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## [Song from Mozambique: Plantations Are NOT Forests](#)

**We share this song, composed by the organizations Justicia Ambiental, Missão Tabita and AJOCME, from Mozambique. Plantations are not forests!!!**

Lyrics:

(Chorus)

Plantations are not forests  
Plantations are not forests  
Our land is our life  
Our future is our land

(Stanza)

Don't be fooled  
They arrived at our house  
Loaded with promises and smiles,  
They convinced us that they brought  
development  
They convinced us that they brought a  
better life  
They convinced us that it was enough to  
hand over part of our land that our lives  
would improve

They promised us development  
They promised us jobs  
They promised us schools and hospitals  
They promised us a better life  
They brought eucalyptus  
But we didn't know it

(Chorus)

Plantations are not forests  
Plantations are not forests  
Our land is our life  
Our future is our land

(Stanza)

They took our land  
They took our water  
They took our joy  
They took our future

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Our land is our life  
They asked for what?  
Only part of our land  
They took everything  
Plantations are not forests  
We were robbed with beautiful words

Plantations are not forests  
We were deceived with promises  
We were deceived with lies  
And when the promises and smiles were  
gone  
They threatened us  
They humiliated us  
Plantations are not forests  
Promises are not agreements  
Your profit is not our development  
Our land is our life

(Voice)  
In the first days they arrived in the villages,  
they deceived us with oil, sweets, cakes for  
children, and the community leaders were  
given flashlights along with a Solar panel  
and with a bicycle to try to deceive us to  
hand in our lands.  
Now we have seen that we lost sight.

(Chorus)  
Plantations are not forests  
Plantations are not forests  
Our land is our life  
Our future is our land

(Voice)  
Now we have seen that these trees in neat  
lines are not forests  
The forests that we had, from where we  
took mushrooms to feed our children, cut  
sticks and grass to cover our houses.  
Hooo Now with these trees we are  
miserable. Where are we going to end up?

By Justiça Ambiental