EXAMINATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF LAND RESTITUTION IN THE MAKULEKE COMMUNITY OF LIMPOPO PROVINCE

BY

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DECLARATION

I, Mkhombo V.V. hereby declare that this dissertation for the Masters in Rural Development (MRDV) at the University of Venda hereby submitted by me, has not been submitted previously for a degree at this or any other university, that it is my own work in design and in execution and that all reference material contained therein has been duly acknowledged.

Signature ..... **Date**.....25.08.2015

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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to examine the social and economic benefits of land restitution in the Makuleke Community of Vhembe District, Limpopo Province. Both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection and analysis were used. A questionnaire was administered to 100 randomly selected respondent beneficiaries. Twenty-one beneficiaries were interviewed as individuals and/ or focus groups. Thematic content analysis was used to analyse qualitative data. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences version 22.0 was used to compute frequencies of responses. The beneficiaries acknowledged that there were various benefits that accrued to them and the Makuleke community. The benefits had considerable impact on their livelihoods. It was revealed that jobs had been created through community projects although only few beneficiaries were absorbed. Social benefits were mainly in the form of improved infrastructure that included constructed roads and regular maintenance, sanitation, clinics and schools. Within the community projects, beneficiaries benefited from skills transfer and training. However, the respondents pointed out that there were challenges that significantly affected them as beneficiaries of land restitution. The most critical situation among them was poor working conditions and the fact that most jobs were seasonal. Wages were low and not attractive. Complaints about poor local market for their products were raised. It was believed that appropriate intervention by either government or big businesses could bring about significant changes that could help reduce poverty and hunger. These results confirm that land restitution was beneficial to Makuleke residents. Moreover, the results provided an understanding of the prevailing situation which could be used to make informed decisions for better performance of land restitution projects. Further research is required to investigate whether age and gender effects existed with respect to perceptions on social and economic benefits of land restitution in Makuleke community.

Key Words: Land restitution, beneficiaries, economic benefits, social benefits, challenges.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ANC	African National Congress
CLT	Community Land Trust
CPA	Communal Property Association
CRLR	Commission on Restitution of Land Rights
DALR	Direct Action Land Reform
DLA	Department of Land Affairs
DRDLR	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
ESTA	Extension of Security Tenure Act
FoM	Friends of Makuleke
iSWP	iSimangaliso Wetland Park
KNP	Kruger National Park
LECP	Legitimacy Enhancing Compensation Programme
LRP	Land Restitution Programme
NPB	National Parks Board
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SANP	South African National Parks
SAPS	South African Police Services
SED	Socially and Economically Disadvantaged
SLAG	Settlement Land Acquisition Grant
US	United States of America

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introductory Remarks

Land reform is a political principle of restructuring land ownership. Over the years, it has been viewed as an appropriate tool for redressing inequalities in countries that have large rural populations (Simmons, Walker, Pertz, Aldrich, Caldas, Pereira, Leite, Fernandes and Arima, 2009). According to De Villiers (2003), land reform is one of the most difficult domestic policies in Zimbabwe, Namibia, South Africa and Australia. In South Africa, land reform is commonly achieved through land restitution, redistribution, and tenure reform. Restitution aims to restore land or provide alternative forms of redress to people dispossessed of their rights by racially discriminatory legislation. In contrast, redistribution focuses on re-allocation of land to those without it so that they use it for residential and/or productive purposes. Lastly, tenure reform addresses issues such as insecure ownership, utilization period and disputed rights to land (Weinberg and Showman, 2007). This study focused on land restitution.

Available literature reveals that there are many views on land restitution. According to Atuahene (2009), huge property, land in particular has been unjustly acquired or transferred through force at various points throughout history. Americans, for example, seized land forcibly from native people. Under Hitler, the Nazis plundered vast amounts of property that Jews owned. In communist countries, newly united governments expropriated property without paying compensation. Colonial powers usurped vast tracts of land in Africa, Latin America and Asia. The land was transferred to European settlers. This should be viewed as property theft. Land restitution or reparations is considered as a remedy for past property theft.

It is important to highlight that a brutal and drawn-out process of conquest and dispossession of indigenous people shaped South African history. This culminated in the segregation rule that the National party government presided over from the 1950s to the early 1990s when the country attained democracy. Between 1950 and 1980 about 3-5 million South Africans were forcibly relocated to marginal land. These are the target beneficiaries of the land restitution programme.

The main objectives of the South African restitution programme include reconciling a bitterly divided population and returning to people the land that was cruelly and unlawfully taken away from them. In order to qualify for restitution of a land right a claimant should have been

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dispossessed of right in land after 19 June 1913 through the past racially discriminatory laws or practices. In addition, the claimant should have lodged the claim between May 1995 and 31 December 1998. There is government policy which clarifies that the South African restitution process seeks to restore land and provide other restitutionary remedies to people dispossessed by racially discriminatory legislation and practice in such a way as to provide support to the vital process of reconciliation, reconstruction and development (du Plessis, 2004).The South Africa Land Restitution Programme (LRP) is designed to remedy land dispossession through recognizing land claims dating as far back as 1913. This is the case despite the fact that even though systematic, unjust land dispossession had occurred since the arrival of Europeans in South Africa in 1652. In order to change people"s beliefs on land restitution, the Legitimacy Enhancing Compensation programme (LECP) was introduced (Atuahene, 2009). In this programme, proof of previous ownership was a prerequisite for submitting a land claim.

According to De Villiers (2003), land reform is more than a mere land claim driven processes, where affected people claim back ancestral land. Even though it includes the land claim process, it refers also to the acquisition of land for distribution to the landless, and changing and securing tenure to assure protection for those who occupy it.

The government of South Africa recognised that land restitution is a powerful tool for meaningful rural transformation and community development. It is used to resolve property that was dispossessed from the original owner (Everingham and Jannecke, 2006). The processes of land restitution in South Africa is carried through land claim, following the land claim Act of South Africa, Victims of forced removal could claim as a collective or as an individual, however the Makuleke community was not an exception in this regard. Land claim processes were also carried out. The claim was prepared as a collective.

Wynberg and Sowman (2007), define land reform in South Africa in its three forms that have implemented following decades of apartheid, The main objective was an attempt to redress inequalities and to execute transformation, through a comprehensive land based development programme that includes three remedies; restitution which aims to restore land and provide an alternative land, land redistribution which addresses allocation of land for residential purpose, and land tenure reform, this aims to address issues such as insecure tenure.

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As described by Ramutsindela (2007), South Africa"s driven land reform rests on three pillars namely: land redistribution, tenure reform and restitution. Land restitution is meant to restore land rights mostly to black people who were removed from their land on racial grounds.

1.2 Background

To have a broader understanding of land restitution of Makuleke community, it is of great importance to understand the initial settlement of this community. The Makuleke community initially settled at a place that was identified as the Pafuri Triangle, situated at the far end of the Kruger National Park (KNP), bordering upon Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The community land was bounded by the Limpopo River in the north and the Luvhuvu River in the south. This area is a highly important wild life area in South Africa, because it contains up to 75 % of the biodiversity of the country"s biggest wildlife park (Steenkamp and Uhr, 2000). In his memorandum, Maluleke (2012) mentioned that the Makuleke community so occupied their land in accordance with the customary laws from the 1820 or 1830"s prior to colonization by European settlers. Due to forced removal the Makuleke community languished at the present day Makuleke village. This arrangement was the best because their place of origin is one of the protected areas in South Africa. Wildlife would not have been compromised.

The Makuleke community lived in scattered villages throughout the Pafuri region, where they survived through natural resources. In drought years most of the men migrated to the then Transvaal to seek employment in mines and factories. These migrant labourers would return home to their communities during the rainy season (Robins and Van der Waal, 2008). According to Ramutsindela (2003) conflict of interest among state departments and/or officials resulted in communities remaining in national reserve parks for a considerable time. Subsequent to that the Makuleke community was opposed to relocation.

As a result of passive resistance the community in question was forcibly removed from the Pafuri area in 1969. Most of their land was sequestrated into the KNP and Madimbo corridor a military cordon sanitaire along the Zimbabwean border. A community with a population size of 2000 people, was settled about fifty kilometres south-west of their original settlement (Steenkamp and Uhr, 2000) The Department of Native Affairs initially wanted to modernize the Makuleke tribe through the establishment of an irrigation scheme, however the National Parks Board (NPB) persistently argued and finally succeeded in forcibly relocating them as subjects of the Mhinga Traditional Authority. As early as 1947 the Makuleke tribe repudiated

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their allegiance to Mhinga. The fact that they were relocated at the periphery of the park, further away from their enforced Mhinga chieftainship, rendered them increasingly independent.

At the new site, the Makuleke community experienced hardships especially due to droughts in the first years of settlement (Robinson and Van der Walt, 2008). According to Connor (2001), the most important source of survival around Pafuri came from the natural environment. The Limpopo River for water and irrigation of vegetable fields, seasonal rain for dry land farming and the tapping of the ilala palm for wine *(vucema*), were activities that sustain residents in periods of drought. This state of affairs was often lamented by the Makuleke residents in their new settlement due to the limitation of resources as compared to their original settlement. Limpopo River was their jewel: it provided water, vegetables along the banks and fish as well.

The Restitution of Land Rights Act of November 1994 was the first major piece of legislation by the Government of National Unity to redress the injustices of the apartheid era in South Africa. It provided for the establishment of a Commission on the Restitution of Land Rights to investigate claims for the restoration of land ownership and other land rights (Christopher, 1995). In 1998 the Makuleke community successfully reclaimed their lost land after a long court battle (Robins and Van der Waal, 2008). In order to give a glimpse of how the proceedings of this court were conducted Judge Dodson (1998) passed a judgment based on Case Number 90/98 in the Land Claims Court of South Africa. When considering the Makuleke land claim, the judge noted that the community had settled on 23 700 hectares north of the Kruger National Park for a period of between 150 and 200 years before dispossession by RSA. This was a lengthy period indeed such that they still had very strong spiritual links hence they tolerated the delay that was caused by court battles.

At restoration it was agreed that the Makuleke community regains ownership of the Pafuri Triangle which was consequently renamed the Makuleke Region of the KNP (Steenkamp and Uhr, 2000).The land could however only be used for conservation purposes. Subsequent to that the Makuleke community was obliged to enter a 50 years contractual agreement with the KNP. In the process the Makuleke community gained commercial rights that would accrue from the area in addition to a variety of other cultural and user rights. It was deemed impossible for the community to remain in the park, if the main objective of the KNP was to expand its activities of nature conservation. There was no way in which a protected area could become a residential area in South Africa. In order to speed up the process of land reform, the Ministry of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) was

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created in 2009. For the first time in the history of South Africa, the country would have a ministry dedicated to the social and economic development of rural South Africa (Department of Rural Development and Land reform, 2013).

1.3 Statement of the Research Problem

Through the land reform programme, the South African government seeks to restore land that was lost through apartheid legislation and also ensure that beneficiaries acquire economic and social benefits. Available literature attests to a dearth of information regarding processes that led to land reformation in South Africa and most developing countries in the world. Land reform should be regarded as having failed if their intended objectives of transferring socio-economic benefits are not realized. In Limpopo, the Makuleke community is one of the most prominent land reform initiatives. Although the Makuleke community acquired rights of ownership to its lost land, it is not clear whether there are significant social and economic benefits that have accrued to it as a result. A concerted literature search could not unearth this crucial information, prompting this study with the aim of providing answers to the question: what have been the social and economic benefits derived from the Makuleke land restitution project? Answers that emanate from this exercise will help the Makuleke community and policymakers and those interested in the land restitution programme in crafting improvement programmes.

1.4 Objectives

The main objective of the study was to examine the benefits of land restitution, both socially and economically, to the Makuleke community in Limpopo Province. The specific objectives were to determine the:

a) Biographic characteristics of the restitution project beneficiaries;
b) Economic benefits that were derived from restitution project;
c) Social benefits emanating from the restitution project; and
d) Challenges faced by project beneficiaries.

1.5 Research Questions

The research questions related to this study are:

a) What are the biographic characteristics of Makuleke Land Restitution beneficiaries?
b) What are the economic benefits derived from the project?
c) What are the social benefits emanating from the project?
d) What are the challenges faced by project beneficiaries?

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1.6 Research Hypotheses

The following were hypotheses of the study:

a) Most beneficiaries of the Makuleke Land Restitution project are young women;
b) The Makuleke Land Restitution project has provided job opportunities to beneficiaries;
c) Through income generated from the project, the community has benefited from various infrastructures, including improved health facilities, schools, recreation centres, roads and skills transfer.
d) Challenges facing the community are few.

1.7 Conceptual Framework of the Study

The conceptual framework of this study on socio-economic benefits of land restitution is depicted in Figure 1.1. It shows the relationship between the key variables that were investigated. Accompanying this are the associated challenges.

