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Mozambique reports, Human Responses project Phase II

An important part of the Human Responses project Phase II was the further training of participants in different fieldwork techniques. Together with the Mozambican colleagues of Eduardo Mondlane University, the team at African and Comparative Archaeology arranged a six week long fieldcourse in Chibuene. The course was very successful and brought participants from Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Sweden.



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Mozambique Fieldschool

As part of Phase II of the [HRAC project](#), the African and Comparative archaeology unit at the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Uppsala University, undertook to arrange a regional field school for archaeologists at Chibuene, Vilanculos district in Mozambique. The idea of a field school had been raised at a field trip during the 1997 HRAC regional meeting in Maputo, and would be a joint venture between Mozambican and Swedish archaeologists, inviting other teachers from the countries participating in the HRAC project.

Chibuene is an early trading site on the coast 700 km north of Maputo and is located in an area of diverse resources with evidence of cattle keeping agriculture and long term reliance on the marine environment. New results from excavations conducted by P. Sinclair under Phase I of the HRAC project indicate the existence of an early farming community occupation of the site (report forthcoming). This raises the possibilities of comparative research with

that done on the Tanzanian coast by Dr F. Chami and on Zanzibar by A. Juma.

The site of Chibuene contains the earliest trade goods known in southern Africa and it provides a point of entry for goods found in the southern African interior.



The field school created a vast interest among Mozambican archaeology students as well as institutions in countries participating in the [HRAC project](#). Due to logistical problems, the number had to be limited. Apart from learning various excavation techniques, the students also familiarised themselves with equipment such as handheld GPS and lasertheodolite totalstation.

Together with the local population, the student also took part in a documentary filmed by the Swedish Television (broadcasted in Sweden in late January).