



University of Venda

**HUMAN SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT IN THE  
CONTEXT OF LAND REFORM: A CASE OF RATOMBO, 2005 - 2018**

**By**

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## Declaration

I, **Rendani Themeli Coyenie**, declare that this research is my original work and has not been submitted for any degree at any other university or institution. All the sources used were appropriately acknowledged.

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## **Dedications**

This study is dedicated to my mother, Livhuwani Ratombo Themeli. The love with which you raised me has not only made it possible for me to dare to dream big dreams but has also imparted a burning aspiration to always live those dreams. I cannot express my thankfulness for the support you gave me in all the endeavors I chose to undertake.

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## Abbreviations

ANC	African National Congress
CPA	Community Property Association
DLA	Department of Land Affairs
DRDLA	Department of Rural Development and Land Affairs
HS	Human Security
HD	Human Development
LCC	Land Claims Commission
SMDGs	Sustainable Millennium Development Goals
SPS	Strategic Partnership Schemes
SPSM	Strategic Partnership Schemes Model

## **Abstract**

*The research investigated the nexus between land reform and human security in Ratombo community. The central argument was that land reform should address human security and development of the community. The security-development nexus was applied to explicate the link between human security and human development. The human security concerns discussed in the research included food security, economic security, individual security, community security, and environmental security. These security matters were discussed within the backdrop of a myriad of challenges facing Ratombo Communal Property Association (CPA) regarding improving production at the farm. The problem under investigation was informed by the failure of the CPA to ensure food security and to create employment for the community members. Within that background, the study sought to explore the feelings of the farm workers, management and members of the CPA. Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis were used to establish the attitudes and feelings of stakeholders on Ratombo CPA's performance, regarding meeting human security concerns of the community. The outcome of the research was that, as land reforms have dominated the discourse of rural development, there is needed to closely link rural development to human security issues because development and well-being are inseparable to the human security of a community.*

**Key Words:** *Human security, human development, land reform, Ratombo community*

## Table of Contents

Declaration.....	i
Dedications.....	ii
Acknowledgements.....	iii
Abbreviations.....	iv
Abstract.....	v
CHAPTER 1.....	1
INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND.....	1
1.1 Introduction.....	1
1.2 Background to the Study.....	2
1.3 Research Problem.....	7
1.4 Rationale of Study.....	8
1.5 Aim.....	8
1.6 Objectives.....	8
1.7 Research Questions.....	9
1.8 Research Assumption.....	9
1.9 Theoretical Framework.....	9
1.10 Significance of the Study.....	11
1.11 Definition of Terms.....	12
1.12 Chapter Layout.....	15
1.13 Conclusion.....	16
CHAPTER 2.....	18
LITERATURE REVIEW.....	18
2.1 Introduction.....	18
2.2 Understanding the Concept ‘Human Security’.....	18
2.2.1 Evolution of Human Security.....	20
2.2.2 Land Reform and human Security Ramifications.....	22
2.4 Land Reform and Human Security in Africa.....	36
2.5 Land Reform and Human Security: South African Context.....	40
CHAPTER 3.....	58

<b>RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>3.1. Introduction .....</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>3.2.1 Case Study Approach .....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>3.3 Description of the Study Area.....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>3.4 Sampling Procedures and Population Size.....</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>3.4.1 Sampling Procedure.....</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>3.4.2 Study Population.....</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>3.5 Data Collection Instruments.....</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>3.6 Data Collection Procedure.....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>3.7 Data Analysis.....</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>3.8 Ethical Considerations.....</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>3.8.1. Permission to conduct the study.....</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>3.8.2. Confidentiality.....</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>3.8.3. Anonymity.....</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>3.9 Limitations.....</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>3.10 Conclusion.....</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>CHAPTER 4.....</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY FINDINGS .....</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>4.1 Introduction.....</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>4.3 Findings relating to the Question: What are the Activities of the Ratombo CPA in relation to human security? .....</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>4.4 Findings on the Human Security Challenges facing Ratombo CPA.....</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>4.4.1 Nepotism .....</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>4.4.2 Financial Challenges.....</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>4.4.3 Managerial Deficiency.....</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>4.5 Other Findings .....</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>4.5.1 Climate Change .....</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>4.5.3 Human Development.....</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>4.6 Conclusion.....</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>CHAPTER 5.....</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.....</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>5.1 Introduction.....</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>5.2 Recommendations .....</b>	<b>93</b>

**Bibliography** ..... 97

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

#### 1.1 Introduction

In South Africa, the land question emanates from the 1913 Land Act and the 1951 Group Areas Act. The 1913 Land Act was aimed at regulating the acquisition of land, while the Group Areas Act assigned racial groups to different residential and business sections in urban areas in a system of urban apartheid. This seemingly paved the way for the dispossession of the land belonging to the black communities. One of the most important political and economic issues in Southern Africa is the land question, particularly in Zimbabwe and South Africa, where land remains the basic source of livelihood for the majority as well as the root for agriculture and industrial development. Land reform policy formulation in the region has proved to be a complex process characterised by multiple actors with diverse interests, making land reform a slow and difficult process (Drimie and Mbaya, 2001). In the case of South Africa, the white minority's dictates of land and its unequal distribution were two of the main bases of the apartheid system, and the source of their wealth and power (Waldo, 1991). Consequently, the land question in South Africa, like other countries in the Southern African region, is typically rooted in race inequalities. What exacerbates the problem, therefore, is the demand for land redistribution in terms of redressing the historical inequities on the one hand, and the desire to maintain market and production on the other.

The above issues inevitably hinge on race and the marginalisation historical realities. These have become a consistent feature of southern African politics and policymaking

endeavours since independence (Adams et al. 1999; Moyo, 2005b). In the case of South Africa, land reform has been slow, yet the demand for land from black South Africans is increasing every time. In cases where land reform has been implemented, serious questions of equitability and agrarian transformation remain unanswered. Furthermore, the achievements of land reform in meeting human needs, especially on the beneficiary communities, is yet remain to be realised. Consequently, human security implications in the context of land reform remain a grey area for academic inquiry. The current study, therefore, examines the nexus between land reform and human security, and its implications in Ratombo area. This research is premised on the argument that land reform should result in agrarian transformation which ensures human security in general, and food security in particular.

## **1.2 Background to the Study**

Land Reform in South Africa remains one of the contentious issues among different interest ethnic groups, particularly black and white. The need for land reform in South Africa has its origin in the historic marginalisation of black South Africans during colonial domination. The 1913 Native Land Act was the preparation of land theft that started in 1657 when the first “free burgher”, Jan Hendrik Boom, began farming a plot of land previously used for grazing by the indigenous Khoi-Khoi people. The act further established a policy of forced removals that prevented the emergence of a class of black landowners who would successfully compete with white farmers.

The policy worked, and the economic successes of the emergent black smallholders were stifled. The later racism that typified apartheid’s consolidation of these laws, with the

introduction of the Group Areas Act of 1950, further entrenched the gross inequalities in wealth triggered by the expropriation of land and the resettlement of black South Africans. By the 1980s, between seven to eight-million black people were displaced as a result. It is hard to overstate the social and economic damage, and deep psychological scars left in the wake of this destruction. Europeans in South Africa established a 'settler colony' followed by the massive expropriation of land belonging to the indigenous Africans. This subsequently changed the structure of land ownership and use. The successive governments in South Africa strengthened the Whites' control over land by passing legislations that side-lined black South Africans on land matters. The white regime formulated exclusion policies which put land on the hands of white people. The Land Act of 1913 and the 1936 Trust and Land Act ensured the land expropriation and segregation in South Africa. These acts subsequently reserved 87 percent of the land for Whites, Coloureds and Asians; but mostly for Whites (Fourie, 2000). Black South Africans, who constituted approximately 75% of the population, were crowded on the remaining 13% of the land (Fourie, 2000). All black South Africans who owned freehold titles outside the designated 13% were dispossessed of their land and over 17,000 separate pieces of legislation and instruments were passed to consolidate these policies, eventually perpetuating unequal land ownership patterns in the country (Fourie, 2000; Ntsebeza, 2005). The growing need to proletarianise the African peasantry during the colonial interlude effectively influenced the land policies, which resulted in Africans being forced into wage labour after losing land to white commercial farmers and corporations.

Following the advent of democracy in 1994, the newly elected ANC government under Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela was tasked to deal with a legacy of the apartheid era of land

dispossession. The post 1994 democratic government made tremendous efforts to address the land question by introducing policy frameworks that were designed to redistribute land to the indigenous people (ANC, 1994). The South African government thus introduced its own models of land reform, created on three pillars, namely; the restitution, redistribution and tenure (reforms). The Land Restitution sought to comprises return the land, or paying victims for land rights lost because of the racially discriminatory laws from the passed since 19<sup>th</sup> of June 1913 onwards. The objective of the restitution policy was to return land and offer other restitutionary remedies to people expelled through the apartheid discriminatory legislation. Reconciliation, reconstruction and development were the central components of restitution. Redistribution involves the disadvantaged people buying land with the help of a Settlement/Land Acquisition Grant from the government. Land Tenure Reform is the greatest compound area of land reform. The goal is to bring all people occupying land under a unitary lawfully validated system of landholding. It compromises the secure forms of land tenure, helps resolve tenure clashes and to provide people with secure tenure. It is important to note that the three pillars of land reform in South Africa have proven to be complicated, and almost difficult to put in practice for multiple reasons (Hall, 2004; Ntsebeza, 2005; Cross and Hornby, 2002).