1.8 Definition of Key Words

In this study, *restitution* refers to the restoration of land or to provide alternative forms of redress to people dispossessed of their rights by racially discriminatory legislation (Sikor and Muller, 2009). *Economic benefits* are anything that gives someone advantages in financial and material terms. Closely linked to this are *social benefits*, which are advantages related to the livelihoods of people. This study focuses on examination of both social and economic benefits. In this regard, *examination* entails studying both economic and social benefits carefully in order to understand them better. Another key term or concept that serves as a drive in this study is *redistribution*, which Ramutsindela (2009) explains it as the allocation of land for residential and farming purposes.

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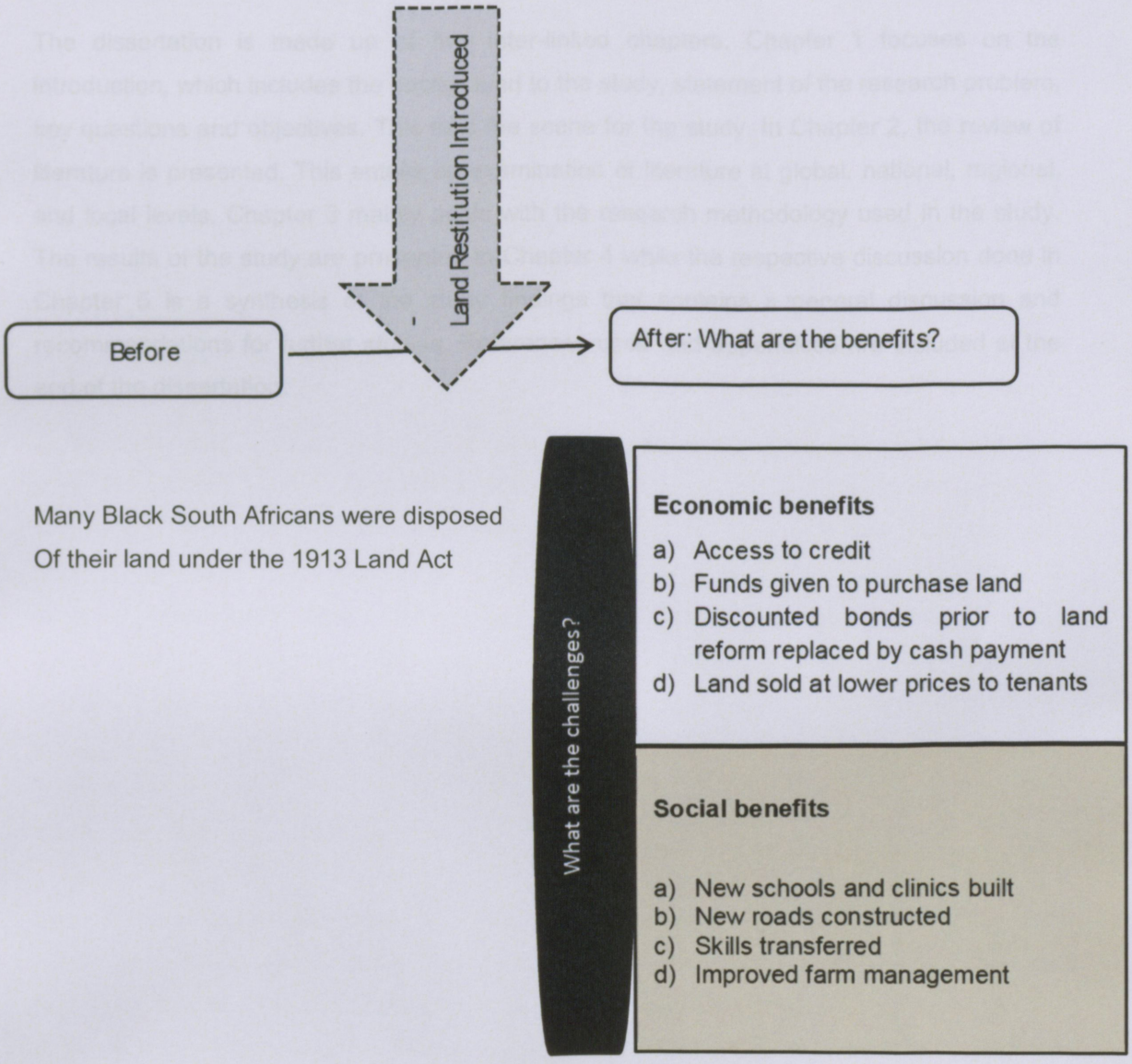


Figure 1.1 Conceptual framework of the socio-economic benefits and challenges of land restitution in the Makuleke community in Limpopo Province of South Africa

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1.9 Organization of the Dissertation

The dissertation is made up of five inter-linked chapters. Chapter 1 focuses on the introduction, which includes the background to the study, statement of the research problem, key questions and objectives. This sets the scene for the study. In Chapter 2, the review of literature is presented. This entails an examination of literature at global, national, regional, and local levels. Chapter 3 mainly deals with the research methodology used in the study. The results of the study are presented in Chapter 4 while the respective discussion done in Chapter 5 is a synthesis of the study findings that contains a general discussion and recommendations for further studies. References used and appendices are included at the end of the dissertation.

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CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter reviews literature on land restitution, mainly focusing on socio-economic benefits and challenges encountered by beneficiaries. Oriented literature from the global, national and regional, perspective was reviewed, with specific emphases on Mexico, Brazil, India, Japan, Colombia, South Korea, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Botswana and South Africa. Literature review is done to help shape the study using current knowledge. The review also helped refine the research problem and to learn how others delineated similar problems.

As described by De Villiers (2003), it is quite evident that the land issue of Southern Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa in particular holds the key to the stability and instability of the region. Hence Nujoma of Namibia once remarked in one of the meetings with Ministers of Lands in the region that "land is key to social and economic development of Southern African Development Community (SADC). This remark highlights the importance of land availability, without land socio-economic development in the SADC region cannot be realized. Farming is still perceived as the possible route that could rescue the continent from poverty".

2.2 Perceptions on Land Restitution

Land reform may be implemented in any of the three forms, namely land redistribution, land restitution and land tenure reform. The objectives of the three components of land reform are the same, that of improving livelihoods of beneficiaries. As described by Boudreaux (2010), in South Africa land restitution programme is based on the Restitution of Land Rights Act (No 22) of 1994. Under the Act one of the terms is that individuals or communities that are forcibly removed due to apartheid laws, such as the 1913 Natives Land Act or the 1936 Native Trust and Land Act were eligible of submitting claims to Land Claims Court.

According to Ramutsindela (2007), land restitution as a segment in the African National Congress (ANC) 1994 election manifesto in South Africa envisioned that land restitution would be used to address the sufferings caused by apartheid forced removals approach, but failed to highlight the nature of forced removal that would be valid for restitution. The same author mentioned that forced removals under apartheid has taken a different dimension, ranging from loading people and property on to government trucks to betterment planning.

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Over and above that the National Committee (1995) is of the view that restitution should not be limited to land claims arising from direct actions of the apartheid approach such as forced removal, but the real infringement of rights, through actions such as farm evictions, betterment planning, corruption and maladministration is to be recognized as legitimate claims to be addressed through the restitution process. Longman (2012) describes land Restitution as a programme with a specific mission in South Africa, namely to promote equity for victims of dispossession, particularly the landless and the rural poor, this gesture is government initiative. In order to facilitate development initiatives all stakeholders relevant to land claims are brought together, and to promote reconciliation through the restitution process, and to contribute towards an equitable redistribution of land rights. Many countries around the World have approached land reform in its three states simultaneously, and many of these are regarded as highly successful, although the definition of success in land reform is controversial, one benchmark is that reform allows peasants to escape from poverty (Ramutsindela, 2007). The focus of the current study is on land restitution, to review how this programme is implemented throughout the world and then narrow down to the study area, Makuleke village. The main objective of reviewing literature is to investigate if this government initiated programme benefitted Makuleke community, economically and socially and what are the challenges thereof. In most cases, components of Land reform globally are not discussed in isolation. Land tenure reform, land redistribution and land restitution are jointly discussed. Generally, in Africa there is a clear line cut that separates the three components from one another, while European countries such as Australia there is no clear land reform policy, Land reform comprise of three main elements, namely: the recognition of native title through a litigious and adversarial process; the acquisition of land by indigenous Land Corporation; and the transfer of Aboriginal reserves held by state governments to the Aboriginal people themselves (De Villiers, 2003).

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2.3 Economic Benefits Accruing from Land Restitution: A Worldwide View

Land reform, according to Simmons, Perz. Aldrich, Caldas, Pereira, Leite, Fernandes and Arima (2009) are introduced in countries with large rural populations following World War II. The main objective is to solve persistent problems of poverty (Magaloni, Weingast and Diaz-Cayeros, 2008). Simmons *et al.* (2009) further noted that land reform in some developing countries such as Mexico did bring economic benefits, although these are not quite visible. In India it is largely used as a means to acquire collateral to access credit, while in Brazil beneficiaries received funds to purchase land. These funds are extended to beneficiaries as a pro forma credit that is to be repaid upon emancipation (an official declaration that the farmer is now able to farm independently).

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In countries such as Mexico and Colombia landlords are compensated with highly discounted bonds prior land reform, this gesture is one of the economic benefits, but when land reform is implemented they are paid cash, which is a strong incentive for land transfers. Beneficiaries also receive subsidies from government (Deininger, 1999). In Japan land is sold to the tenants at low prices. Land restructuring in that country therefore become a reality as tenants are also provided an opportunity to manage and own property. In South Korea land reform is accomplished under external pressure with the support of the US government. The ensuing reduction of farm rents enables many tenants to afford property ownership (Bhatta, 2010). It is worth mentioning that in other parts of the world such as Hungary and Romania mixed strategies are implemented, whereby land is restituted to former owners but a portion is also distributed free to agricultural workers in the interest of social equity (Deininger, 2002). Yet in Africa there is a clear cut separation of the three components, namely Land Redistribution, Land Restitution and Land Tenure .

2.4 Economic Benefits Accruing from Land Restitution in African States

Land policy reforms are once again on the agenda of many African governments and their donors (Peters, 2008). Zimbabwe, has this slogan coined by the ruling party for the parliamentary elections of June 2000, "Land is the economy and the economy is land" (Hellum, 2004), the slogan is one of the strategies used by the Zimbabwean government to give hope to poverty alleviation to the citizens. As recorded by Kinsey (2004) land reform beneficiaries for the most part become better farmers as they manage to increase both productivity and production levels. During the early years of the so called Golden Age (1980"s) of the resettlement program, beneficiaries received exceptional levels of support services, for an example access to credit, resulting in massive crop yields that placed Zimbabwe as the food basket of Southern Africa.

According to Moyo (1999) land reform is used as a strategy to bolster an unpopular regime. This is implemented for the purpose of attaining political stability and promoting economic efficiency through reducing the size of land holdings. Zimbabwe also experience illegal restitution processes called squatting, land self-provisioning become a crucial aspect of the evolution of land reform.

Ghana formulated a National Land Policy, with the vision of individualizing land that would improve land market transfers (Obeng-Odoom, 2012). The Kenyan communal land trust that is introduced with assistance from Americans is instrumental in influencing the country"s economic approach, especially as regards to access to capital. Loans could be accessed in

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groups without discrimination to older people, women and informal sector employees as members of the Community Land Trust (CLT) (Bassett and Jacobs, 1997), Botswana land reform initiatives is hailed as being exemplary (Kalabamu, 2000). The same author also notes that as a result, Botswana transformed from being one of the poorest country in Africa to be one of the richest. The transition took place peacefully.

2.5 Economic Benefits Accrued from Land Restitution in South Africa

In South Africa, the land reform program is being implemented following decades of apartheid when racially biased land dispossessions are practiced (Wynberg and Sowman, 2007). It is worth mentioning that land reform in post-apartheid South Africa is proved to be a complex exercise and viewed by many to be an expensive failure (Cousins, 2009). However, in certain areas it led to economic benefits. Some economic benefits deriving from the policy are reflected below.

First, the Mfengu Tsitsikamma Trust, a restitution project in the Eastern Cape, leased some of its restored farms to white farmers as a way of generating income (Christopher, 1995); this model did benefit the community economically. Secondly, in Kwazulu-Natal the iSimangaliso Wetland Park (iSWP) restitution project, victims of forced removal are prepared to agree for resettlement due to economic benefits. (Chellan and Khan, 2008).

