1	Social Interaction between Collectivisation and Individualisation...	193
5.4.2	Peri-urban Sociality as a "Finite Province of Meaning" .....	199
5.5	Towards a Thesis on the Constitutive Dimensions of Peri-urbanity: Locality, Self-sufficient Practice, and Community.....	203
<b>6</b>	<b>Explaining Peri-urban Governance and Conflicts</b>	
	State-Society Interactions at the Peri-urban Interface.....	210
6.1	Local Governance Arrangements at a Crossroads .....	211
6.1.1	Land Governance and Tenure .....	211
6.1.2	Community Authorities as "Twilight Institutions".....	215
6.2	Assessing Peri-urban Discontinuities through a Relational Actor Perspective .....	220
6.2.1	The Ambiguity of Urban Plans and Land Use Titles.....	223
6.2.1.1	<i>Socio-spatial Transformations through the Elaboration of Parcelling Plans</i> ....	223
6.2.1.2	<i>Citizen-led Planning as a new Structural Condition</i> .....	227
6.2.1.3	<i>Tenure Security vs. Displacement: Differential Effects of Land Use Titles</i> .....	232
6.2.1.4	<i>Social Alienation and Loss of Place: "these Levels Don't Match"</i> .....	239
6.2.2	Green Spaces Contested: Land Use Conflicts between Peri-urban Agriculture and Real Estate Developments.....	245
6.2.2.1	<i>Land Use Changes and the Encroachment of Housing Developments</i> .....	245
6.2.2.2	<i>Valorising Common Land for Private Profits</i> .....	249
6.2.2.3	<i>Strategies vs. Tactics: a Differential Scope of Action to Contest Land Grabs</i> .....	255
6.2.2.4	<i>Political Scale and Discontinuities regarding the Meaning of Land</i> .....	263
6.3	Towards an Antithesis of State-Society Interactions: Revisiting the Theory-Development Dualism .....	270
<b>7</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	
	a Synergy between Peri-urban Life-worlds and the Actor Perspective.....	278
7.1	Towards a Synthesis between Peri-urbanity and State-Society Interactions: a Realistic Life-world Approach to Planning .....	279
7.2	Implications for Future Research.....	288
	<b>References</b> .....	293
	<b>Annex</b> .....	317
	<b>Abstract</b> .....	323
	<b>Zusammenfassung</b> .....	325