The willing buyer willing seller policy was adopted as the chosen system of the land reform programme. Although forced removals were done under the white minority rule through racially discriminative legislation, the new government had to strike a balance between the peaceful nation-building process and redressing the historical imbalances over the land. The new legislative frameworks that govern the process of land reform through lodging land claims, the land redistribution and restitution were established. The

government proposed to reallocate 30% of land to black people by 2015. Several attempts have been made after independence to remedy the inequities in land ownership and use. After the 1994 general elections, the land reform programme was adopted and consolidated in the 1996 Constitution of South Africa. The most important fear was the correction of 'apartheid inequalities' by stressing values of redistribution and restitution. However, since 2000, the values were changed for more market-driven aspirations because the former were deemed not conducive for efficient land management. The latter, market-oriented and so-called efficient approach, ends up protecting large commercial farm owners and a rising black middle-class at the expense of the poor (Cross and Hornby, 2002; Hall, 2005; Sihlongonyane, 2005).

Consequently, redistribution in the South African context is underpinned by the 'willing buyer; willing seller' (WBWS) model, which follows market-oriented policies of the World Bank. The model dictates that redistribution takes the form of the minimal state support of the poor people in the form of giving subsidies to purchase land rather than direct state acquisition of large tracts of land concentrated in few hands. As such, the state now supports profit-making private groups. Thus, large numbers of poor people have to pool their resources together to obtain land (Obeng-Odoom, 2011). As noted by Hall (2004), the WBWS approach tended to support emerging black commercial farmers, rather than the rural poor. Under such circumstances, land reform in South Africa has not changed the power structures that negatively affect the poor majority.

Cross and Hornby (2002) stress that land reform has been concerned with 'macro-national' issues whereas the micro-local and household power structures and the

livelihoods of the poor remained unresolved in practice. The neo-liberal land policies have been formulated by broadly pro-market scholars and policy makers and have been aggressively promoted by the World Bank and other international development institutions as the solution to persistent landlessness and poverty in the countryside of most developing countries. The neo-liberal land policies emerge from pro-market (generally state-directed) land policies. The former is criticized for abandoning the project of social justice, and the redress of inequalities on land ownership, promoting instead, the integration into global markets. The policies also aggravated economic and social insecurities, intensified migration to urban areas, and created a deepening pattern of under-development, instead of real agrarian transformation of the livelihoods of the people (Moyo and Yeros, 2005a).

In 1998, the Ratombo Community submitted claims to the Land Claims Commission (LCC) to get their land back, and the Limpopo Provincial Government granted the land in 2004. The goal was to preserve and maintain the farms as productive assets, to the advantage of the Ratombo Communal Property Association (CPA) in terms of achieving the agricultural and rural development. The land is currently under the management of the Ratombo CPA, which has 309 beneficiaries (Ramudzuli, 2010). The government prohibited the beneficiaries from effective land ownership rights, for fear of disrupting the flow of commercial production. This is contradictory and is legally questionable, since there is a constitutional right to restitution or equitable redress for those dispossessed of their land after 1913 (Greenberg, 2009). The CPA is criticised for its failure to capacitate land recipients with skills to sustain their newly owned commercial farms. Several human security issues ranging from the impact of the land reform to the community's

employment, income, environment and food security, have not been explored. It is within this background that this research sought to establish if the human settlement in Ratombo managed to cater for the community's human security considerations.

### **1.3 Research Problem**

The central problem which prompted this research lies in the fact that the Ratombo CPA is struggling to maintain production levels, thereby making the community vulnerable to several human security threats which include economic insecurity, food insecurity and environmental insecurity. Ratombo is predominantly rural, and the people in the area depend on land for their livelihood. When the CPA fails to deliver in terms of farm production, it means the lives of community members are under threat from a human security perspective. Ratombo, like other South African communities, presents a case where CPAs introduced in the land reform process fail to work to the satisfaction of the beneficiaries and the future of the scheme is in doubt (Greenberg, 2009). Wyk (2008) said that as of 2008, the production and export of fruits, mostly avocados in Levubu, decreased from 63.5% in 2004 to 38%, a loss of R2-million a year in income. He says factories also rejected about 700 tons of macadamia nuts because of quality problems, at a loss of R6.3-million. Apart from lost profit, more than 1 000 farm workers have lost their jobs, as have truck drivers and agricultural specialists. All of this means that more than R40-million is lost by Levubu each year (Wyk, 2008). These statistics imply that there could also be a real problem in Ratombo since the community is part of the Levubu cluster farms. This research, therefore, sought to examine the intensity of the human security threat to Ratombo Community as a result of land reform policies implemented.

## **1.4 Rationale of Study**

The Ratombo Community presents a pertinent case on the ever-recurring contradictions within the South African land reform policies, which fail to meet the needs of the land beneficiaries. The existing literature on agrarian change in Southern Africa tends to focus on unequal land ownership structures between the white commercial farmers and the black peasants, and the models of land reform being applied to the Southern African context. The impact of these land reform models on the social reproduction and human security implications have received little scholarly attention. Consequently, there is a dearth on literature on the nexus between land reform and human security. This study will help fill the gap by attempting to establish the extent to which the land reform, adopted in Ratombo, has impacted on its human security needs.

## **1.5 Aim**

The study sought to examine human security implications of human settlement in the context of land reform in Ratombo from 2000 to 2018.

## **1.6 Objectives**

- To establish the link between land reform and human security in Ratombo.
- To assess the activities of the Ratombo CPA in relation to human security in Ratombo.

- To examine the success or failure of the CPA in meeting human security needs in Ratombo.

## **1.7 Research Questions**

- What is the link between land reform and human security in Ratombo?
- What are the activities of the Ratombo CPA in relation to human security in Ratombo?
- How successful is the Ratombo CPA in meeting human security needs in Ratombo?

## **1.8 Research Assumption**

The overall assumption of the study was that human security and human development in Ratombo community's land reform process are the two sides of the same coin. The study was premised on the understanding that when the state fails to guarantee security for its citizens, that state will not be able to fulfil the human development agenda as envisaged in the MDGs. The study assumed that land reform policies facilitate human development and avert all possible human security threats to beneficiary communities.

## **1.9 Theoretical Framework**

The Critical Human Security (CHS) paradigm was the guiding conceptual framework for this study. The theory employed the Development-Security nexus which emphasises that development requires security and that security requires development. It emphasises that human beings are the referral point for any discussion on security, and that it is the duty

of the state to provide security for its people. This gives a more people-oriented approach to security by advancing the view that sovereignty should be interpreted as responsibility, and hence the individual person should be the referral point (Buzan, 1991; Matlary, 2006). The proponents of the Development-Security nexus such as Stewart (2004), Picciotto (2004) and, Tadjbakhsh and Chenoy (2006), argue that explaining development in terms of economic growth alone is insufficient to expand people's choices or capabilities on areas of economic activity, health, employment and environmental sustainability. The Development-Security Nexus Theory, therefore, springs from the growing consensus that development and security are deeply interconnected and need to be more fully integrated in order to enhance security for all in all dimensions (Stewart, 2004). This school of thought also argues that the lack of human security has adverse consequences on economic growth and development.

The Development-Security nexus is also grounded in the UN (2004) report by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (FMECD), which states that human security, in its broadest sense, embraces security concerns which are broad and ensure that each individual has opportunities and choices to reduce poverty, achieve economic development and prevent conflict. In line with the above, land reform policies are expected to have developmental goals to cushion society from possible human security threats. Picciotto (2004) argued that the merging of security and development is potentially the best way to achieve coherent and well-managed policies regarding the combined and complex problems facing states. Land reform, as a complex process, needs this approach for it to be fruitful.

The Development-Security nexus, if stressed from the CHS dimension, sets up a framework where sustainable development, environmental sustainability, economic growth, human rights, good governance and other non-military threats to humanity are merged with the prime aim of improving the human condition. Human security and human development treat humans as agents of development who, therefore, need to be empowered. Both perspectives are multi-dimensional in that they address people's dignity as well as their material and physical concerns. They also consider poverty and inequality as the root causes of individual vulnerability. The Sustainable Millennium Development Goals (SMDGs) framework brings an absolute understanding of the human development indicators. It is also a new consensus for development by 2063. The basic aim is to address the problems of extreme poverty in its many dimensions – income poverty, hunger, and disease, lack of adequate shelter, and exclusion; while promoting gender equality, education and environmental sustainability (UN Millennium Report, 2005:1). Land reform in Ratombo is critically analysed from this framework to find out if it meets the community's human security concerns.

### **1.10 Significance of the Study**

This work contributes to the body of knowledge and to the discourses on Agrarian reform, Development Studies and Security Studies; especially as its approach captures the link between land reform and human security. The restored human security paradigm within land reform policies, which is the subject of this study, embraces human rights-based approaches which will have far-reaching consequences to land beneficiaries in Ratombo and South Africa at large. Once tested and adopted, such a framework will help to give

new policy emphasis and help evaluate policy options across the human security and human development domains. In this manner, it is foreseen that the research will add value to the existing body of knowledge to all those who are pre-occupied with the issues of human security and development in Africa. A human security approach adopted in this study is comprehensive and provides a holistic analysis of all its components from a wide spectrum of threats, vulnerabilities and capacities. The approach identifies risks, threats and hazards to human security, and also shows how land reform can address these threats. It also focuses on an assessment of strategies needed to help prevent and mitigate the recurrence of insecurities, by advocating a security-development nexus, which will translate into a 'protection-empowerment framework'. By and large, the study can be an instrumental handbook which can be applied to the human security development project in Africa.