The Khula village for an example planned to grow in economic strength from the financial opportunities provided for by the resettlement scheme. Beneficiaries are given an opportunity to maintain the indigenous forest, as tourist attraction points, especially for international visitors, with their high revenue generation potential; however most of the benefits accrued to the leadership elite were in the form of lucrative business deals (Chellan *et al.*, 2008). Fraser (2007) recorded that within the Levubu farms in Limpopo Province commercial farmers are to enter into partnership with the beneficiaries, for production and management of avocados, macadamia nuts, mangoes and bananas. These produce are used for domestic consumption and export with profit being proportionally shared. Fraser (2007) further noted that at Zebediela Citrus farm in Limpopo Province similar arrangements are made. The main objective in both cases is to assist beneficiaries to sustain economic benefits that accrued from land reform. Sebola (1998) in a study conducted in KwaZulu Natal reported that tourism was perceived to be an important catalyst to stimulate local economic development, especially in communities that were previously disadvantaged.

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2.6 Social Benefits Arising from Land Reform: A Global Perspective

According to Bhatta (2010) the ultimate aim of land reform improves the livelihoods of socially and economically disadvantaged (SED) people by improving their access to productivity of land. Land reforms in Japan and South Korea were regarded as successful programs. In Japan the state and community are jointly involved in the implementation using land market tools. The land commission is formed during the process. This commission consisted of 18 members: five tenants, five owner cultivators, five landlords and three other members of high moral reputation.

In Korea, the state acted as mediator between landlords and beneficiaries, and market tools are implemented. In both processes beneficiaries are fully involved in the process. Land tenure reform as one of the three pillars of land reform introduced the tiller programme in Taiwan, Philippines and South Korea. In Taiwan the programme was initiated in 1949 only to be adopted in 1953. Between 1951 and 1953, 62,000 hectares of farmland is sold to approximately 122 000 new owners and by 1971, 90 % of Taiwanese agricultural land is owner cultivated, as opposed to 55 % in 1949. It is worth mentioning that according to Deininger (1999) since the end of Second World War, landlord estates in Bolivia, large areas of China, Eastern India, Ethiopia, Iran, Japan, Korea and Taiwan is transferred to tenants in the course of successful land reforms. A study conducted by Deininger and Yadav (2008) in West Bengal confirm that land reform has a positive and significant impact on education attainment of members of the household. Land reform is said to better the level of education attained by the young generation as compared to those who attained education before land reform.

2.7 Social Benefits Accruing from Land Restitution in Africa

While economic benefits of land reform are short lived in most of the SADC region, such as Zimbabwe, social benefits are largely attained. In Zimbabwe, for an example, social benefits are attained such as schools, access to clean water and provision of other infrastructure. In non-economic terms, beneficiaries value mostly the opportunities available to them, such as a chance to make a new start, taking control of their own lives and the freedom to make their own decisions. In Ghana for an example, land reform pillars are collectively called the Land Administration project, comprising of four main components that deal with harmonization of land policies, institutional changes, monitoring and evaluation (Obeng-Odoom, 2012). Kenya develop a community driven physical plan that lead to infrastructure improvement programme in which houses are demolished and relocated, roads built and new

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infrastructure installed (Bassett and Jacobs,1997). According to Kalabamu (2000), in Botswana, private land ownership enabled the government to distribute land permanently to individuals and companies without extinguishing communal land ownership. Obeng-Odoom (2012) in the study conducted in Africa has highlighted those drivers of development, namely: education and trade are given a priority in economic development.

2.8 Social Benefits Accrued from Land Restitution in South Africa

A study by Fraser (2007) regarding socio-economic benefits for restitution, beneficiaries in Levubu valley in Limpopo Province South Africa, uncovered one of the social benefits that emanated from the project, that is skills transfer plan that enabled beneficiaries to take full control of their farm and gained ownership status of the farms (Fraser, 2007). Land tenure as one of the land reform pillars in South Africa is reformed by introducing the Extension of Security of Tenure Act 62 of 1997 (ESTA), which is enacted to secure the tenure rights of farm dwellers; this act basically protects the farm occupiers from being unlawfully evicted. Among other rights, the farm occupier gets an opportunity to acquire long-term rights to land. It also stipulates when and how an occupier may be evicted. Eviction can only occur if there is an eviction order (Hall, 2003).

Extension of Security of Tenure Act (ESTA) succeeded to restore dignity to farm occupiers. ESTA of 1997 is not the only Act enacted by the government, there is also The Labour Tenant Act of 1996, the Basic conditions of Employment Act is later extended to farm workers. These Acts are there to protect the beneficiaries. In terms of Redistribution programme, farm workers and labour tenants could qualify for Settlement Land Acquisition Grant (SLAG) (du Plessis, 2005). In a situation where all these Acts are implemented, social benefits will be realized.

2.9 Challenges Facing Land Restitution Beneficiaries

2.9.1 Challenges of land restitution beneficiaries: a global perspective

In many countries land reform in its three forms is often persuaded to benefit the poor, this objective is not realized in countries such as Albania. Land restitution for an example prior the Second World War contributed to fragmented land ownership structure; many of the new landowners did not intend to farm their land. Albania persuaded a radical strategy based on full redistribution, but because of a clear legal basis and availability of ownership records, implementation of land restitution process become a viable option of land reform, Restitution

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claims contributes to endless land conflicts and the erosion of confidence in the land tenure system. Land conflicts contribute to lengthy, complicated and quite slow implementation of land restitution (Deininger, 2002). The Mexican land reform is designed poorly such that it created inefficient communal property rights, trapping peasants into dependence on the state economically (Magaloni *et al.,* 2008). Land is granted to communities and not individuals. Over and above these short comings the president of the country was directly in charge of the distribution of land, this had a negative impact as far as the time factor is concerned. The process then delayed.

According to Deininger (1999), Brazilian beneficiaries of land reform program are given subsidies in the form of money, thus availability of government funds for this credit easily become a binding constraint for land reform implementation. In Colombia, land reform also faces a challenge. In the absence of technical support and shortage of start-up finance, implementation of land reform policy is not possible (Deininger, 2002).

According to De Villiers (2003) land reform in Australia is one of the most neglected topics of public policy, though it consist of three main elements, namely: the recognition of native title through a litigious adversarial process; the acquisition of land by the Indigenous Land Corporation; and transfer of Aboriginal reserves held by the state governments to the Aboriginal people themselves, there is however no clear land reform policy in Australia. De Villiers (2003) further mentioned that at the time of colonization in 1788, the land belonged to the crown because it was terra nullius or no-man"s land. Therefore, there are no beneficiaries.

2.9.2 Challenges facing land restitution beneficiaries in Africa

Land reform in the SADC region faces different challenges. In Zimbabwe for an example starting in year 2000, only 162,000 household are settled on about nine million hectares of land in the 1980s, meaning that land reform should be considered a failure because it did not last longer (Kinsey, 2004). Land reform in Zimbabwe has been disrupted amongst other things by severe periodic drought and the fiercely violent armed suppression of opposition groups in Matabeleland (Harts-Broekhuis and Huisman, 2001), The same authors mentioned that since the start of land reform program, the policy of national government on squatting is simplified by a slogan "evict a squatter and send them back to their place of origin". This policy is not applicable in areas such as Insiza, because these squatters are labourers in commercial farmers, where they are eking out a living. These farms were bought by government for resettlement purposes. For those who could not get permits, squatting is the

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only alternative. As described by Magaramombe (2010), when everything else has failed the programme of „fast track", land reform in Zimbabwe is implemented, and this is compulsory land acquisition. Hellum and Derman (2004), describe the „fast track „ program in Zimbabwe as a program that produced a failed economy and undermined the economic foundation for basic human rights, such as the right to health, the right to education and the right to food, clearly short of international standards. Land occupation, as both an approach to land restitution and a driving force of the land reform agenda in the first 20years is not recognised by most neither scholars nor activist in civil society and political parties (Moyo, 2004). It is quite evident that the main objective of land restitution is not fully realised in Zimbabwe.

Land restitution in Namibia, as described by De Villiers (2003), had its challenges. The stand point of the ruling party is not quite clear. President Nujoma voiced his concern that a system that permits the minority group to own 70 % of arable land would no longer be "tolerated". He also is very reluctant to criticize the Zimbabwean style of fast track approach, where land is seized without any compensation, though he emphasize that he is still committed to willing buyer willing seller approach. The same author state that the National Namibian Workers, the main electoral base of the governing party, proclaim that the policy of buying land back from "thieves" should be curbed. And that the requirement to limit acquisitions to a willing buyer willing seller basis be abolished this challenge seem to be uniform in all disadvantaged communities. According to de Villiers (2003) Land reform in Namibia is still in its infancy, limited success has been achieved in the acquisition of land for the landless. Reclaiming of ancestral land had been rejected by the Namibians; due to the brutality experienced. The process of reclaiming land is never easy, because those who enriched themselves over the years would not want to lose the benefits thereof.

As described by Bassett (1997), Kenya also experienced challenges in land restoration, due to property disputes amongst families, it failed to bring change to people"s lives. Most site and service scheme intended for the poorer sectors of society, for an example were purchased by the middle class or developed them for the rental market. The upgrading projects that are intended to improve people"s lives in terms of economic development and alleviation of poverty fail to bring the expected results. It is quite evident that land reform did not bring the expected change.

A study conducted by Peters (2009) on Challenges in Land Tenure and Land Reform in Africa: Anthropological Contributions. The early colonial and mission attitude towards what they saw as "communal" forms of landholding was deeply entrenched in longstanding cultural preconception that set individual, private ownership as the superior to communal or

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collective forms of tenure. As such others are undermined, and this creates tension. Hellum and Derma, (2004) conducted a study in Zimbabwe, where conflicting land claims were viewed through the lens of human rights perspective, they experienced endless conflicts, Human rights were considered as an instrument that contain guidelines. As a result challenges related to workers were addressed based on the guidelines of human rights. A study conducted by Magaramombe (2010) in Zimbabwe, found that respondents opted to be seasonal workers with no contract signed because being employed full time meant receiving low wages.

2.9.3 Challenges facing land restitution beneficiaries in South Africa

Land reform in South Africa broadly speaking is seen as a driving force for rural development, however, the program has been criticized for its slow pace, and also for failing to address poverty reduction (Valente, 2009). Amongst the three components of land reform, the most preferred option by the government of South Africa is land restitution, for that reason it is viewed as a powerful tool for meaningful rural transformation and community development (Everingham and Jannecke, 2006).

The process of Land Restitution as described by Boudreux (2010) started slowly; the steps involved in restoring land to claimants contribute to the delay of the process. According to Lahiff (2007) a slow rate of land transfer has however led to calls for more radical approach that would effect a more rapid redistribution of land from white minority to the black majority. Lack of post-settlement support has of late been identified. Recent studies show that land reform beneficiaries experienced numerous problems of accessing credit, training, extension advice, transport and cultivating services and veterinary services. (Lahiff (2007) mentioned that the concept of willing buyer willing seller, has its challenges. This approach just entered the discourse of land reform gradually, it was entirely absent from the ready to govern policy statement of 1992. Attfield, Hattingh and Matshabaphala (2004) argue that the three components of land reform in South Africa did not make the difference to the concrete living conditions of the large potential majority of land reform beneficiaries. Land restoration in South Africa is not an easy exercise more especially in the commercial farms. Government is hesitant to allow beneficiaries to take over the farms. The fear is tangled around restitution failure due to lack of skills and the know how to manage the land and to maintain commercial agricultural enterprises. Hence the condition of a strategic partner is imposed on beneficiaries, or it has become a prerequisite to land restitution. Commercial farmers in some instances did not want to let go of the property owned over the years. Based on the past experience South African government is reluctant to proceed with direct transfers of

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land, due to restitution failure that ends up disappointing to government (Fraser, 2007). Levubu farms for an example, out of 200 farmers only 50 agreed to sell their farms. Beneficiaries were not allowed to resettle at restored commercial farms such as Levubu valley Fraser (2007).

The Levubu area consist of perhaps as many as 10,000 people employed in the farms in high season, consequently the government had to get transfer process right first to ensure that restitution would not place at risk the farm workers" jobs or production and foreign currency earnings. Nkuzi project officers and some of the restitution claimants indicated that the restitution process in Levubu was being held up by obstinate white farmers who refuse to sell their land, even though the restitution claims were deemed valid by the Limpopo Land Claim Commission (Fraser, 2008) Chellan and Khan (2008), conducted a study within the Khula community in Kwa-Zulu Natal, unemployment and limited access to land are key challenges facing the community. Seasonal employment also creates a challenge because respondents go through a period of uncertainty in terms of employment. The Khula community, beneficiaries are saddened by a situation whereby they are poorly remunerated and jobs are seasonal.

2.6 Summary of literature review

The main objective of reviewing literature is to establish if the objectives of the study are examined in other previous studies, globally, nationally and regionally, and also what the hypothesis are. The main objective of this study is to examine the socio-economic benefits of land restitution in the Makuleke community of Limpopo province. Specific objectives are also to be looked at. Before discussing the socio-economic benefits of land restitution, it is imperative to analyse how land restitution is perceived globally, nationally and regionally.

