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# Survey of raw material sources in the Machampane river valley, Massingir Mozambique: preliminary geochemical analysis

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## Résumé

As part of the on-going project "Stone Age Vilankulos: Modern Human Origins Research South of the Rio Save, Mozambique", a geoarchaeological survey of lithic raw material sources in the Machampane river valley was completed in the summer of 2017. A total of 50 raw material samples were removed from the outcrops surrounding the Late Stone Age (LSA) open-air site of Txina Txina (7600m<sup>2</sup>), and were divided into groups based on megascopic properties; such as color, luster, inclusions, and texture of the raw material. This study presents the preliminary results of the microscopic and geochemical classification of these raw materials, using a compilation of FT-IR, p-XRF, and EBD lv-SEM chemical composition readings, in an attempt to define the geochemical fingerprints of the available lithic raw material sources for the region. These samples will serve as the sole raw material database for the region; allowing researchers to better classify the lithic material, and their sources, found in the Machampane river valley. Preliminary data on the chemical composition and an analysis of raw material "quality" are presented here.

**Mots-Clés:** Southeast Africa, Geoarchaeology, Lithic Raw material, Geochemistry, Old world Archaeology

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