### **1.11 Definition of Terms**

- **Land reform**

Lahiff et al. (2008) defines land reform as a redistributive policy process which is carried out to meet certain goals depending on the history of the community. In most cases, land reform is politicised because it is difficult to separate land from politics, especially in Africa where land inequalities were created and sustained by a politically grounded force during the colonial era. The significance of land reform South Africa arose from the scope of land dispossession of black people which took place at the hands of white minority settlers. This study concurs with the above definitions because South Africa Land Reform Programme has seen the state playing a central role.

- **Land restitution**

According Hall, (2004) explains the land restitution as programme aim to restore land to those people who were displaced through result of such acts as the Natives Land Act of 1913, and the Native Trust and Land Act of 1936. The drive of Land restitution is to transfer white owned commercial farmland to landless locals. The above act states that: every person can obtain, hold and dispose of rights in property; property rights cannot be taken away other than in accordance with the law; and where rights are taken away, this can only be for public purposes and on agreed upon compensation. Restitution is programme of rights-based implemented in terms of Section 25 (7) of the constitution. Restitution meaning is to address the legacy of forced removals, and the significance of land, not only as an economic benefit, but also a review factor of identity, tradition, history and culture. Restitution of Land Rights Act 22 of 1994 (Restitution Act) is one of the first pieces of legislation passed by the Government of National Unity which came into power after the first democratic elections.

- **Human Security**

Human security deliberates to a sustainable situation of liberty from fear, want and dignity of human sustained for coming generations (Naidu, 2001) and in this study the state's land reform is expected to meet human retreat implications. The neo-realist approach to human security has been advocated by 'structural' or neo-realists such as Barry Buzan in his seminal work *People, States and Fear* (Booth, 1994). He subsequently broadened security to include political, economic, social and environmental threats, in addition to those that are militaristic. In its definition of human security, according the UNDP (1994)

argues that the scope of global security should be extended to include threats in seven areas, namely; economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, and political security.

- **Human Development**

Human development defined as the process of enlarging people's choices and these choices primarily reflect the desire to lead a long and health life; acquire basic education; and have access to resources essential for a descent standard of living in an enabling environment. It Comprises implementation of the, spiritual, societal needs and individual's material. ([www.hsrapress.ac.za](http://www.hsrapress.ac.za)).

Human development is also a process of an economic well-being and advancement of its people without creating any disharmony and purposeful change in a society that contributes to social.

- **Poverty**

According to the Chambers Dictionary of English, poverty means a state of being poor; that is, lacking or deficiency in something (Schwarz et al, 1998). People are poor when they can barely afford what their society considers to be life chances (Barcalow, 1994). Life chances are the chances of obtaining those things defined as desirable in society- the chances to remain alive after birth, to receive good education and to be health, and if sick to get well again (Haralambos and Holborn, 1991). Furthermore, people are in poverty when they do not have the resources to physically maintain human life

(Haralambos and Holborn (1991). In this study, poverty is also understood along the rising human security threats, especially economic and food security.

- **Community**

According Restitution of Land Rights Act, No. 20 of 1994 as amended, Chapter 1, Section 1:6, “Community” defines as any crowd of persons whose rights in land are derived from common procedures determining access to land held in shared by such a group, and includes part of any such group.

## **1.12 Chapter Layout**

The research constitutes five Chapters organised as follows:

### **Chapter 1: Introduction and Background**

This Chapter introduced the research, gave historical information and the statement of the problem. The aim, objectives and research questions were clearly stated. The research topic was justified, and the significance of the study explained. The theoretical framework underpinning the research was also explained.

### **Chapter 2: Literature Review**

This Chapter reviews literature related to the study. The relationship between land reform and human security is explored from a global, continental and South African context. This informs the current study.

### **Chapter 3: Research Methodology**

The research design and methodological issues are discussed in this Chapter, as well as the historical information of the study area. The Chapter gives directions on how the research aim and objectives were met. Data collection methods, population sampling and data analysis strategies are also clearly outlined.

### **Chapter 4: Discussion of Research Findings**

This Chapter discusses the research findings thematically. The themes are driven from the research objectives as follows:

- Link between land reform and human security in Ratombo,
- Activities of the Ratombo CPA in relation to human security in Ratombo, and
- Success or failure of the CPA in meeting human security needs in Ratombo.

### **Chapter 5: Conclusion and Recommendations**

This is the concluding Chapter where conclusions as well as recommendations are drawn.

#### **1.13 Conclusion**

This Chapter provided the general orientation to the study. The aim and objectives of the research study were explained. The researcher also showed the significance of the study and justified why he carried a study on human security issues and land reform in Ratombo. The chapter is narrowed down on the vital shortcomings of Human security in

the context of land reform and identifies measures to make arrangements more effective. The main purpose of study was to provide results in agrarian transformation which ensures the broader dimensions of human security at large and food security in particular. In South Africa, apartheid discriminatory legislation led to unjust and unequal allocation of land, leading to the marginalisation and exclusion of millions of the black population. In order to redress these historical imbalances and injustices, the democratic government embarked on a series of reforms. These included land reform which took the form of land tenure reform, land redistribution and land restitution. The underlying rationale for these reforms was to eradicate poverty and inequality. The main purpose of land reform was to provide the poor with access to land for residential and productive uses, in order to improve their income and quality of life. The aim of the research, therefore, was to examine human security implications of human settlement in the context of land reform in Ratombo from 2005 to 2018.

The study focused on the Vhembe District in Limpopo Province. The area was nominated because it is one of the municipalities which has benefited in terms of receiving land under the land reform programme. Whereas considerable information exists on the number of households which received land, it was not so evident what the impact had been on their quality of life; hence, the decision to embark on a systematic research study of this nature. Having introduced the study and demarcated the parameters of focus, the next Chapter reviews literature related to the topic under investigation.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

The previous Chapter introduced the study and identified the central aim and objectives to be met. This section reviews scholarly views on land reform and human security. The literature review focuses on the global, continental and South African context. Land reforms have been carried out in many countries, and by reviewing land reforms in some countries, the goals of the current study are informed. What transpired in other countries and communities informs the current study on the link between land reform and human security. A proper review of literature will start by explicating the relevance of the human security paradigm to land reform. As such, the chapter starts by establishing a clearer understanding of the concept 'human security. From there, how land reform impacts on food, economic, community and environmental security is reviewed. These are key elements of the study since the purpose was to examine the extent of the impact of land reform in Ratombo in meeting human security concerns of the community. The operational weaknesses and strengths of Community Property Associations (CPAs) in South Africa in general are reviewed. These informed the study on operational challenges of Ratombo CPA regarding meeting human security concerns of the community.

#### **2.2 Understanding the Concept 'Human Security'**

The 'human security' issue dominated the security studies discourse from the 1990s. Politically, the period after the Cold War ushered in the duty to protect human life by doing away with state-centred security practices (Weiss, 2004). State centred security practices

are those that emphasise the protection of the state as opposed to ordinary citizens. These are epitomised by the police state and dictatorial tendencies. In Africa, for example, the call to protect people increased due to the complicated conflicts throughout the continent. Food security remains a critical problem around the continent African countries and issues of malnutrition dominate the activities of many Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in most parts of Sub-Saharan Africa.

In defining of human security, the UNDP (1994) posit that its possibility should encompass potential problems that include, *inter alia*, economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political securities. Critical to this definition is the emphasis on the threat to hunger because it is a key factor in dealing with the root cause of human insecurity, and starvation kills far more people than war, genocide and terrorism combined. Furthermore, in their conception of human security, scholars such as Buzan (1991), Booth (2001), Cilliers (2008), Collins (2006), Thomas (2001) and a host of other writers on the subject of human security, concur that a more people centred and not state centric way to deal with security is required. Thomas (2001), for example, sees human security as meaning 'a condition of existence' which entails basic commodity needs, people's dignity, involvement in the community's activities, and an active and substantive notion of democracy from the local to the global. In this view, this research believes that land reform in Ratombo Community should capture the pertinent issues of human security, especially food security and meaningful participation of the community in deciding development trajectories.

### 2.2.1 Evolution of Human Security

For a fuller understanding of the human security discourse, there is need to explore the evolution that has taken place in the study of security and then link it to the expectations of land reform in Africa. The term human security was first used in the 1993 Global Governance Commission led by Javier Salona. As a concept, 'human security' was coined to cover up for the inadequacies of the state centric notions about contemporary challenges to global security. Buzan (1991) argues that mainstreaming security under the auspices of human security incorporates economic, health, food, environmental, political, and personal and community security.

Proponents of the Security Complex Theory, who include Buzan (1991), Steans (1998), Booth (1999) and Smith (2000), present the turning point in the evolution of security. The theory discards the traditionalists' position that limits security to a single factor (state or military security), arguing that security is a certain form of politics that fits into several issues (Buzan, 1991). It argues that states have been given too much prominence in security matters. Critics, however, counter by indicating that states cannot be the unit of analysis as they are also lead to security problems (Booth, 1999). In as much as they could provide security, the bottom line is that they could equally be a threat to citizens. Thus, attention should be directed at an individual as opposed to the state. Booth (1999) argues that people's safety could well be guaranteed by emancipating them in the context of individual or group freedoms so that they can freely advance their social, economic, political and cultural lives.