Land reform in its three forms, namely redistribution, restitution and land tenure reform aims at improving livelihood of beneficiaries. In South Africa, land restitution programme is based on the Restitution of Land Rights Act No 22 of 1994.The common goal of land reform in its three segments is to solve persistent problems of poverty. Countries such as Mexico experienced economic benefits, although this is not quite visible. Mixed strategies are implemented in different countries globally, even though the expected outcome is to address a challenge of poverty.

In Zimbabwe, land reform beneficiaries in most cases become better farmers as they manage to increase both productivity and production. Zimbabwe is once called the food

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basket of Africa. However, this status did not last for a long time due to illegal land restitution called squatting. This process of land self-provisioning became a crucial aspect of the evolution of land reform. In Kenya, communal land trust that is introduced with assistance from the Americans is not instrumental in influencing the country"s economic approach, especially with regards to access to capital. Loans can be accessed in groups without discrimination to older people, women and informal sector employees. All these different groups of people become members of the Community Land Trust (CLT). Botswana has since the attainment of independence in 1966, experienced socio-economic changes, it transformed from being one of the poorest country in Africa to be one of the richest country in Africa. The following reasons contributed to the success, transition occurred peacefully due to stable political climate, on top of that the discovery and exploitation of diamond and copper-nickel contributed to the socio-economic benefits The Botswana government introduced new but innovative systems for leasing and managing both rural and urban land. Through this approach land was not concentrated into few hands. South Africa benefited economically through land restitution as well. There are many examples that can be used to confirm this reality. The iSimangaliso Wetland Park in KZN, The Levubu farms in Limpopo Province.

Social benefits were also brought about by land restitution within communities, globally, nationally and regionally. The benefits were mainly in the form of schools, access to clean water and provision of other infrastructure. For example in Kenya, the infrastructure programme is introduced in which houses are demolished and inhabitants are relocated, roads are constructed and new infrastructures are installed. In South Africa, skills transfer programmes are introduced. This enabled the beneficiaries to take full control of their farms.

The process of land claim is not an easy exercise in South Africa, partly because in 1992 the ready to govern party then, did not have a clear cut approach to land claim processes. Poverty-stricken households are still a common site. Agreements are signed but never produced results. Lack of skills amongst most beneficiaries contributes to failure of the programme. In certain instances in South Africa, beneficiaries who are current land owners are denied to resettle in their own land by current land owners.

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CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

The study was designed to investigate the socio-economic benefits and challenges of land restitution in the Makuleke village. In this chapter, the research methodology is explained. An overview of the research area is given first, mainly highlighting its socio-economic background. This is then followed by a description of the study population and sampling, research design, data collection process, how the data was collected and analysed. Thereafter the ethical clearance procedures were covered.

3.2 Description of the study area

The Makuleke community is situated close to the western boundary of the Kruger National Park (Figure 3.1) and to the south of the road that leads to the Kruger National Park on the Punda Maria gate. to the North it boarders the Mhinga village, almost 20km to Luvuvhu River, then to Lambani village, through a road that could take one either to Sibasa, and then to different parts of the province. The area is well positioned in terms of geographical linkages with different areas of the province. The village is situated just 50km from Pafuri region in the Kruger Park, the ancestral site of Makuleke community. The community comprises of three villages, namely Makahlule (Block H), Makuleke (Block I) and Mabiligwe (Boxahuku) (Block J) (Maluleke, 2012). Makuleke Community is within the Thulamela local municipality, in the Vhembe district municipality of Limpopo Province, South Africa. This area when clustered with other villages around, for an example Nkavele, Nghomunghomu, Makhubele, Bevula, Magona, to name just a few are collectively called Nthlaveni (A Xitsonga name referred to a type of soil that is fertile, good soil for farming). According to traditional authority records, registered households are 1034, though they are in a campaign of encouraging inhabitants to register as full inhabitants of Makuleke community so-that their records could give them a true reflection of their subjects.

The spoken language of the inhabitants is Xitsonga. The Makuleke community were dumped at an area almost a quarter of the size of their lost land (Robins and Van der Waal, 2008).Therefore; there is a serious challenge of land scarcity. They can hardly rear livestock due to shortage of land.

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As a researcher within the Makuleke community the following observation was made, the dwelling houses within the area are differently built. There are bricks and tiled roofed houses, either scotch-roofed or rondavels and also muddy huts with thatched roofs.



Figure 3.1: The geographical map depicting Makuleke village in Vhembe District of Limpopo Province

Amongst the modern houses there are few double story buildings, this type of houses addressed the challenge of lack of land. In certain households they still maintain indigenous building of huts arrangement, where huts are scattered within the household premises. For an example the following huts are available: a hut for the family head (*hayisa)* a kitchen *(Xitanga*), a hut for unmarried females (*nhanga)* and one for unmarried boys (*lawu)* Some household also have a round uncovered wall of about two metres high or a little less with an entrance, (*xivava*) the area was used as a fire place, where family members gathered during cold days and sit around the fire as a family. This place can be used as a kitchen during the day or any other time.

The nearest town is Malamulele where community members receive most of the social services, even though certain services such as policing services are catered for by Saselamani police station. Saselamani is situated along the road to the Kruger National Park

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to the west, not only the police services are obtained at Saselamani, post office services as well are available at Saselamani. Schools around the area are serviced by a circuit office situated at Saselamani called Malamulele North East Circuit, Vhembe district municipality of Limpopo Province. Financial Banking services such as Standard bank, Absa and First National Bank at Saselamani have ATM"s that service the inhabitants of Makuleke community and surrounding villages.

The community do have health facilities, although more serious health cases are referred to Malamulele Hospital, which is almost 50 km from the village. Education facilities are also available. There are several primary schools and a high school, called N"wanati High School, situated between Maviligwe and Makuleke village, but more closer to Makuleke Village. This high school accommodates learners from Makuleke village and the neighbouring villages, although some parents do send their children to schools around Saselamani, with a perception that quality teaching and learning environment still prevails within the area, Children attend a private a crèche", a primary school, and a senior secondary school called Jim Chavani High at Saselamani, this senior secondary school accommodates a good number of learners not only from Makuleke but also from other neighbouring villages.

Makuleke community is quite a cohesive community. Relationships within different households are maintained. This character was never eroded by development that one might think could have changed their lifestyle. They know almost each other, more especially households within the chief"s kraal. Close relationship ties are still maintained with their relatives who ran to Mozambique, Zimbabwe and other places during the time when forced removal was implemented. Amongst other reasons why they flee to other countries was because of the strong rumour that they were to be assassinated by the apartheid regime agents, after forced removal. These community comprise of people who belong to almost all social stratum in the social hierarchy, for an example there are people who are highly educated within the area, lawyers, teachers with very high qualifications, engineers, police officers, some are even placed in high offices in the South African Police services (SAPS), there are business people to name but a few. But poverty is still at its highest.

The inhabitants of Makuleke community sometimes organize themselves and visit their place of origin at Pafuri Region. This community still prefers the Pafuri region better than their present residence. The inhabitants of Makuleke still maintain strong spiritual ties to the place of birth, even though the area is only used for commercial purposes. The socio-economic benefits at their present residence do not overshadow the love they have to their place of origin. They still lament about the fish and meat they used to get in abundance for free.

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3.3 Research Design

A mixed method approach was used in this study. Participants were randomly selected. In the quantitative study individuals responded to a set of questions about their biographic characteristics, social and economic benefits. In qualitative approach participants were interviewed individually in order to address the challenges, and also in a focus group discussion, at their preferred venues, whereby the researcher conducted an interview by means of open ended questions. Mixed method design was appropriate in this study. This simply means that both qualitative and quantitative methods were concurrently used.

Explanatory mixed method design was used in this study. This design starts with the collection and analysis of quantitative data followed by the collection and analysis of qualitative data. The overall purpose of this design is that the qualitative data help explain or build upon initial quantitative results from the first phase of the study. Between the two, priority is unequal and is given to quantitative data the two methods collects only one type of data at a time. The report can also be written in two phases. The most important challenge; however is that this two phase design is very time consuming (De Vos, Strydom, Fouche and Delport, 2012).

3.4 Study Population and Sampling Procedures

According to de Vos *et al.* (2012), sampling means taking a portion or a smaller number of units of a population as representative or having particular characteristic of that total population. Over and above that the term sample always implies simultaneous existence of a population or universe of which the sample is a smaller section, or a set of individuals selected from a population. In this study 100 household heads were randomly picked up from the three villages. These were Makahlule (Block H), Makuleke (Block I) and Mabiligwe (Block J) (Maluleke, 2012). Makuleke Community is within Thulamela municipality, Vhembe district municipality, Limpopo Province of South Africa. All residents of the Makuleke Community were considered as the population of the study, a list of all household heads was obtained from the traditional authority and CPA offices. From this list 10 % of households, that is 100 households were targeted and randomly selected from 1043 households. A sample targeted for focus group discussion was selected from the following groups , namely executive members of Communal Property Association (CPA), traditional leadership, political leadership, youth, women's groups, business people, and employees in various projects, three participants were selected. A total number of 21 members took part in focus group

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discussion. Numeric and text information was collected. The combination of data is a key element of mixed methods research.

One hundred respondent beneficiaries from Makuleke area were randomly sampled. Ninety eight of these were interviewed in the Xitsonga language. The rest were interviewed in English, (1 %) and Tshivenda (1 %). Respondent beneficiaries who participated in focus group discussion were 21. This group was interviewed in Xitsonga.

3.5 Data Collection

A questionnaire was used to examine the objective of the study that is the socio-economic benefits and challenges of land restitution project. Respondents were interviewed individually at their natural setting, although some preferred to be interviewed at the cultural village privately, others preferred to sit in the researcher"s car just packed under a tree, all these arrangements created a relaxed mood and also supported confidentiality that was emphasized at the beginning. In focus group discussion respondents were to be at one place, this took place at Makuleke cultural village the researcher was in control of the situation, for an example not allowing any respondent to be dominant throughout the process. A voice recorder was used to capture the data and note books as well as taking photographs as evidence of social benefits. The researcher had an opportunity of listening to the recorded interviews.

The aims and objectives of conducting this study were explained to various community leadership structures in Makuleke village; this took place after the University of Venda Research Ethics Committee had granted ethical clearance for the study. Permission was also granted to conduct research from the Makuleke Tribal Authority and Makuleke Communal Property Association (CPA). Each respondent was assured of confidentiality; names would not be divulged to anyone else even when publishing the report for the study in question, this issue was debated at length, up until everyone was satisfied, although some of the respondents were of the view that the Makuleke restitution programme was over researched. Despite the fact that conducting the study within the area was deprecated by some, eventually we reached consensus.

A pilot study was very necessary before actual data collection. As recommended by de Vos *et.al* (2012) a pilot study in a project is a state where the researcher collects a small amount of data to test drive. The research procedures identify possible problems in the data collection protocols and set a stage of actual data collection. Several meetings were held

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with the community members for the sake of conducting the study with a common understanding of what the objective of the study was. These meetings were convened by Makuleke CPA. The chief investigator then fulfilled this prerequisite.

Communication on several occasions with Mr Lemson Maluleke, one of the key persons who was and still directly involved in this land restitution project assisted a great deal. The chairperson of Makuleke CPA, Mr Bios Hlungwane, invited the principal researcher to a combined meeting of CPA and Traditional authority, in order to clarify these stakeholders the objective of the study, a brief presentation was arranged. Chief Phahlela Joas Mugakula was also present at this meeting. The principal researcher was also afforded an opportunity to meet with some members of Friends of Makuleke (FOM). It was during this visit that the CPA granted the principal researcher an opportunity to establish contact with FOM, so-that if need be during the process of data collecting, for more clarity on certain issues one could liaise with them. FOM played a vital role as well during the pilot studying. In a nutshell several stake holders carried and shared rich information about Makuleke land restitution as a government project. At the end of several meetings, it became very easy to collect data.

3.5.1 The interviewing process

Respondents were interviewed at a time that was convenient to them. Each respondent was interviewed for not less than 45 minutes. There was an inconsistency in terms of time allocated to each respondent, because response related to challenges dictated time spent. Challenges at different projects differed as well. Most of the respondents preferred to meet the principal researcher at the cultural centre, commonly called the B&B. Although in certain instances some respondents were ready to receive the researchers at their homestead. A voice recorder was used after seeking permission from the respondents. It was a common practice that when commencing the interview processes, the researcher could formally introduce oneself but the respondent could just smile, that was how the interview started. The smile was assumed as a way to gently go pass self-introduction step. Time and again confidentiality was reiterated, more especially when checking on the level of satisfaction and also the challenges encountered at different projects. The entire questionnaire was completed at face to face interview.