For Buzan (1991), security in politics touches on the organisation of states, government systems and ideologies that make them legitimate. Furthermore, when people have access to financial resources to sustain their livelihoods, then they are economically secure. Food security encompasses the accessibility to basic food to meet the dietary and nutritional consumption patterns of the people. Health security concerns the prevention of diseases and availability of drugs to cure the diseased people. Community security embraces aspects such as when the general populace lives under and enjoys the traditional patterns of language, culture, religion, customs and national identity. A secure environment is that which maintains the planet's biosphere as the paramount support system on which all human enterprises rely. It also concerns the sustainable management of natural resources without compromising future generations. Environmental security gained currency in the wake of climatic-defined shocks manifested by severe weather conditions which have destroyed human beings' livelihoods.

The shift from the parochial conception of security communicates that if any of the above attributes of human security is violated, it could degenerate into a humanitarian concern. The fact that the referral point of security becomes the inhabitants of a state not the state itself was the impetus, if not the pretext, for subsequent interventions inter-alia in Kosovo (1999) and Somalia (1992). Sabina (2003) emphasises that when coming up with a working definition of human security, freedom from want and exposure must be the critical aspects that underpin the definition. She also points out that human security is also dependent on protecting or uplifting human beings against all spheres of life's and natural hazards that are out of their control and the vital parts that require inclusion in the

definition need to encompass 'freedom from fear and want'. Sabina (2003) also argues that although human security is a must for our change and implementation, it is not, on its own, enough because the requirements for our development and well-being supersedes human security. Given this perspective, we desire a new global political responsibility, made to fix global inequality issues, poverty, environmental stress, human rights, as well as terrorism. According to this view, states do not weaken, but change as they find it difficult to tackle new challenges, they expression (Clark, 1999). Sovereignty is therefore, transformed to mean the responsibility of the state to protect citizens.

### **2.2.2 Land Reform and human Security Ramifications**

- **Food security**

Food security deserves special explanation because the research is on land reform and its impact on Ratombo community. There is need to understand the discourse on food security, recognising that it is an extension of the broader human security paradigm. Food Security talks about people (individuals and communities or nations) having the physical and economic opportunity to have adequate food that caters for their nutritional needs. People are food secure when they have enough food every time. Also, people are food secure when both commercial and communal farmers produce enough for the local and international markets. That is, vibrant agricultural institutions are an indication that a country has enough to feed its population, and hence food secure. In this way, nobody would starve to death. In contrast, the lack of what to eat on a daily basis is deemed as food insecurity (Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO, 2011). The abundance of food translates to the flexibility to future food supply disruptions caused by, among others,

droughts, shipping short-comings, lack of fuel, economic volatility, and wars. In 2015, 842 million people were suffering from chronic hunger over the world (FAO, 2016). FAO (2016) identifies four support mechanisms for food security Vis; availability, access, utilisation and stability.

The UN acknowledged as fundamental, the Right to Food in its Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, and this has been noted as critical if we are to appreciate all other rights (UN, 1948). The 1996 World Summit on Food Security agreed that "food should not be used as a tool for political and economic force" (UN, 1996). Threats related to food security in Africa arise from natural disasters like drought and famine, armed conflict and poor land reform policies also results to the collapse of national food production system. In Somalia, for example, poverty and hunger are widespread and in 2011 alone, starvation destroyed over a quarter of a million people (FAO, 2012). According to FAO (2012), an estimated 247,000 Somali children are malnourished due to malnutrition. Among them, 61,000 are severely starving, requiring immediate life-saving interventions (FAO, 2012). In light of the above, policies by the state, including land reform strategies, are expected to address issues of human security and development for the beneficiary communities. As such, this research contributes to the existing body of knowledge by examining the extent to which land reform in Ratombo community has addressed human security issues.

In South Africa, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) knows of the need to link land reform to human security concerns, particularly food security and economic security by creating jobs. In its Strategic Plan for 2011-2014, DRDLR observed

that distributing land equally is government's focal point, and that such land should be used productively to enhance food security in the country, thereby aiding job creation and skills capacitation in rural communities (DRDLR, 2011).

According to United Nations (2003) argues that land reform has the prospect to directly impact on food security improvement via directed resource transfers. The Land Reform Programme should be viewed in tandem with human security, and hence is contextualised within poverty reduction endeavours. The Land Reform Programme in South Africa and its inherent poverty ending initiatives have goals. These programmes are meant to assist the rural poor community. They emphasis on poor defenceless people who lack the ability to stand for themselves as they are backward. Without bargaining power, these supposed beneficiaries are not in a position to change their quality of life. It should be noted, however, that some of those at the receiving end of unfair land practices have miraculously managed to carve out better lives in the absence of the land restitution benefits, while others remain trapped in poverty, ironically.

Bradstock (2005) confirms that the African National Congress (ANC) led government uses some poverty reduction and sustainable livelihood approaches to generate employment through the land reform programme. The Land Reform Programme has the elements of a well-defined food security strategy and the ability to ensure skills development to sustain development, a subject of the next discussion. He further opines that land reform is the primary cause of food security. The land dispossession without compensation policy, was adopted by the South African government despite the lack of assurance to safeguard food security in the country.

The Development Bank of Southern Africa (2005) Report notes that land reform and food security are closely related. The land capital, skills and labour together assist in producing food for this nation. Land reform and food security are like a hand in a glove. On the other hand, taking land and not pay for it, and food security are not an African system. Based on the South African government's statistics, 90% of the farms purchased resettlement purposes are under-utilised (approximately 4 000 of these). Adding to these would prove disastrous to the country production wise.

This does not auger well for food security. These developments are tantamount to violating one of our Constitution's human rights; the right to food. Relying on food imports would certainly be detrimental as food prices would likely double. On top of this, inflation would likely set in, thereby exacerbating the food situation. Without any title deeds, production in farms would be negatively impacted. That is, farmers need inputs such as, among others, fertilizers, seeds, equipments, machinery, labour, insecticides/pesticides and fuel for them to successfully run their farm operations. These require huge amounts of money. As such, farmers must borrow from financial institutions, and these require collateral in the form of title deeds, for example.

The average grain farmer in South Africa borrows between R5 and R8 million per annum to grow crops for the masses. Banks can only lend money to those with land surety. In its absence, such farmers would not be able to obtain farming inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, diesel and, pest and insecticides. Most of the small-scale farmers do not make headway due to financial constraints as the authorities have failed to provide them with title deeds. In short, this is more like the nationalisation of land here.

- **Economic security**

Economic security concerns equal access to the resources like land, finance, markets and employment opportunities, necessary to sustain acceptable levels of welfare and provide gainfully paying employment. Economic security is the ability of a nation-state to follow its choice of policies to develop the national economy in the manner desirable and favourable to the citizens. The research contributes to available literature by examining how land reform in Ratombo community has managed to give the beneficiaries access to land, markets and income. Unemployment is a serious concern in South Africa at large and Limpopo province in particular. Community security anxieties the sustainability, within satisfactory situations, for development of traditional patterns of linguistic, culture, religious, national identity and customs. As such, the research sought to find out if the land reform in Ratombo managed to create an economically secure community with a sound desire to protect the culture, religion and identity of the Ratombo Community.

According to World Bank (1996), land reform is translating to economic chances and constraints that exist at a place. In the countryside, such economic opportunities mean formal agricultural activities. Wages here are significantly smaller in comparison to the commercial farms. Land restitution claims were made by those in cities, towns and rural places. According to the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights, 75% of the claims were urban, while 25% were from rural communities. Most of the beneficiaries of the Land Restitution Programme still reside in old townships where they were relocated to, and where they are seldom involved in any agricultural activities, as their land is not suitable for any agricultural undertakings.

Sabina (2003) argues that the South African government was fighting conscious that taking people to these areas would force them to return to urban areas legally and illegally, and that they would even be prepared to accept lower wages and bad working conditions. As much as land restitution claims received for both urban and rural cases, this does not indicate whether that community are poor, and therefore, one cannot simplify that they are living in poverty without obtaining a qualification from individual community members. The United Nations (1999) debates that, in order to understand the meaning of poverty, social development experts and politician should have to listen to the poor themselves when defining poverty. Some scholar accomplishes that in order to discharge from poverty, people must be a sympathy of unities that exist amongst the poor.

- **Environmental security**

Environmental security concerns the maintenance of the planetary biosphere as the essential support system on which all human enterprises depend. There is growing need for sustainable environmental management in Africa.

As noted by Booth (1999), the idea of environmental security views ecological processes and natural resources as sources or catalysts of conflict, barriers or limitations to human well-being, or conversely, as the means to mitigate or resolve insecurity (Terrif, 1999). Hoof (1998) states that the development of a community is also controlled by good agricultural practices that are environmentally friendly. It is also important to note that environmental problems are closely connected to health and food security. This critically informs the current study which seeks to establish if land reform policies implemented in Ratombo area address issues of sustainability and environmental preservation.

- **Political security**

According to Ongáyo (2008), political security refers to respecting human rights. Perhaps, the greatest threat to political security is that a state does not implement international human rights treaties. The democratic rights of people can be limited or they can only have restricted social, economic and cultural rights.

In addition, Burton (2003) contends that frail organizational capacity and clashes have a weakening effect on the capacity of the beneficiaries to create and actualize the land develop administrative techniques to make profitable use of their assets, such as the procured land. In rural land reform, Hall (2003) contends that there are numerous contestations on the choices of land to utilize, and how such choices are made. Common issues with respect to representations, and the criticism of communities is common. Also, to get to these issues is seen as an issue for the powerless. According to picciotto (2007) suggests that corruption, carelessness, inequality and lack of fairness as political insecurity its probable cause administration tension. Political insecurity is very dominating challenge applying in many land restitutions in South Africa where we found the administration of the management is been handling in an embarrassing and immoral way. For the reason that struggle for power, many leaders of CPA found themselves corrupting laws and this be able to causes conflicts and administrative tension in land restitution across the continent.