Some respondents more especially those employed at the hospitality projects were not quite keen to voice out the challenges they encountered, particularly because of voice recording. Amongst other reasons why there was resistance was the fear to lose their jobs in case their employers became aware of the grievances divulged to the researcher. Hence on the data

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captured quantitatively, when checking on the level of satisfaction, respondents preferred to hold back their opinion. In certain instances household heads were not easily available because of the researcher"s visit not coinciding with their day offs at work. However, the researcher was able to go and meet them during leave days as per arrangement, more especially those who were employed in the Pafuri region. This created a situation where the researcher had to set up appointments telephonically with the selected household heads; this however did not create any challenge. The researcher did not encounter a situation whereby there was resistance in taking part in the interview processes.

3.5.2 Biographic characteristics of Makuleke land restitution beneficiaries

In order to respond to this objective all residents of the Makuleke Community were considered as the population of the study. A list of all household heads was obtained from the Tribal office and CPA offices. From the list, 100 households were randomly selected to participate in the study. A questionnaire that focused on biographical details of respondents (household heads), namely age, gender, marital status, level of education, employment and household size, among others, was prepared. Data was analysed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). This model made it possible to depict three different languages used as medium of instruction during the interview, and also the demographic characteristics of restitution beneficiaries. Level of satisfaction of beneficiaries in all the projects. The scores were1=Satisfied, 2=Not Satisfied, 3 = Neutral and 4= No opinion.

3.5.3 Economic and social benefits of land restitution

A questionnaire that focused on economic benefits of respondents (household heads), was prepared based on the following economic benefits indicators. For an example, economic benefits from restitution projects: irrigation scheme, vegetables green house, women"s groups projects, Lodges in Pafuri region, CPA cultural centre, working for water project, Wetland Project and Eco-Training.

Questions that elicited responses on the social benefits were included in the questionnaire. Some of the potential responses to choose from were clinics, schools/classroom construction, village electrification, library, CPA skills training, tourism and hospitality training.

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3.5.4 Challenges faced by project beneficiaries and possible solutions

Data on challenges encountered, possible solutions and why each project was initiated were collected through focus group discussions. Executive members of the Makuleke CPA, business people and employees of various projects, youth, women groups, traditional leadership and political leaders served as the respondents. Three persons were selected from each interest group. Twenty-one (21) persons were randomly selected, from individual beneficiaries 100 members were also randomly selected and interviewed to provide qualitative data regarding challenges faced by project beneficiaries and to highlight possible solutions. Individual participants were also interviewed on challenges faced by beneficiaries and possible solutions in their respective projects. A semi-structured interview guide was used to collect data. Besides the principal researcher, one research assistant was recruited. She holds a Master"s degree. She had adequate understanding of data collection.

Most beneficiaries at the Makuleke community could only understand Xitsonga. The research assistant is Tsonga speaking, who participated in a one day orientation (workshop) briefing. This briefing amongst others was to clarify them on their specific roles as research assistant and participants. At this briefing ethical conduct was highlighted. The principal investigator played a leadership role in the whole process.

3.5 Data Analysis

This study employed qualitative and quantitative techniques of data analysis. The first stage in qualitative was to open a codebook whereby raw data obtained from the field were presented with their priorities determined by their frequencies and relevance to the research questions. Quantitative data analysis was carried out with the aid of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences version 22.0. Descriptive statistics were computed.

With respect to qualitative data, tape recorded interviews were transcribed into a text of files and analysed according to set of categories in the established codebook. Themes for analysis were developed based on the objective of the study, namely examination of socio-economic benefits of land restitution at Makuleke restitution project. Data was categorized based on the research objective. The researcher had to listen to the voice recorder repeatedly, read the notes as well and through observation as well, and then make sense of it. Figure 3.2 shows the step-wise processing of the data. Data reduction, display, correlation, consolidation, comparison and integration are the anchor activities of this analysis.

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3.6 Ethical consideration

Prior to data collection participants are assured of ethical consideration. In a nutshell humanity and dignity of participants is preserved. It is a commitment made by the researcher that the research will not cause harm, distress, anxiety or any negative feeling to the participants. Participants are fully informed about all relevant aspects of the research, before they agree to participate. The scope of the confidentiality of data provided and of anonymity of the respondents is clarified with the participants.

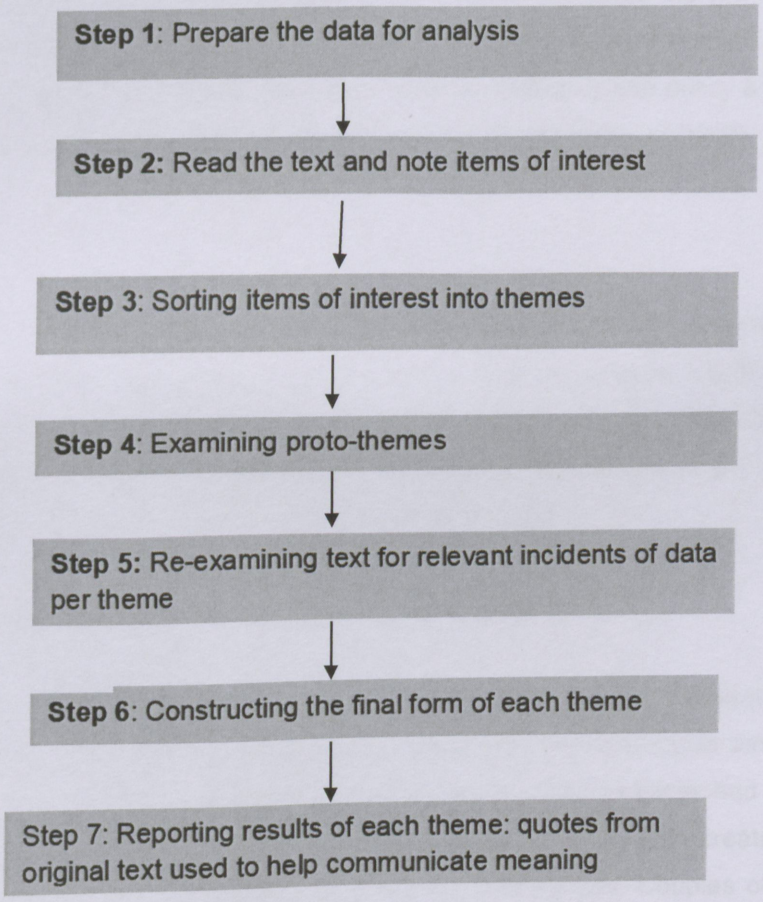


Figure 3.2 Steps followed during data analysis

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CHAPTER 4: PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

The results of the study are presented in this chapter. In the first part, the results of the quantitative study are presented. Thereafter, considerable space is devoted to describe the qualitative study results.

4.1 Demographic Characteristics of Restitution Beneficiaries

Eighty per cent of the restitution beneficiaries were female. Most of the respondent beneficiaries were 36-50 years old, followed by those aged 51-65 years old (26 %), 14-35 years (24 %) and more than 65 years old (8 %). Prior to the study, it was assumed that most of the beneficiaries were young women. According to South African youth policy a person is identified as a youth only when is 14-35 years old. (National Youth Policy of 2009)

Household size

More than half of the respondents (59 %) head families with five members or more. House hold size of four members amounted to 31 %. The last 10 % of the respondents had up to 3 members. The household size contributes to the high poverty rate within the community. Most household depends on income from community projects; the income is generally low, such that most household cannot provide enough for their families.

Marital statuses of respondent beneficiaries in the Makuleke area

More than half of the respondents (54 %) were married. Couples strive to generate income for the households. At the time of collecting data, in several households it was advisable to visit them after hours, because during working hours either the head of family had gone out to work or look for a job. During the study period, there were temporary jobs created by the local municipality which involved bush clearing along the road verges. Couples often seek for some form of employment. The next most common categories were the widowed (21 %), who were mainly the elderly. Whether land restitution brought changes in their lifestyle through socio-economic benefits was not an issue because they receive government grants. Singles constituted 15 % of the households and were still engaged in educational activities. The rest were staying together with their spouses. More often than not those staying together were those who are unemployed but earning a living through government grant. Very little is expected from land restitution benefits.

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Employment status

Respondent beneficiaries who were employed at different community projects constituted 40 %, Examples of employment projects include agricultural project, lodges and also working for Water project. Those occupying permanent jobs were employed by the state and were estimated to constitute 23 % of the total sample. Seasonal employees formed 14 %, whereas the last 12 % consisted of those who owned businesses. Community projects absorbed a larger portion of the work force because most services did not need skills.

Level of education

More than half of the respondents (58 %) hold between Grade 8 and 9 school certificates, while 27 % represent beneficiaries who have just gone up to Grade 7. Of the remaining respondents, 10 % had no formal education whilst 5 % represents those who hold post-secondary qualifications. The rate of school drop out between Grades 8 and 9 is a common practice, with little interest of going back to school. The low percentage of those who hold post-secondary qualifications was a clear indication that there is no motivation in as far as striving for higher qualifications. At the time of data collecting, it was mentioned that at the place of origin the school at that time was able to offer classes up to Standard 5 (Grade 7).

Total wages earned by respondents at different projects

Respondent's wages serve as indicators of economic benefits acquired in a restitution project. The issue of wages was not easy to discuss. About 87 % of respondents who worked at the lodges opted not to disclose their incomes. Those who were comfortable to disclose their wages (6 %) earned on average R2500.00 per month. Higher income earners constituted only 1 %. The high income was as a result of the gratuity received from guests.

Seventy per cent (70 %) of the respondents within the agriculture sector did not disclose their incomes. The next 10 % of respondents earned R30 000.00 per quarter while the other 10 % were those who earned R800.00 per fortnight during harvest season. Respondents who earned quarterly wages are farmers who had signed an agreement with the strategic partner.

Those who earned a living out of artefacts (92 %) preferred to be silent about their income. The second highest is 6 % of respondents who earn about R500.00 per opportunity, that is

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when tourists pass by and decide to buy some artefacts or require some traditional entertainment.

Also important in this study was a reflection of income information of respondents employed in "*Working for Water*" project. The income received is inconsistent because they only work for a number of days within a month depending on the need for weeds eradication. Ten per cent (10 %) of respondents who earn a good income eighty-six (86 %) did not disclose their income. Ten per cent (10 %) earn R32000.00 per annum, while 1 % earns around R40 000.00 per annum.

Within the road construction project, income was not disclosed by 100 % of respondents. Respondents at the electrification project 99 % were quiet about their income, 1 % earned R3000.00 per month in the school construction project 98 % of the respondents did not disclose their income. In this group the highest earnings were R6000.00 per month by only 1 % respondent. Respondents at the cultural village did not disclose their income. Those who work at eco-training 99 % did not disclose only 1 % disclosed the income, R1500.00.

4.2 Social Benefits of Land Restitution

Indicators of social benefits were projects which the respondents received economic benefits, like the schools constructed, the lodges in the Pafuri Region, the irrigation scheme, the library, internet café, the cultural village, and the electrification project. Clean water and irrigation water are some of the spinoffs within the agricultural sector while skills training are obtained in the hospitality business. The irrigation scheme through the strategic partner transferred skills to the employees. Figure 4.1 reveals the level of satisfaction of respondents with the land restitution initiative. Although there was better appreciation of the benefits associated with agricultural projects and lodges, in general, the level of satisfaction was very low.

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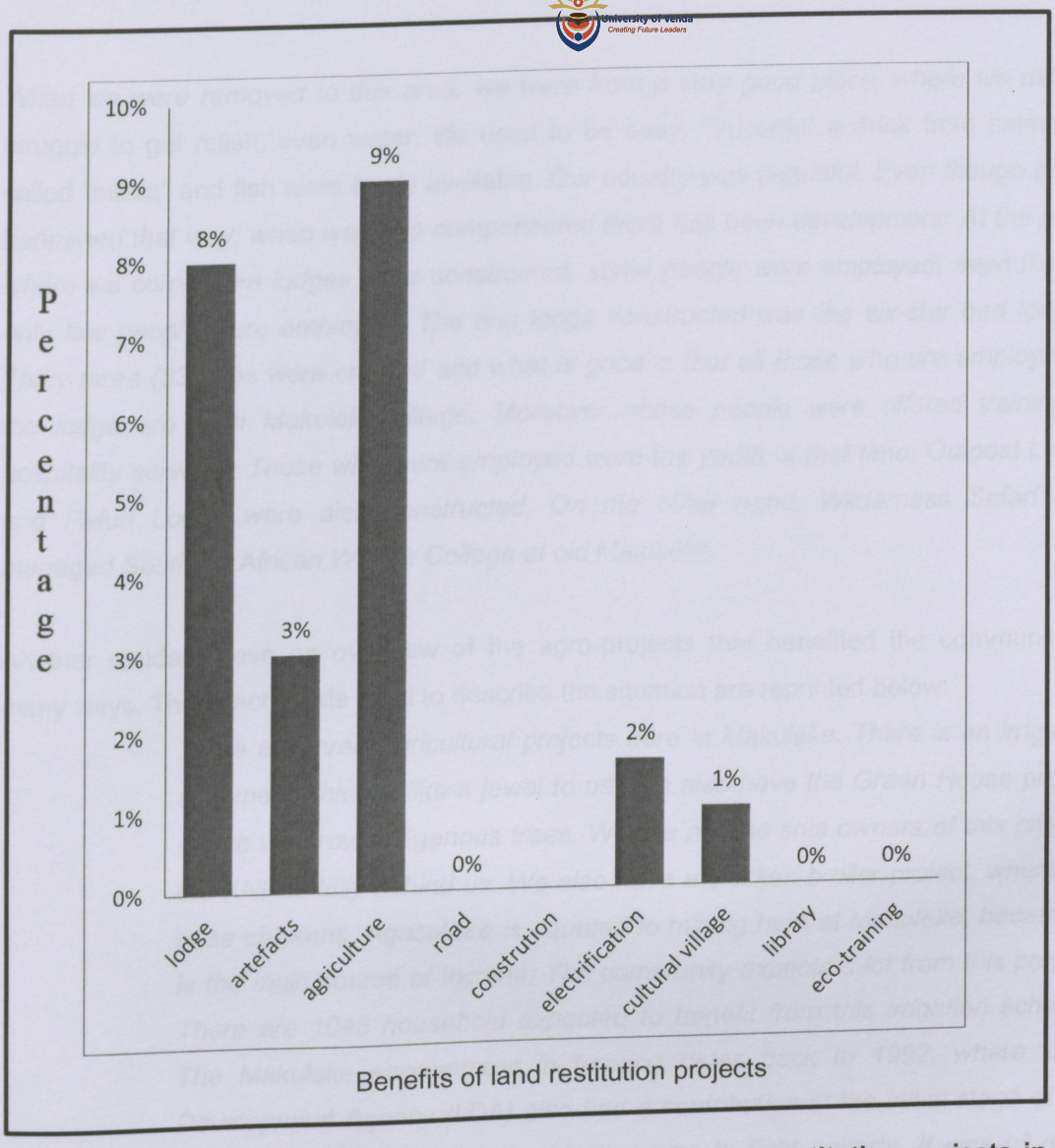


Figure 4.1 Level of satisfaction with benefits from various restitution projects in the Makuleke area

4 .3 Results of the Qualitative Study on Benefits of Land Restitution

Both positive and negative views relating to land restitution in the Makuleke area were expressed during the qualitative study. These are presented in various sections below. One of the key benefits of land restitution was the initiation of community projects. One worker at "The place of origin of the Makuleke community" reflected on the locals" situation, comparing the current state of affairs and the past.

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When we were removed to this area, we were from a very good place, where we did not struggle to get relish, even water, life used to be easy. "Vucema" a drink from palm tree called "milala" and fish were freely available. Our co*untry was beautiful. Even though things happened that way, when we were compensated there has been development. At the place where we come from lodges were constructed, some people were employed, even though only few people were employed. The first lodge constructed was the six-star bed lodges. Thirty three (33) jobs were created and what is good is that all those who are employed at the lodge are from Makuleke village. Moreover, these people were offered training in hospitality services. Those who were employed were the youth of that time. Outpost Lodge and Pafuri Lodge were also constructed. On the other hand, Wilderness Safari also managed Southern African Wildlife College at old Makuleke.*

Another resident gave an overview of the agro-projects that benefited the community in many ways. The exact words used to describe the situation are reprinted below:

> *There are three Agricultural projects here in Makuleke. There is an irrigation scheme which is like a jewel to us. We also have the Green House project where we grow indigenous trees. We are not the sole owners of this project; the KNP is fully behind us. We also have a chicken broiler project, where we raise chickens. Agriculture is equated to mining here at Makuleke, because it is the main source of income. The community expects a lot from this project. There are 1045 household expected to benefit from this irrigation scheme. The Makuleke engagement in farming dates back to 1992, where Land Development Agency (LDA) also had a contribution at the initial stage of our farming activities. The main objective was to fight poverty. It was of great importance to have a strategic partner at this project, because all we had was land and water. We get our water supply from the dam together just like the D village on the western side of the Makuleke village. We are happy because the dam is full of water, and it is not going to dry up like it always happens. Once the dam is without water agricultural activities were seriously affected. Green House is one of the farming projects, initiated by Wilderness Safari. During the time when they were developing the Pafuri region, they took it upon themselves to initiate projects here at Makuleke; the main objective was to create jobs. As time went by, the Wilderness Safari workload increased and, the project was then handed over to the CPA, because CPA is a non-profit organization, the project was handed over to the Makuleke Traditional Authority. South African Revenue authorities always make constant checks on organization like CPA to see if they are not engaged in profit making*

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activities. We were scared to find ourselves fighting with the authorities. Chicken broiler project is a brand new project; we expect more jobs to be created. CPA got a donation from an Italian company called the Cezvi; this organization established projects within all villages along the borders of Limpopo River. We then informed them that before we were forcibly removed we used to stay along the borders of the Limpopo River, at old Makuleke. We were expected to make a choice of the project we preferred based on the type of area we come from based on availability of enough working space. We then chose growing chickens, instead of piggery, cattle farming or even tree planting nor any of the big projects. This project was handed over to the Traditional Authority and CPA on the 13 February 2014, but after six months, the CPA will pull out of the project and the project will be in the hands of the traditional leadership only.

The fact that partnerships were instrumental in sustaining the livelihoods of the local community was echoed by one community member:

There are no challenges thus far. I come into the farm as I wish. The contract signed is very flexible. If I wish to come only when it's *time to collect the R10 000.00 at the end of the quarter from the strategic partner it is fine, or if I also wish to be a casual worker as well I am also allowed. No challenges at all. Strategic partner provides machinery, seeds and knowledge.*

The centrality of diversifying activities for income generation was highlighted. In this respect, the diversification revealed the preparedness of the community to take advantage of unique opportunities, for example venturing into breeding rhinos as revealed in the extract below:

Presently we are in the process of expanding our agricultural activities. The Kruger National Park is no longer keen to carry on Rhino breeding; as a result they are inviting all communities within the borders of the KNP to venture into Rhino breeding. As Makuleke traditional authority we have accepted the invitation. We have put aside 100 hectors for Rhino breeding, but discussions are still underway. We are not certain if Rhino horn poaching will continue. We cannot tell if poaching is practiced by foreigners only. In 2003 when Kruger National Park rangers were on strike, some of us went to visit old Makuleke, on our way back whilst we were still in the Kruger National Park, we saw men who were walking at leisure, when they saw our car they ran for their dear lives towards the Punda Maria gate. Keeping such animals might pose challenges, but through the assistance of the Kruger National Park we

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shall manage. This might help to generate revenue for the Tribal Authority, and even to create jobs.

It was highlighted that jobs were created in many ways. During a focus group discussion, one resident remarked that:

> *Jobs were not created only in the Pafuri region, but even here at the Makuleke village. Artists and those with cultural knowledge were able to take part in activities to make a living. During the initial stages of the land claim processes, Makuleke CPA had an agreement with Wilderness Safari, that tourist who visit the KNP should also come to Makuleke village as one of the places of interest. Unfortunately as time went by, the partnership was terminated, selling of artefacts declined. There were stalls that were functional during those days. When land claim processes were still underway local and international tourists used to frequent the cultural centre. By then the partnership with Wilderness Safari was still in place. With time, after the partnership was terminated, the cultural centre could no longer host a reasonable number of tourists. Sales of artefacts dropped drastically. Tourists were entertained by local swigubu and xibelani dancers (traditional dance).The cultural centre used to host cultural events, these events attracted many tourists, and artefacts sales were also boasted. But all this diminished, and also people from abroad use to come in large numbers, after when they have read articles on the way we were removed. To others they wanted to see the type of people we are.*

4.4 Challenges encountered

Although there were considerable social and economic benefits that accrued to the residents of Makuleke as a result of land restitution, they still encountered various challenges. These are presented taking per initiative that was introduced through land restitution. A resident lamented the situation that the community found itself in as follows:

> *On top of all these, challenges are there. The number of people employed is too little. It is quite evident that those who benefitted are the youth only, but those who physically experienced forced removal are not benefitting. In January 2013, Pafuri Camp was washed away by rain, and nothing was left. As a result, 40 jobs were lost. Although there are tents pitched and some of the workers occasionally go and assist the guests, until now those employees are still out of job. Pafuri lodge used to pay R500 000.00 quarterly to*

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Makuleke CPA as the landlord. This income used to help develop the village. Schools also used to get a share. This project can no longer generate enough money as a result as beneficiaries we can no longer enjoy the benefits. The money generated from the project is not more than R1.5 million per annum. It only happened once that the project generated R1.3 million per annum. This was possible because of income generated from trophy hunting. We are not allowed to hunt anymore, because when tourists visit KNP and the Pafuri region, their main objective is to see wildlife.

Other challenges are contained in the following words:

We have signed 45 years contract with KNP as our concessionaire, so far only 15 years have lapsed, we still have 30 years before we could have full control of Pafuri region. Perhaps as we move on the contract will be reviewed. The money generated now only assist in the smooth running of the CPA office. It is only now that we realise that tourism as compared to mining cannot bring the expected returns, to raise a million rand through tourism activities it's not simple. One other issue is that some employees who are trained within the tourism industry are not passionate about the job. They were just trained due to scarcity of jobs. Youth went for training partly because of poor grade 12 results. Wrong career choice is exposed by misunderstanding amongst them. This quarrel contributes to poor production. Roads are bad in the Pafuri region, as a result very few tourists are keen to visit, and this affects project income.

An employee at one of the lodges claimed that racism was a problem that needed to be addressed urgently. She remarked that:

I am not happy at my work place. I have worked at one of the lodges for more than five years now, but my services and income do not tally. Racial discrimination still exists. I wish to approach CPA just to alert them of the challenges we encounter but I am scared. If long service can be considered, in terms of wages it would be much better, and if the CPA could call a meeting and listen to our grievances, the contract between the CPA and lodge owners could be reviewed. These could be the solution to our challenges.

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Working conditions were also a major concern in employee-employer relations. A worker at a lodge revealed a broad range of issues as reflected in the following words:

> *We work for very long hours with very low income; there is actually no tea break, not unless if tourist may go for game drive, one may have tea break or lunch. We only receive salary rise in a situation when there is industry salary adjustment. The lodge incur job training costs. I assume that due to the fact that we do not contribute money for training, the lodge management do not feel obliged to give us satisfactory income.*

Employees at the Pafuri camp had a lot to say about the situation there. The issues are captured in their own words below:

> Worker 1: *I also do not receive recognition in terms of income and promotions.*

> Worker 2: *I work as a chef at Pafuri lodge; the lodge has been washed away by floods. We run our business in tents. To the tourist it's fun, but in the evening we have to switch on the lights as early as possible, otherwise animals more especially elephants just walk around. We therefore fear for our safety although working in tents is not too frustrating, If only our lodge can be rebuilt, it would be highly appreciated.*

The situation above was further magnified by the lamentations of employees at various lodges in the Kruger National Park. Below, some of the views are shared, verbatim:

> *There is misunderstanding between the manager and staff. We lack inside information about the contract signed between the CPA and our employers. Income offer is also based on the gratuity; there is no guarantee of getting gratuity from clients. I am a teacher by profession, but my qualifications are not recognized. Possible solution to such challenges would be that people who are appointed to manage should have managerial and communication skills. We have to be well informed on the condition of service.*

> Worker 2: *The lodge has been washed away by rain, my services have been terminated, others have been reinstated, but I was left out. Presently, I do not have an income.*

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Worker 3: *My income is very little; the management is very poor, there is no proper communication between staff and management. Management changes time and again.*

There were also deep-seating issues in the cultural centre. Extracts from interviews with some of the residents and workers associated with it are presented below:

Interviewee 1: *I work for the cultural centre, presently there is no business, and as a result we cannot earn a good income. Marketing the centre could revive the business.*

Interviewee 2: *I belong to* women's group that make use of the Cultural *Centre; we use the centre for art exhibition, when there are tourists. We are part of the cultural centre. The only challenge is that tourists no longer frequent the place anymore. We use to show case our experience when we were forcibly removed from our place of birth, to where we are today. When this place was still very barren and very dry with scarcity of water and food, as compared to where we come from. We also shared oral history to tourist.*

Another benefit that the Makuleke people enjoyed was the establishment of an irrigation scheme. There were also many issues that made it difficult for those involved in irrigation that must be addressed. The major issues are revealed by various interviewees as shown below:

Farmer 1: *As a community we have also ventured into commercial farming since 2003, the arrangement amongst others was to benefit all households. Out of 1045 households only 43 farmers benefitted from the irrigation scheme so far, since during the initial stage of the irrigation scheme, Land Development Agency (LDA) was part of this initiative, the main objective was to alleviate poverty. All victims of forced removal and the descendants of the victims were to benefit, but unfortunately it never happened that way. There was endless maladministration within the project. The 43 farmers were to receive equal share of hectares, but unfortunately it never happened that way In order to rectify this mistake, Traditional leadership approached the Department of Agriculture for clarity, of who is to take part in commercial farming, the response from government was that everybody have to benefit, therefore farmers have to rotate. Eight of the farmers who benefitted since 2003, were not happy about this feedback decided to quit farming.*

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Farmer 2: *Theft is also a serious challenge at the irrigation scheme; almost half the harvest is lost through theft. It seems most of the residents are not aware that the project belongs to the community and not to the strategic partner. Once the green mealies are ready we inform the local police station to assist in terms of theft control, they do patrol and more often than not they do catch the victims. The traditional leadership have to help the community to change the mind-set. Members of community have to appreciate development that comes with the irrigation scheme.*

Worker 1: *We are employed for a very short period of time, only for four to eight months. Where do we get money for food for the bulk of the year?*

Worker 2: *We do not have protective clothing; the climate is too harsh, protective clothing could help. Drinking water is also very salty; it also causes diarrhoea to most of us. We also do not have safe means of transport, more often than not we are transported in an open trailer, only those who come from as far as Maviligwe and Makahlule are transported in an open vehicle.*

Worker 3: *We have signed a contract with the strategic partner. The benefits are too minimal, and the earnings are too little. We cannot even manage to send our children to school. If contract conditions, could be read to us in Xitsonga at a public meeting. My wish is for the contract to be reviewed.*

Worker 4: *At this farm there is no shelter, when we break for lunch we have to look for bushes to get shades that can only cover the head.*

Worker 5: *Wages are not clearly mentioned to us. We are not registered workers, what if we get injured? Did you see the number of people who fell down because of heat? Government will not even compensate us for either injury or death.*

Worker 6: *Overtime income is not clearly stated to us such that one is never sure of an amount to expect. Communication around this issue is a serious challenge. We are scared to ask for clarity.*

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Yet another resident pointed out that:

> *In as far as farming is concerned, in order to give everyone an opportunity to farm, land usage shall be reiterated to the whole community. Farmers have to rotate in this agricultural programme. Those farmers who are presently using the land, are given a chance until 2018, thereafter the next group will take over. This system will then benefit almost all beneficiaries of land restitution.*

A farmer highlighted that "I would be happy if we could be farming all year round, instead of our current situation where due to lack of water for irrigation, we remain idle at times. We want to boost our incomes".

The Makuleke community also ran broiler project. Interviews with some workers revealed serious fissures in relationships, with most workers exasperated by what they believed were ethnic and racial issues. These should be addressed because they had significant effects on employee relations. The specific nature of the issues is explained by some workers as follows:

> Worker 1: *I am employed as a casual worker. We earn R80.00 per day. We are not sure if the wages will be revised so-that we earn R105.00 per day. Language barrier is a serious challenge. The strategic partner speaks English, the foreman more especially the Venda speaker, communicates with us in deep Tshivenda. At times we are not sure if we are insulted or not. There are very few permanent workers. We only wait for harvest time for employment, unless if there could be wind before the harvesting season, is then that we can be employed for a short while to pick up the maize. If we have to work for two weeks we earn R800.00. If crop rotation is introduced, we might be employed for a longer time.*

> Worker 2: *I work at a broiler* project; it's *not quite clear who has to run the project between the CPA and Traditional leadership. Our income is not clearly defined. We are beneficiaries of this project; therefore we have to make decisions on the project. The two authorities must give us a mandate to run the project. Amongst ourselves we have actually agreed on receiving R2000.00 each as an income per month.*

Employees in the "Working for Water" programme had a lot to say about the situation that prevailed. Below are some of their views presented verbatim:

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Worker 1: *I work for a project called Working for Water. It is a project that deals with eradication of alien plants. Working* in the bush it's a *challenge. Our lives are actually at risk. There is also no job security, time and again we are reprimanded that our services can be terminated, and this really affects our performance. Such utterances are made more especially when we show dissatisfaction around the working conditions. The income I get is not bad, but when I compare it with the income we generate its very little. If I can have my own business, rendering the same services, it can be more fulfilling and rewarding. Perhaps we do not get high salaries because of the courses that we attend for free .I really do not know what could sort out our challenges. It is important to review the contract and also to submit our inputs to the authorities*

Worker 2: *My job is to eradicate alien plants in the Kruger Park, a place called old Makuleke. We work for only 12 or 13 days, per month with earnings for at most R89.00 per day. There is no job security, at times if the alien plants grow very little, the authorities promise to terminate our services. During rainy season we work for more days and also receive better income.*

Worker 3: *I work for a project called Working for Water, I also belong to Makuleke G.G. group. We render services at the cultural centre only, when there are tourists, we dance Xibelani, a Xitsonga traditional dance. We do not get a living wage. The income depends on the gratuity we get from tourist. There is no stable income. The centre is not sustainable there is no market. If the centre could start operating like it used to happen years back, where tourist frequent the centre, we would also have some reasonable income.*

Eco-Tourism was also key to the livelihoods of the Makuleke people. A resident of the Makuleke area expressed the remarks presented below taking into account the value of ecotourism in her life:

I am a house keeper at Eco-Training; Communication between management and staff is very poor. Day offs for examples were not clearly communicated. Sometimes when one is still on off days, the foreman could phone to terminate the day off. There is no consistency in terms of the working conditions.

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One of the major benefits of land restitution was the establishment of a library at one of the villages. A volunteer at the library had the following to say:

> *I work at a library that is commonly called a learning centre within the community. This library was built by a donor. At first the donor also supplied food for the children who used the centre after school. Presently the centre is no longer as helpful as before, the donor has not yet communicated about her way forward. This library is dysfunctional.*

As already highlighted in the preceding chapter, the respondents were also asked to contribute ideas on what they perceived to be the solutions to the challenges they faced. These are explained below. The solutions also expand on the nature of benefits that the community members accrued through land reform. In one of the focus group discussions, one resident remarked that:

> "……*Even though* it's *long that we have been encountering challenges, since 2009 and 2010, solutions may be there, even though Trophy Hunting was the major source of income. Roads as well may be repaired if there could be some cash flow. If we can revive our agreement with KNP we can afford to make money. Very soon a new lodge will be constructed, once construction resume jobs will be created, even after construction jobs will be available. This lodge is called the Elsmore; the partnership is unique as compared to previous lodge owners. At this lodge we have been offered an opportunity of shareholding, we have signed this agreement after being advised by our commercial lawyers. If Trophy Hunting activities could be reinstated the situation of our cash flow can improve. This project did help us to send our children to follow tourism courses and nature conservation course as well, but we also wish to produce medical doctors, and engineers. It is sad that this project fails to improve the livelihood of the inhabitants, even to better the financial status of households.*

An employee in one of the lodges lamented the lack of consultation by superiors when dealing with the challenges that workers faced. It was suggested that holding meetings that thrashed out the issues would be of immense help.

4.4 Summary of Major Findings of the Study

This study revealed that although there were significant tangible social and economic benefits that accrued to the Makuleke community due to land restitution, there were still

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many challenges that needed attention. Some preferred solutions were spelt out. Table 4.1 shows a summary of the major findings, arranged per objective of the study.

Table 4.1 Summary of the major findings of the study on economic and social benefits of land restitution in the Makuleke community in Limpopo Province

Research objective: To determine the	Major findings	Has the hypothesis or assumption been confirmed?
a) Biographic characteristics of the restitution project beneficiaries	☐ More than 54 % of the respondents were married; ☐ 58 % of respondents had completed either Grade 8 or 9 in school; ☐ Almost 80 % of the direct beneficiaries were females, 36-50 years old.	The assumption that most beneficiaries were young people was not confirmed. The dominant 36-50 year olds can be classified as middle-aged persons.
b) Economic benefits that were derived from restitution project	☐ Jobs were created through eco-tourism; cropping and livestock-based initiatives; culture-based projects. ☐ Incomes were said to be fairly high although there was room for improvement; ☐ Various types of training which enhanced locals" employability were offered on a continuous basis; and ☐ Preferential treatment when job opportunities arose.	Significant benefits were identified. These were originally not known. In general, the Makuleke people were of the view that land restitution made them acquire numerous benefits. This was so despite the fact that there were some impediments to this. Also, not all households had benefitted that much from the projects.
c) Social benefits emanating from the restitution project	☐ Social benefits realised in the area included improvement in infrastructure and services among these were schools, clinics, bridges, water and sanitation. ☐ Sustained social cohesion among community members.	
d) Challenges faced by project beneficiaries	☐ Few jobs were created within eco-tourism project; ☐ The potential of ethnic and racial tensions erupting were evident; ☐ Employer-employee relations were not sound in most establishments; ☐ Workers complained about working long hours which were matched by poor remuneration.	Some underlying issues that needed attention were uncovered. These form the basis of an informed intervention in the area.

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CHAPTER 5: SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

Results presented in this Chapter emanate from research carried out amongst 100 respondents in this study. The main objective of the study was to examine the socio-economic benefits of land restitution in the Makuleke community of Limpopo Province.

The specific objectives were to determine biographic characteristics of the restitution project beneficiaries, economic benefits that were derived from restitution project, social benefits emanating from the restitution project and challenges faced by project beneficiaries. Possible solutions were also highlighted.

Regarding demographic characteristics of restitution beneficiaries the study found that a very high proportion (80%) was female within the age range of 36-50 years old. Only about a quarter of the respondents were youth while the proportion of the elderly quite minimal. Almost one in every six beneficiaries (59%) had five or more family members. Quite interestingly more than half the number of beneficiaries were married and as such not easily found at home as they would either be seeking job opportunities or working elsewhere. A small but significant proportion (about 21%) of respondents was widowed with an even smaller component that was categorized as single. In terms of educational achievement, most respondents had only attended school up to Grades 8 and 9 while one in every ten respondent was illiterate

The study also detected significant socio -economic benefits that accrued from the various projects. Notable amongst these were job opportunities that accommodated almost one in every four beneficiaries. These projects included those focusing on agriculture, tourism (lodges) and community based (Working for Water project). Nearly a quarter of beneficiaries were state employees while a small but significant proportion had their own businesses. The study could not obtain sufficient information regarding direct benefits (salaries and wages) that emanated from the various projects, especially ecotourism, as many respondents chose to be silent about this aspect with only a very small proportion reflecting that they earned about R2500 per month. Only about 1% of respondents indicated that they benefited from gratuities emanating from investments in projects such as lodges (receipts from visitors or guests to ecotourism centres). Another resident gave an overview of the agro-projects that benefited the community in many ways. Jobs were created through eco-tourism; cropping

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and livestock-based initiatives; and also culture- based projects. Incomes were said to be fairly high although there was room for improvement; various types of training which enhanced locals" employability were offered on a continuous basis; and Preferential treatment when job opportunities arose.

Social benefits realized in the area included improvement in infrastructure and services, among these were schools, clinics, bridges, water and sanitation. Social cohesion among community members was sustained.

A significant number of challenges were expressed by beneficiaries. The first critical challenge was lack of sufficient job opportunities. Some beneficiaries were concerned that while some youth benefited from project activities, those who were directly affected by the forced removal process were largely excluded. The situation was worsened by the disastrous rainfall that destroyed the Pafuri camp in January 2013, living beneficiaries employed at that facility without jobs. Another significant contribution of the Pafuri Lodge was a gratuity of R500 000.00 transferred quarterly to Makuleke CPA as the landlord. Some benefits that would directly accrue to beneficiaries. Also as expressed by an employee at one of the lodges, racism was still a problem that needed to be curbed. Respondents working at the lodge also complained of long hours without tea breaks. One farmer also complained that only 43 out of the 1045 households that were supposed to have benefited from the irrigation projects were successful. The later however complained of massive crop theft as there was no support from security services in the area. Respondents provided several solutions to their challenges, including the ones alluded to below.

a) Revisiting the lease agreement with the KNP especially in that at the time of this study a new lodge was to be constructed with potential for increased job opportunities and shareholding.
b) Reintroduction of Trophy Hunting activities especially due to its value in attracting community youth towards tourism careers.

5.2 Conclusion

The following paragraphs are presented as a response to the research hypotheses.
The first hypothesis stated that most beneficiaries of the Makuleke Land Restitution project were young women. However the findings of the study negated this hypothesis, especially in that youth representation in the various projects was quite minimal. An interesting finding was however that woman dominated all categories of beneficiaries, including youth. As

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attested by concerns raised by the elderly, most youth were employed in the most lucrative tourism sector, and also receive skills training mostly along the hospitality career.

The second hypothesis, i.e. provision of job opportunities to beneficiaries, was correctly postulated. Not only did beneficiaries benefit from the various projects, but some even acquired employment in other sectors such as government and private agencies. It must be noted though that beneficiaries complained about the inability of projects to attract sufficient numbers of the unemployed.