According to Manenzhe (2007), many restitution beneficiaries across South Africa such as Ratombo struggle because of being poorly run. That is, these have no start-up mechanisms to run their operations. This has seen Ratombo communities struggle to stay

afloat. Their operations, in most cases, have been grounded due to mismanagement, corruption and inefficiency. He further suggested that political security is a key for land reform development. Electoral unfairness is another political insecurity in land reform, it's where we find election of CPA is not held in an appropriate manner; where a candidate who is not supposed to be a leader of CPA is made a chairperson. This can cause administrative insecurity because some people will see it as way of cheating, causing conflicts amongst the community. Where there is conflicts, there is no stability and consequently no peace, security and order.

- **Health Security**

Health security is having low exposure to different diseases and high access to health services if needed. It consists of health-related threats such as epidemics, dirty or polluted food or drinking water, as well as mental shocks. Threatening health security is HIV/AIDS, which is one of the most terrible diseases which affects a number of workers in the farms.

*This section uses the Zimbabwe land reform programme and resultant consequences to show the impact land reform can have on health security.*

Since 1990, Zimbabwe health delivery system has been declining. The major cause of decline occurred in the year 2000 after the fast-track land reform which saw many unemployed and poor people failing to meet the costs of medication. The increase of HIV and AIDS related illnesses also exerted pressure on the already declining health sector. The shortage of food and basic commodities saw Zimbabwe developing into pariah state. Because of work related frustration which included inadequate drugs and equipment, most of the country's doctors and nurses migrated to neighbouring countries, and some

went as far as new land, Australia, England, USA. South Africa is believed to be hosting an approximately 50 000 trained personnel from Zimbabwe (doctors, nurses, teachers, accountants and engineers) (Kinsey, 2000). Zimbabwe's sectors as health, education and infrastructural development were adversely affected, compromising the country's ability to provide meaningful services, as trained personnel left for more lucrative job markets in the region and overseas.

From 2000 to 2008 the country's health delivery system was in tatters to the extent that even the basic drugs such as 'pain ease' could not be found at many clinics. Only donated condoms could be accessed from the drug shelves. In many rural and resettlement areas, clinics and other health facilities are non-existent and reports of pregnant women giving birth at homes or on their way to clinics (which are far away) continue unabated.

By 2009, majority community were living on one meal a day and cases of malnutrition plummeted. Twenty-two percent of young babies under the age of five years were malnourished in 2008. Life expectancy at birth dropped from 56.4 years between 1990 and 1995 to an estimated 37.3 years in 2005-2010. The infant mortality rate rose from 54.3 per thousand live births to 58.78 per cent during the same period (Rugube, 2003)

Shortage of food and other basic commodities saw women and girls turning to the sex trade to support themselves and their families, exacerbating the spread of HIV/AIDS (Sukume, 2004). Save the children Zimbabwe (2002) reports how young women in Binga were now engaged in prostitution, many taking food as payment and how women's vulnerability increased, forcing them into sex work weakening the immune system of those already infected. Ironically, prostitution was exposing women and youth to

HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases at the very time that the country's health delivery system was in chaos (Mlambo, 2003).

Furthermore, the violence created fertile grounds for the spread of HIV/AIDS which decimated the Zimbabwean population and created a large and growing population of HIV/AIDS orphans who live on the margins of society and pose a threat to the present and future progress and security of the country. By 2007, 1.3 million children were orphans due to HIV/AIDS (UNICEF, 2008). In 2008 the HIV/AIDS rate for people between 15 and 40 years was 15.3 per cent, making it a health catastrophe. This was exacerbated by the ruined economy which severely eroded the capacity of the government to import drugs and food. The health delivery system was in the intensive Care Unit, and made worse by poor sanitation, lack of access to clean water and high rate of the emigration of medical personnel (Sukume, 2004).

The health delivery system continues to be adversely affected by outbreaks of epidemics such as dysentery and cholera. In the last quarter of 2008, a humanitarian crisis ensued as cholera broke out as a result of the state's incapacity to supply clean water, and the complete breakdown of Zimbabwe's sewage system signalled the state's incapacity to provide basic services to its citizens (Physicians for Human Rights, 2008). Over 98 000 cholera cases were reported between August 2008 and July 2009, claiming thousands of lives (Kinsey, 2000).

It can be argued that the situation that prevailed in Zimbabwe during the first decade of the new millennium reversed almost all the gains the country had achieved in the health sector since 1980. Human insecurity among other things was responsible for the erosion

of service delivery in the health sector. The intersection between health, states and security is, however, a contested one. (Ndlela, 2003).

- **Security of the person**

According to the Commission on Human Security (2003), Personal security aims to protect people from physical violence, domestic abuse, or from predatory adults. The concept of personal security involves protection from personal harm rather than protection from an invasion of privacy.

According to Buzan (1991), Personal Security discuss freedom from corporal or psychological violence exercised by state, community or another individual. Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms to which all humans have a right, for example; the right to life, liberty, freedom of thought and expression, and equal treatment before the law, among others. Direct or indirect, physical or psychological violence caused by state, community or another person is considered to be a threat against personal security.

Land is a significant resource, also a crucial component for the understanding of many human rights. Land is a cross-cutting issue that influences straight on the enjoyment of a quantity of human rights. For many people, land is a source of livelihood, and is critical to economic rights. Land is also often associated to peoples' personalities, and so is tied to social and cultural rights. Differences over land are normally the cause of violent conflict. In short, the human rights aspects of land affect a range of matters including poverty reduction and change, peace, humanitarian support, catastrophe prevention and recovery, urban and rural planning, to name but a few. Evolving global issues, such as

food concern, environment change and fast development, have also refocused attention on how land is being used, exact and managed by states and private actors.

Many people are removed from their land for commercial projects in South Africa. In several states, such as Zimbabwe, Namibia, the movement away from commercial farming necessitated forced removals, and this negatively affected the availability of food. This initiated a massive rural to urban migration, thereby putting pressure on urban land and accommodation. Such displacements, the manner they are done, violates the rights of people to land, further worsening their predicaments. The developments in cities contribute to socio-economic polarisation there, when land and housing value appreciate. Measures taken to protect the environment are also at times in conflict with the interests and human rights of populations that depend on land for subsistence and survival (Sachikonye, 2003).

Disappointment to viably avoid and relieve environmental degradation and the negative affect of climate change seem definitely decrease get to land, particularly for disadvantage community. Land is imperative in contention and post-conflict viewpoints. When struggle closes, the compensation of lodging, arrive and property rights for returning outcasts and inside uprooted people constitutes a principal portion of peace building.

### **2.3 Land Reform and Human Security: Global Context**

From a global perspective, it is argued that effective land reform and resettlement would leads to improvement in agricultural productivity and has the potential to reduce poverty in developing countries (Cliffe, 1988; DFID, 1999). Land is a permanent resource, which,

if properly used brings prosperity (Chenje *et al.*, 1998). Land distribution could benefit poverty stricken rural households, particularly when they good land (Moyo, 2000).

To a large extent, in most low-income economies, agricultural and rural development has come to be regarded as two sides of the same coin on matters of national development (World Bank, 1996; UNDP, 2010). Without an integrated rural development approach, in most cases, industrial growth is either stultified or, if it succeeds, creates severe internal imbalances in the economy (Todaro and Smith, 2014). Economic and social development cannot be realised without corresponding changes in social, political, legal and economic institutions of a nation, especially the property rights (Todaro and Smith, 2014). From a global context, development is therefore, seen as a multi-faceted process involving the reorganisation and reorientation of entire economic and social systems, and such systems are intractably linked to land ownership and land utilisation structures.

Food and agriculture organisation (FAO) Reports between 2010 and 2012 maintain that in modern economic development discourses, the need for structural transformation of the economy is high, especially in societies with an entrenched history of structural economic disparities in land ownership and other economic resources. FAO Reports have repeatedly identified land reform as a necessary precondition for poverty reduction and rural progress. These reports argue that land reform is needed in developing countries more than before because income inequalities and unemployment in rural areas has worsened, and rapid economic growth threatens to exacerbate existing inequalities. FAO reports also argue that technological breakthroughs in agriculture can be exploited by landholding classes to increase their wealth and power and capacity to resist future land

reforms. While the World Bank (2004) and (2008) Reports argue that land reform on its own does not guarantee economic development, land redistribution has the potential to increase rural employment and incomes, and can also lead to greater agricultural production and more efficient resource utilisation (Todaro and Smith, 2014). Manjengwa (2006) argues that although not itself a guarantee of economic development, land reform is a necessary condition for a more secure and balanced society. FAO Surveys indicate that resettlement could help prevent poverty (Deininger *et al.* 2000). Kinsey (2000) argue that resettled families possess the same higher chances of good returns than their communal counterparts.