The third hypothesis stated that through income generated from the project, the community would benefit from various infrastructures, including improved health facilities, schools, recreation centres, roads and skills transfer. To some extent infrastructure was availed, although benefits did not accrue only to the actual dispossessed, but instead shared with other community members irrespective of the extent of loss suffered. The last aspect calls for a re-look into the compensation system as it could be a catalyst towards preference for cash rather than land or other in-kind strategies.

The last hypothesis correctly postulated the existence of several challenges that faced the Makuleke Restitution claimants. Beneficiaries cited a number of challenges that cut across the socio-economic spectrum. Critical amongst these were insufficient job opportunities, fewer beneficiaries that draw gratuities, long working hours and massive crop theft.

5.3 Recommendations

These recommendations are based on the study objectives and conclusions.
The finding related to the dominance of women beneficiaries is a step in the right direction and supportive of government policy that seeks to empower women. However it was postulated that youth will be major players in the restitution process. The observation that youth were not only in the minority but also faced rejection from their adult counterparts is a matter for serious consideration. In the final analyses the elderly will move out of productive engagement, and in the absence of an empowered youth, projects will fail to realize their intended objective, especially that of driving rural communities out of poverty and unemployment. Special training interventions to change the mind-set of elderly community members need to be put in place, especially as regards succession planning.

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The high number of married women beneficiaries that were mostly absent from home due to either work seeking or being engaged in various projects reflect the changing cultural stereotypes within rural communities especially that of looking at women as home-bound entities. This may also be reflective of the high number of unemployed married men within the Makuleke community that are not necessarily beneficiaries to the project. Women beneficiaries will therefore require channelled support that will also cater for infants and young children such as crèches and early learning centres. Financial support, especially in the form of seed capital and loan access should also receive priority.

It is also appreciated that a significant number of beneficiaries are not dependent on the project but rather engaged in government and other employment agencies for their livelihood. It is however critical to note that these individuals also lost significantly from the practise of forced removals. The latter resulted in loss of residential rights, properties and unbearable suffering. The need therefore for compensation to this category in the form of shares in gratuities emanating from the various projects cannot be questioned. While the present situation in which facilities such as schools, roads and other infrastructure is being provided to the whole community, cognisance must always be taken of the fact that within black rural communities there are those that were not actually beneficiaries to some land claims. This of necessity may require that direct claimants be identified and compensated accordingly. Also, whereas this study aimed at obtaining direct economic benefits emanating from the project, a gap still exists in that many respondents shunned from providing relevant financial data that would point out to the extent of beneficiation. The finding that a quarter of beneficiaries were directly employed in various projects is appreciable, especially in that some beneficiaries initiated their own business ventures.

It is a matter of concern though that only 1% of beneficiaries received gratuities from the projects. Monitoring mechanisms that would ensure beneficiation of all project members, irrespective of their status in the community, need to be put in place. The CPA in particular needs to be evaluated and if necessary be restructured to cater for all community stakeholders, including youth, women and civil structure formations. With proper management, the challenge of insufficient job opportunities could greatly be mitigated. Also, the job shedding that followed the destruction of the Pafuri Lodge is an unfortunate but remediable challenge that points to managerial incapacity. Massive investments such as those placed in projects identified above need to be properly insured, not only for complete loss but also for compensation of employees during rehabilitation of the facility. It is also unfortunate that some beneficiaries still face acts of racialism and ethnic tension within their working spaces against the laws of the country. While statues are written on paper, it takes

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the human mind to assimilate the vagaries that emanated from the system and the need for complete destruction of racial and mind-sets. Intervention programmes, especially directed at the older white community within the project will need to be put in place, especially psychological counselling. This situation needs authorities urgent intervention.

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ANNEXURES



Annexure 1

Part of the Cultural Village Infrastructure.

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Annexure 2:

Chicken Broiler

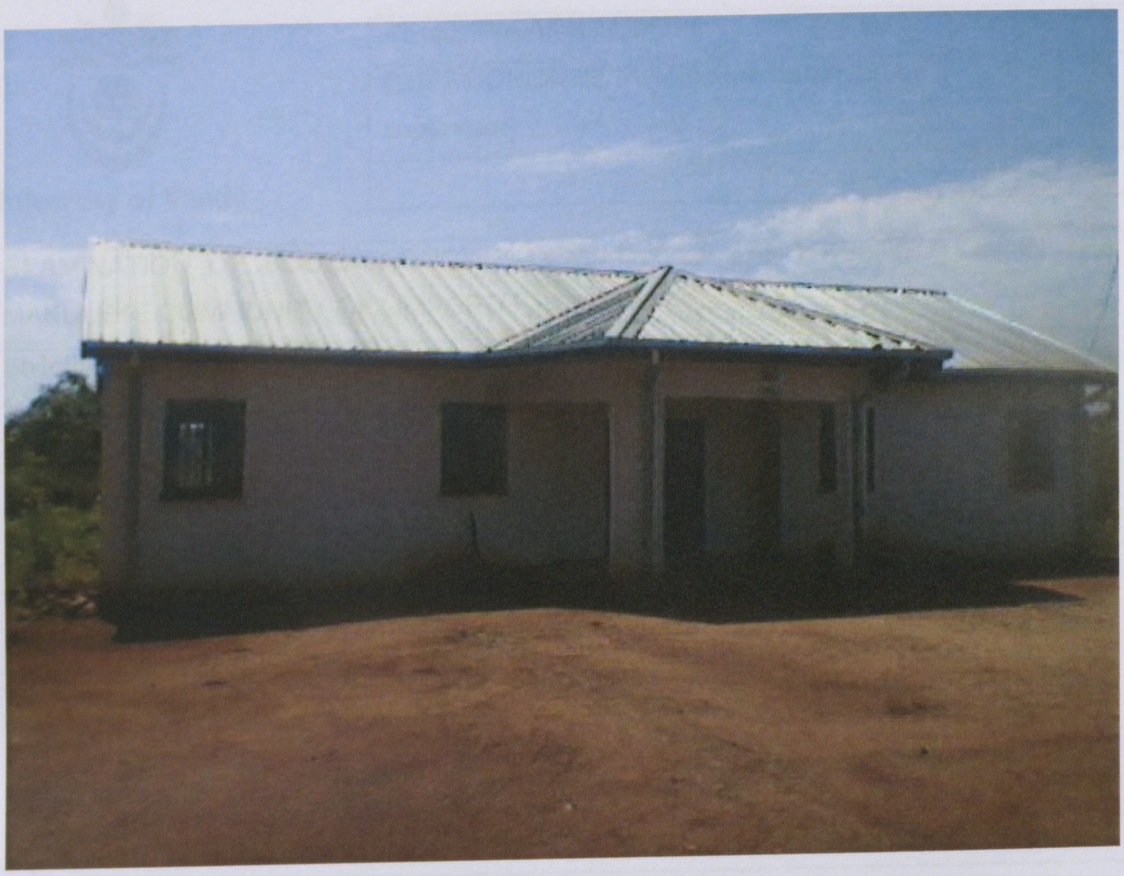
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Annexure: 3

Pivot Irrigation

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Annexure 4

Library and Internet Cafe' Makahlule

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REGISTRATION NUMBER								
QUESTIONNAIRE NUMBER(to be written by supervisor)								

EXAMINATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF LAND RESTITUTION IN THE MAKULEKE COMMUNITY OF LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Strictly confidential

This information is confidential and the name and address of respondents will not be divulged for any purpose other than for further Research, provided letter of consent is provided by the current investigator.

TO BE COMPLETED BY INVESTIGATOR PRIOR TO INTERVIEW.

1. Name of Restitution Project: *Makuleke Community*

2. Name of District and Local Municipality: *Vhembe District*, Thulamela Local Municipality

Date.....

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TO BE COMPLETED BY INVESTIGATOR						
3. Investigator"s first name and surname						
4.Particulars of visit(s) to participant	Year	Month	Date	Time Started	Time Finished	Response (ENTER RESPONSE CODE)
First Visit						
Second Visit						
Third visit						

RESPONSE CODE		
	Completed Questionnaire.	01
	Selected Respondent not Present	02
	Revisit	03
	Appointment Made	04
	Partially Completed Questionnaire(Specify reason)	05
	No one home	06
	Respondent is physically/Mentally not fit to be interviewed	07
	Interview refused by selected respondent	08
	Interview refused by other household member	09

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5. Which language was spoken during the interview?

English	01
Afrikaans	02
Xhosa	03
Zulu	04
Tswana	05
Sotho	06
Pedi	07
SeSwati	08
Tsonga	09
Venda	10
Ndebele	11

TO BE COMPLETED BY DATA CAPTURER AFTER INTERVIEW. 6. Name of data capture and date captured:
7. Signature of data capturer .....

Year

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INFORMATION SHEET

Good (morning, afternoon, evening), my name is----------, lam a researcher/research assistance, from the University of Venda. We are conducting a research in socio-economic benefits of land restitution in Makuleke community. This study tries to help policy makers to review land reform policy and also assist the beneficiaries to utilize the socio-economic benefits that emanate from land reform, and to voice out the challenges they encounter.

We have randomly chosen you within the Makuleke community as one of the stakeholders to participate in this study. We would like you to respond to our questions.

Please understand that you are not being forced to take part in this study and the choice whether to participate or not is yours alone. However, we would really appreciate it if you do share your thoughts with us. If you choose not to take part in answering these questions, you will not be affected in any way whatsoever. If you agree to participate, you may stop me at any time and tell me that you don't want to go on with the interview. If you do this, there will also be no penalties and you will NOT be prejudiced in ANY way. When it comes to answering questions there are no right and wrong answers.

This study will hold no risk for you or to any other member of your community. Although you will not personally benefit from this study, we will do our best to make sure that residence of Makuleke village will benefit from this study. All information that you give to us will be kept confidential and you will not be identified by name or address in any reports that we plan to write.

DECLARATION BY FIELDWORKER.

DECLARATION BY FIELDWORKER.

I hereby declare that I explained to the respondent that he or she is participating freely in this research. I also explained to the respondent that he or she may stop this interview at any point and that such decision would not in any way affect them negatively.

I explained to the respondent that the answers he or she will provide during the interview would remain confidential.

.....

Signature of Investigator

Date.....

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SECTION A BIOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF MAKULEKE LAND RESTITUTION BENEFICIARIES

BIOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS: in this section we are going to ask about the principal owner.

A.1. Please indicate Age and Gender of Principal owner			
Age		Gender	
14-35	1	*Male*	*1*
36-50	2	*Female*	*2*
51-65	3		
66 and above	4		

A.2. Marital Status of principal owner (Tick only one option)	
Single	*1*
Married	*2*
Divorced	*3*
Widowed	*4*
Living Together	*5*

A.3. Highest level of education attained by the Principal respondent(Tick only one option)	
No formal education	*1*
Up to grade 7	*2*
Grades 8-12	*3*
Post-Secondary	*4*

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A.4. Employment status of respondent		
i. working for a wage or salary:	*M*	*F*
ii. Permanent Employment		
iii. Seasonal Employment		
iv. Temporary/Piece jobs		
v. Running own business.		
vi. Engaged in a community project		
vii. Not working		
vii. Still in school		
A. 5 Indicate the size of the household (Tick only one option)		
0-3		*1*
4-4		*2*
5 and above		*3*

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SECTION B: SOCIO - ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF MAKULEKE LAND RESTITUTION PROJECT.

NAME OF PROJECT	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS EMPLOYED								TOTAL WAGES (D (R)		LEVEL OF SATISFACTION	
	Elder women (more than 35yrs)		Elder man (More than 35 years		Youth (up to 35 years)						1 = Satisfied 2= Not satisfied 3 = Neutral	
					M		F					
YEAR	2012	2013	2012	2013	12	13	12	13	12	13	12	13
Six Star bed lodges												
Selling of artifacts to tourists												
Agricultural project												
Road construction project												
Electrification project												
School/classroom construction project												
Own guest house												
Local Museum												
Other: Name												

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS SURVEY!!!!!!!!!!!!

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SECTION C- CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED.

(This section will not be provided to participants)

This section will use qualitative research methodology in particular focus group interview, which will be free flowing, respondents will be guided by the researcher in the discussion. The following open-ended questions will guide the discussion:

Mention the challenges faced by beneficiaries related to the projects listed in the questionnaire from the most pressing to the least pressing

At least three challenges from each project

Since when were these challenges experienced?

Were there any suggested solutions to the identified challenges?

2. What are the possible solutions to the challenges identified above from the first to the last?

a. Mention at least three possible solutions for each identified challenges above.

b. Rank them by order of preferences

c. Each focus group will discuss suggested solutions and agree on how best the challenges can be addressed.

Annexure 5

Questionnaire

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