As noted by Brink (2007), the most successful agricultural systems in the world, such as China, Thailand and Costa Rica, are largely dominated and run by small-scale family farmers in rural areas. While the factors behind China's economic are subject to debate, one cannot deny that industrialisation and technology, coupled with mechanisation in agriculture provided a sound and solid foundation for the country's unprecedented economic development. Smith (2014) argues that much of China's economic growth was due to rural township and village enterprises, which favoured agriculture on a quasi-cooperative and quasi-municipality owned character, in what is referred to as 'agglomeration of economic activities. On how land reform and agriculture can help in reducing unemployment, Bernstein (1996) argues that when contemporary capitalism does not hire the unemployed, then land sharing acquires a new significance. The demand for land can be one of the survival strategies that some, but not all South Africans in rural areas can adopt in response to the crisis of unemployment. Walker (2007) notes that, although South Africa is not primarily an agricultural society, the industrial sector

fails totally to provide jobs to those without, as well as the new job seekers, hence; the demand for land by the poor (urban and rural).

Using surveys from several countries Deininger (2003) and Acemoglu et al. (2002), cited in Ntsebeza and Hall (2007: 159), also confirm that countries with a more egalitarian distribution of land have an all-inclusive economic activity, and this then grows the economy. Brink (2007) concludes that focusing on a more equitable distribution of land, with an emphasis on small-scale peasant farmers will greatly contribute to more social cohesion, which will foster more inclusive institutions and policies, and hence, improved long-term development. This informs the current study because all these elements promote human security which is the focus of this research.

## **2.4 Land Reform and Human Security in Africa**

Moyo (2008) brings a serious thinking on the land problem in Southern Africa. He debates that the greatest persistent investigation concern must be to understand the precise nature of the African land problem, its land reforms and their effects on change. Stressing on the importance of linking land reform and environmental security, scholars and researchers observe that natural degradation in Africa cannot be sufficiently addressed until the inequities of land distribution and land tenure are lectured. (Moyo *et al.* 1993; DFID, 2002). Across Africa, land reforms have been perceived as failures in terms of human security (food, economic, community and environmental security).

The Zimbabwean government legitimately declared its 'land grab' "fast track land reform" programme in July 2000. It declared that it would obtain approximately 2,800 farms for

redistribution. Between June 2000 and February 2001, a total of 2,706 farms, covering more than six million hectares, were gazetted for acquisition. According to the Commercial Farmers' Union (CFU), which represents the large-scale commercial farming sector in Zimbabwe, more than 1,700 commercial farms were occupied by peasants led by the war veterans in 2000. However, the government has questioned the accuracy of this number.

According to Mlambo (2003), land invasion in Zimbabwe affected farming, particularly because of the dispossession of experienced commercial farmers, engendered violence, and impacted on availability of food, employment, inflation and the economy. It generally created an atmosphere not conducive for implementation. Natural factors such as drought, floods and cyclones contributed to severe food shortages in Zimbabwe from the year 2000. The land invasions were violent, elections were held under violent circumstances, and some state policies like operation murambatsvina were violent, casting a shadow on Zimbabwe's hopes of fighting poverty. Since the year 2000 onwards, the Zimbabwe community was subjected to a vicious campaign of intimidation, harassment and violence, perpetrated by self-styled war veterans. According to Mlambo (2003), the purpose was to uproot the Movement of Democratic Change (MDC) and punish white commercial farmers and farm workers who were seen as its supporters. This negatively affected the country's agricultural sector as production at farms came at standstill, and in rural areas, political violence which targeted MDC supporters saw thousands fleeing town and neighbouring countries. In Zimbabwe, critics of the land reform argued that crop production, particularly maize, dropped between 2000 and 2008 compared to 1990s averages, which they blamed on the erratic land reform, the establishment of new small-holder farms, poor input supply, and repeated drought for

(Cross, 2009). Research by Sukume (2004) on Zimbabwe's land reform since 2000 indicates that agricultural production fell by 22% in 2002 compared to an average annual growth of rate of 4.7% between 1990 and 2000. Crop production was also affected by drought during this period.

In accounting for the food insecurity in Zimbabwe, the 2000 UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) Statement on the Fast Track Land Reform Programme (FTLRP) laments the decision to evict nearly 3 000 white commercial farmers from farming and concludes that it was a complete abdication of the Zimbabwean government's responsibility to feed the nation. Sachikonye (2005) also highlights Zimbabwe's negative transition from being the bread-basket of Southern Africa to the biggest food importer in Africa as a result of the FTLRP. Richardson (2004) allege the Zimbabwean government for trusting inexperienced and poor agriculturalists who had little knowledge of current farming systems, with the accountability to offer for the state. Lessons from Zimbabwe are important for any discussion which attempts to link land reform and human security.

According to FAO (2005), land reform in Liberia's agriculture has multiple delays, such as: old machinery; few investments; absence of recent agricultural inputs; the prevalence of pests and diseases; and poor selling, credit, and analysis institutions. Consistent with Food and Agriculture Organization's observation, the country additionally is stard with a shortage of manual labour for agriculture. This is often ironic associate degree very nation with an eighty five percent rate of state, and it should be one more heritage of a protracted war that cut off the ties to the land of the many of the young men that fought in it.

According to Brown (2001), land tenure shows an entrenched division between the urban elite and rural populations. Urban land rights are governed by a Western statutory system. Rural communities contribute eight five percent of the country's population and they are involved in subsistence agriculture. Rural land belongs to the state, hence no titles for it. People are only allowed to use it communally, but not to sell the land. Nowadays, the system of land ownership prevails in Liberia in the form of state-owned or public land, individual proprietary, and common/tribal or common/collective possession rights supported tradition. Customary occupancy is the dominant sort of tenure. Underneath customary possession, the social group chiefs are the custodians of the land, and typically the land is responsibly managed to take care of land fertility.

According Ongáyo (2008) Land is a crucial unifying issue because it brings family or kin members along. Liberia's current tenure regime is a mixture of customary African and fashionable Western property possession. Traditional land use systems and also the Iv and policy co-existed without hindrance until the settlers or freed slaves from America brought in ideas of shopping for and establishing written laws on personal possession of land as relevant to Westerners. Accrued investment in agricultural production and setting up place property land use and agricultural practices can make an important contribution to achieving post-conflict stability and economic security. Success in making employment opportunities, increasing food provision and halting environmental degradation would rely partly on the amount and rate of investment in agriculture, as well as utilisation of property practices.

## 2.5 Land Reform and Human Security: South African Context

The Land Reform programme in Republic of South Africa was introduced in 1996 by the first democratically elected government led by President Nelson Mandela. Land reform is one of programme started by a national government, linking the redistribution of agrarian land between the dispossessed (RSA, 1996).

South Africa land reform programme process consists of three dimensions or phases, namely, redistribution, restitution and tenure

- **Redistribution**

Redistribution seeks to offer the disadvantaged and the poor access to land for residential and productive resolutions. It contains, not only the urban and rural poor, labor tenants, farm workers and new entrants to agriculture, but also includes claimants for land lost under apartheid rule since 1913. Redistribution is when formerly dispossessed land is given back to their former owners. The well-known problem here is the willing buyer-willing seller principle. This market-based principle ensures efficiency, and increases agricultural output, thus boosts 'investor confidence' (Thwala, 2003).

- **Land restitution**

Land restitution redresses cases of forced removals due to racially discriminatory laws and practices after 1913. This is handled by a Land Claims Court and Commission, formed through the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 22 of 1994. The purpose is to

transfer white owned commercial farmland to landless locals. The above act states that: every person can obtain, hold and dispose of rights in property; property rights cannot be taken away other than in accordance with the law; and where rights are taken away, this can only be for public purposes and on agreed upon compensation (RSA, 1998; Lahiff, 2001).

According to Thwala (2003), restitution also needs to support land, not only as an economic benefit, but also an analysis component of personality, values, history and custom. Restitution of Land Rights Act 22 of 1994 (Restitution Act) was one of the first pieces of legislation passed by the Government of National Unity which came into power after the 1994 elections. It makes legal provision that people unfairly dispossessed after 1913 have access to restitution of land rights as single owners, to investigate claims from land restitution, and to prepare them for settlement.

- **Land tenure reform**

According to Baloyi (2010), land tenure could be defined as the situations on which land is detained, used and managed. Land tenure reform discusses to a strategic modification e.g. the regulation of the terms of contracts amongst land-owners and tenants, or the conversion of more informal tenancy into formal property rights). A major goal is to improve and to protect people land rights. A thoughtful component of tenure security is the legal right not to be illegitimately or subjectively evicted from one's home. Without secure tenure, people are unable to exercise their rights over land and face the risk of losing these rights altogether. Some critics emphasise that tenure security has social dimensions (the relationships between people in relation to land as they exist in practice)

and legal dimensions (the legal recognition granted to those relationships in terms of statutory or customary law).

After 23 years (twenty-three) of land change, there are some answers of achievement, particularly in market nursery, nevertheless these occur in a deep-sea of part or complete failure, and the number of beneficiaries and the land area transferred is inadequately low, even though rural unemployment has declined sharply over the past time.

Cousins and Aliber (2012) argue that the beneficiaries of land restitution are unmoving active on only 30% of farming reform projects; whereas the result in terms of farming manufacture and beneficiary profits and livelihoods is poor on a big number of projects. Attempts to protect the rights of farm dwellers and of farm workers have resulted in large-scale evictions. It is important to note that Land reform policy has also been unstable, with new models and ideology introduced every few years, as well as new legal and institutional initiatives. Land reform is one of the most important policy frameworks in South African politics, which aims to address the political, economic and social inequalities within the South African society, perpetuated by years of oppression under the apartheid government. The Land Reform policy was adopted in 1996 to address the historical injustice of the past, in which land allocation was based on racial segregation.

According to (RSA, 1997), the land reform programme is designed to complement government strategies to address the three challenges of unemployment; inequality and poverty which continue to threaten the gains made by the democratic government for a better life for all South Africans. The post 1994 ANC led government emphasised that the land reform programme was one of its strategic policy designs to achieve rural

development to strengthen reconciliation and human security in South Africa. Its implementation is essential for a peaceful democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous South Africa. The South African government has defined its land reform policy as a political intervention introduced by the first democratic government with the overriding objective of providing land to those who were historically disposed by the racial policies of white government and years of colonisation. The programme is further driven by rural development and it seeks to empower rural communities previously disadvantaged by historical system in land allocation. The programme is underpinned by the notion that the agricultural sector remains a key factor for achieving rural development and human security.

Edward Lahiff supports that Land Reform in South Africa dovetails with its neo-liberal macro-economic policy. The ANC-led government's land reform speaks to free market mechanisms, heavily monitored public spending, and less intervention in the economy (the so-called market based, demand-led approach). The irony is that there is no change on the racially tilted distribution of land in South Africa. While, recently, there has been a hint of doing away with the willing buyer-willing seller strategy, this has been limited to restitution. Several political analysis and land reform researchers have criticised this method as the reason for the slow pace of redistribution. The idea was for 30 percent of agricultural land to be redistributed by 2014. At first, it was 30 percent over five years, but only three million hectares of land were redistributed (Lahiff, 2003).

RSA (2015) notes that the National Development Plan (NDP) was launched under Jacob Zuma government in 2012, and its main purpose was the need to reduce poverty in a

country where millions of South Africans, most of whom are young, are unemployed. The land reform programme remains crucial for South Africa's Development as indicated by the National Development Plan (NDP). The NDP policy states that Agriculture had the potential of creating more than one million jobs in rural areas. According NDP 2012 document indicated that most of the South African population is living in rural areas and is economically inactive. Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Nkwinti's suggest change with government's National Development Plan (NDP), which has already been endorsed in its entirety by the ruling party. The land reform programme is crucial in redistributing land to landless South Africans for utilisation to ensure food security. This in turn, leads to the creation of jobs in rural areas as indicated by the NDP, and in a large percentage of disadvantaged South African population living in rural areas being economically productive. The NDP places emphasis on mobilising women and the youth to participate in the agricultural sector to ensure food security in South Africa and creation of agricultural jobs. It is of utmost importance to have better understanding of the land reform programme and its implications for the NDP and South Africa's long-term development.

In its commitment to an integrated approach to rural development, the government merged the Department of Land Affairs (DLA) and the Department of Rural Development DRD into the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR). According to the SA Yearbook (2009/10: 428), the government put more budget priority on agricultural economy, food security and land reform. During this period, the government acknowledged that land reform facilitates the development of rural economies through transformation of agriculture to ensure food security and the elimination of abject poverty.

The focus of the DRDLR therefore, became the creation of rural development, with sustainable livelihoods, that uses land and agricultural development as a solid foundation for food security, self-sufficiency, and enhanced land rights to all citizens, with particular emphasis on previously disadvantaged individuals' (SA Year Book, 2009/10: 428). The department envisaged that this would result in increased income levels, job opportunities, productive land use, and well-planned human settlement.

In line with the above, President Zuma launched the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) in August 2009 at Muyexe village in Limpopo (SA Yearbook, 2009/10: 428). The CRDP became the national strategy, aim is to combat famine, joblessness and lack of change in rural areas. The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform promised R2.6 billion in conditional contributions to provinces to safeguard that land reform, through redistribution and restitution, is more coherently associated to the creation of livelihoods for the poor in rural areas (SA Yearbook, 2009/10: 428). By the end of September 2009, just 6.9% of the country's farmland (5.67 million hectares out of a total of roughly 82 million) had been transferred, to 1.78 million intended beneficiaries (Greenberg, 2010).

Between 2010 and 2011, the DRDLR transferred 322 844 ha to 3 089 beneficiaries (SA Yearbook, 2010/11: 412). CRLR settled 457 claims between 2010 and 2011, benefiting 13 310 households, and the government paid over R800 million as grants to restored beneficiaries. During the same period, financial payment paid to beneficiaries was over R460 million (SA Yearbook, 2010/11: 416). This displays that most restitution claimants from rural areas chose for re-establishment to the land rather than financial

compensation. In 2011, the Green Paper on Land Reform (GPLR) was published for comments. Its aim included the alignment of separate rural development and land reform policies to ensure coordinated service delivery, and to pursue agrarian transformation with the link between land and agriculture as the basis for economic growth (SA Yearbook, 2011/12: 413). The GPLR suggested a three-tiered system of land ownership in South Africa, namely; state land (leasehold), private land (freehold) and foreign ownership (tenure linked to productivity and partnership models with South African citizens). It is important to note that even at this point, the South African land reform strategies continue to put emphasis on the notion that large commercial farmers, with their link to capitalist multi-national companies, can solely utilise land for productivity. Such notions undo the focus of restructuring the agrarian system in ways which transform rural communities into productive entities. Furthermore, selection of foreigners who deserve to own land presents a precarious situation.

Kleinbooi (2012) addresses the forgotten aspect of farm labourers and those who live there, and the tenure rights they are supposed to have under Section 25 of the Constitution. She notes that in spite of the excellent legislation that protects the farm tenants' land rights after apartheid (the Extension of Security of Tenure Act and the Land Reform (Labour Tenants) Act), practically, the government has failed to affect these laws. In its draft Land Tenure Security Bill published in 2010, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform portrayed 'agricultural villages' as a 'win-win' solution to the problems of tenure insecurity, eviction, and poverty faced by farm tenants. She concluded that instead of addressing tenure insecurity on farms, there was a need for off-

farm settlement in agricultural villages to provide security of tenure and new livelihoods to farm dwellers.

Hall (2010) and Walker et al. (2010) indicate that common beneficiaries on the claims that have so far been hard face severe challenges with reverence to the connection with private business partners, the organisation of farming production and selling, and the distribution of the benefits thereof. A study by Sjaastad, Derman and Manenzhe (2011) focuses on the challenges tangled in the formal creation, or recreation of CPAs, and implications for future membership and distribution of benefits. Their study further expresses the story of how material thoughts have informed the choices of the actors involved, from prospective members to central government, in a cluster of rural restitution cases.

Drawing examples from six community claims in Levubu, the study reflects on the challenges CPAs face with respect to membership, exclusion and land rights. Lahiff, Davis and Manenzhe (2012) carried out a study on joint ventures in agriculture. In their results of the Levubu and Moletele status quo, they indicate that joint ventures have fought to get off the ground and some have already collapsed with key losses. In some cases, employment and efficiency on the farms has declined severely. This informs the current study because the weakening in farming manufacture impacts on food security, while the decline in employment chances impacts negatively on economic security of the beneficiary communities. During proceedings at the 2012 Carnegie 3 (three) Conference, Atkinson (2012) proposed that South Africans should now be ready to make an example shift ('we have got to cross the Rubicon'). He argued that instead of punching people into

a tenure policy that will keep them in unsuitable situations on farms, the government should rather focus on the life scenarios for farm dwellers (prospects for welfare, livelihoods and skilling) to help them to come in line with the unavoidable structural changes in agriculture.

Entirely in all, the land reforms around South Africa have not been as operative as normal. Land tenure in South Africa remains self-doubting and land-based unfairness is prevalent. Approximately 80 per cent of land is still under in the hands of minority white agriculturalists (Toulmin, 2008). The condition for most farm workers; rural, poor, and women, with respect to access to and control of land, has not improved meaningfully (Cross and Hornby, 2002). Limpopo province, and Far North in particular, has a large rural population, with 90% of the people living in rural areas (Hall, 2011).

Hall and Kleinbooi (2012) note that the models of land reform in South Africa, restitution, redistribution and tenure (both commercially and communally), have been hard to conceptualise and effect, due to the stark power relations involved and the laborious mechanisms. DRDLR (2011) points out that although South Africa has been a self-governing state since 1994, it is alarming to note that rural areas remain extremely underdeveloped economically and socially.

As such, the department of Rural Development and Land Reform was meant to lay a solid foundation for food security, food sovereignty and economic development in general (DRDLR, 2011).

## **2.5.1 Operation of Community Property Associations (CPAs) in South Africa**

### **Communal Property Association (CPA)**

According to RSA (1997), Communal Property Association (CPA) is a proper body which is positive when plaintiffs intend to possess and use land as a group. The main role of CPA is to preserve property in frequent trust; and it have to be registered in terms of the Communal Property Association Act 1996 (Act no 28 of 1996). This makes companies to keep and manipulate their land at the same time thru a legal entity registered with the Department of Land Affairs. According to RSA (2006), beneficiaries of a restitution contract claim can organise themselves as a legal entity regarded as CPA. Since land reform often involves human beings having access to land as a group, and communal tenure systems offer social and financial benefits; it used to be crucial to provide an on-hand gadget of group possession for poverty wriggled communities. CPAs are a legal shape of landholding, hooked up in phrases of the Communal Property Associations Act 28 of 1996, mainly for land reform purposes.

This association is a mechanism to manipulate and unravel the tension between person and group property rights. Land reform beneficiaries can form a CPA as a skill through which they mutually preserve and manage land in phrases of the constitution, and with ideal tests and balances. While the CPA itself owns the land, its participants have procedural rights, for instance, to participate and vote at meetings and the CPA may also allocate major rights to men and women to use land and different sources (Hall, 2004). The Communal Properly Association (Act 28 of 1998) was designed to assist any crew of human beings to legally buy, keep and use land in groups. The CPA is composed of individuals with rights, and these rights can be to live on the land, to use other parts of

the land, and to use different residences that the CPA owns (RSA, 2006). The CPA Act requires the land retaining group to draft a constitution which units very own policies governing get right of entry to, and administration of, jointly owned land (RSA, 1998).

The Communal Property Associations Act, 28 of 1998, permits for communities to form juristic humans referred to as "Communal Property Associations" (CPAs) and to hold and manage immovable property underneath a written constitution. For example, households on hectares of land, of which the possession vests in a CPA, need to register the CPA at the Department of Land Affairs. Thereafter the CPA have to structure an interior committee to administer its affairs. The CPA's charter will, amongst other things, prescribe how to collect a family site in communal land held underneath it; what the techniques for the alienation of the land are; regulating alienation of CPA property to non-members; describing the dissolution and liquidation of the CPA, and giving proxies (GhostDigest, 2008). The proceedings of the countrywide land summit held in Johannesburg in 2005 published that CPAs are no longer sufficiently outfitted to deal with land use and planning, and therefore, their capacitation be vigorously facilitated so that they meet the preferred trendy (RSA, 2006). Tribal officers, such as chiefs and headmen can additionally be contributors of a CPA. The CPA owns the land and allocates surveyed sites to users, hence; a beneficiary is not a proprietor however a user, merely enjoying a private right. The consumer can also abandon a website online and the CPA, as owner, or may additionally definitely re-allocate it to the subsequent beneficiary.

After such site has been re-allocated to the next beneficiary, the preceding person can also not claim it again except the CPA decides otherwise (GhostDigest, 2008). Once a CPA has been formed, common regulation standards be triumphant over indigenous

regulation principles. However, if a CPA is formed in respect of state land, and such land is under a tribal authority, the CPA need to reap certain sees eye to eye from the tribal authority, if necessary. Household sites might also now not be alienated as separate entities. Where a CPA is registered in terms of area 8(3), it will be issued with a registration number and a certificate of registration (GhostDigest, 2008).

Thereafter, the CPA can also collect fixed property, with relative powers to separate. It is also workable to register a provisional CPA, in terms of part 5 of the Act. This will additionally be allocated a registration number, though the certificates that will be issued in this regard is a provisional neighborhood property affiliation certificate. It is interesting to note that this kind of CPA will now not be in a position to gather possession of immovable property till registration has been finalised in terms of area 8 However, provisional CPAs can also collect a 12-month right to occupy and use land, which right shall no longer be alienated till registration of the CPA has been finalised (GhostDigest, 2008).

Since Ratombo land reform was part of the restitution model which led to the formation of a Community Property Association (CPA), it is fundamental to recognize how CPAs came into existence and also evaluate the way CPAs operate. CPAs were set up legally thru the Communal Property Associations Act, 1996 (Act No. 28 of 1996), which enabled communities to form juristic persons, to be regarded as communal property associations, in order to acquire, keep and control property on a basis agreed to through participants of a community. This has to be executed in phrases of a written constitution. This used to be to be interpreted collectively with the Restitution of Land Rights Act 22 of 1994 which laid down the goals of restitution as:

To provide for restitution of rights in land to persons or communities dispossessed of such rights after 19 June 1913 (The Native Land Act) as a result of past racially discriminatory laws or practices (Government of SA, 1994).

These goals were to be met by creating CPAs. South Africa provides an example of communities that, as the result of a political transformation, have come into possession of large, valuable agricultural assets, to which they have secured freehold title but often lack the necessary management and financial resources, and are therefore, in need of commercial partners (Lahiff et al. 2012).

Communities found themselves having to become new institutions in accordance with the Communal Property Association Act of 1996 to enable them to form juristic persons in order to acquire, hold and manage property on the basis agreed by community members. Such institutions were to be non-discriminatory, equitable, democratic and accountable to all their members; and the supervision of the CPAs was to be carried out by the then Department of Land Affairs. The modus operandi was that communities have a “strategic partner” in a joint enterprise on the transferred properties. According to this model, the strategic partner, a private company possessing expertise in farm management and operation, would oversee the running of the farm for a period of at least 10 years after its transfer to the community. Although the model raises as many questions as it answers Derman, Lahiff and Sjaastad (2010), noted that its foundation is that the community will provide land while the strategic partner will provide expertise and cover running costs. Profits are shared evenly, although a land and housing rent is also paid by the joint enterprise to the CPA.

CPAs were formed primarily to receive and manage restituted land and property. Communities had to pull their resources together and collectively own land which was then placed under the CPA as its management board. This implies that the land tenure situation in the former homelands remained unresolved (Sjaastad et al. 2011). It also remained unclear if the CPAs were to be under traditional authorities or not, which then became another source of conflict and contestation (Claasens and Cousins 2008). Under the strategic partnership model, claimant communities are expected to benefit in a number of ways. Because of the relatively high value of capital assets it contributes to the new company, the community is entitled to a cash rental from the operating company, levied as a direct cost on the joint venture. In addition, as shareholders, the community would receive a share of any profit made by the operating company, typically in the order of 50% (Lahiff et al., 2012).

In line with the motive of linking land reform and human security concerns of communities, DRDLR (2011) developed and implemented a comprehensive rural development (CRDP) strategy linked to land and agrarian reform, as well as food security. The overall purpose was to improve the quality of life of rural households, enhancing food security through a broader base of agricultural production, and exploiting the varied economic potential of each area. The department's strategy for rural development is agrarian transformation. In addition, it was envisaged that communities may benefit from preferential employment opportunities in the enterprise and a range of training opportunities for both employees and members of the wider community. For the commercial partners, these arrangements also offered a range of potential benefits, at least in theory. Early on, it appeared that the prospect of a management fee to be based on turnover rather than profit was a major

attraction (Derman et al., 2010). Further benefits would lie in the control of upstream and downstream activities related to farm production, such as the provision of fuel, machinery or nursery stock, or the processing and marketing of produce (Lahiff et al., 2012).

Despite these perceived benefits, there is also widespread agreement that the CPA model has failed to live up to expectations (Sjaastad et al. 2011). A 2002 study by Cousins and Hornby arrived at discouraging conclusions, that CPAs elude both official and legal resolution, creating fundamental insecurity of tenure. A more recent study states that “The majority of CPAs are partly functional from an institutional perspective but largely or totally dysfunctional in terms of allocation of individual resources and the defining of clear usage rights, responsibilities, powers and procedures for members and the decision making body (CSIR 2005: Executive Summary). Summarising the problems associated with CPAs, Lahiff (2009) notes that recurring problems include a failure to define clear criteria for membership of the CPA or the rights and responsibilities of members, lack of capacity for dealing with business and administrative issues, and a lack of democracy both in procedural matters and in terms of access to benefits, among others. As noted above, by 2008, most of the Joint Ventures were already collapsing, mainly because of conflicts over profit disbursement, resulting in loss of employment and dropping production on the farms. Between 2008 and 2009, CPAs were established to manage the contracts entered between commercial farmers and the landowners (claimant communities).

According to Manenzhe (2012: 12), from 2005 to 2012, these partnerships changed hands 3 times on average. A good example is that of Ravele which was run by SAFM between 2005 and 2007 and between 2007 and 2009. Another company took over and

from 2010, it is being run by Mauluma Farming Enterprises 1938 Pvt Ltd. Manenzhe (2012: 15-17) shows that all CPAs in Levubu are struggling to break even and are on the verge of collapse. Various studies have, over the years also revealed that most land reform beneficiaries, or groups, are effectively left to fend for themselves once they have acquired land, and few receive much in the way of training, credit or extension services from either state or private service providers (Jacobs, 2003; Hall, 2007; Lahiff et al., 2008; Aliber et al., 2010). Early experience with restitution also revealed that communities faced a range of challenges in terms of agricultural production and the distribution of benefits to group members, including lack of working capital, lack of expertise in the areas of production and marketing, abuses of power by local elites, and internal conflicts (Hall, 2007).

As noted by Aliber and Maluleke (2010), the performance of South Africa's land reform has tended to be poor and this is evidenced by the prevalence of "collapsed projects", by which we mean land transferred to land reform beneficiaries where agricultural production has ceased and the land was left idle. The Department of Land Affairs also carried a study and found that, of the projects delivered between 2001 and 2006, 29% could be described as "failed" (no agricultural production and generally deserted) and another 22% as "declining" (Department of Land Affairs, 2008).

The census conducted in 2008 by Aliber found that of all land reform projects in Capricorn and Vhembe District Municipalities of Limpopo, 52% of redistribution projects and 44% of restitution projects to date, there was no active involvement of beneficiaries at the time of the survey. In light of these challenges, the current research examined whether the land

reform in Ratombo community met the goals of increased agricultural production, food security, economic, community and environmental security.

## **2.6 Conclusion**

This chapter provided a theoretical overview and literature review on the principles and contextual background of land reform in South Africa. The relationship between land reform and human security was discussed and evidence from previous studies revealed that land reform and human security are intrinsically connected. The chapter argued that land reform is more than just distributing land but requires changes in the agrarian structure, improvement in production structures, thereby making life better for the land reform beneficiaries. In South Africa, land reform has been identified as a critical gap to meeting human security concerns of beneficiary communities. A comprehensive integrated programme of land reform is needed to ensure that the benefits of human security are realised by the majority of the beneficiaries.

The concept of human security was therefore, discussed, as well as how land reform touches the human security concerns of communities. The need for the South African Government to develop a land reform policy was discussed briefly. Three main programmes of land reform, namely; land redistribution, land restitution and land tenure reform were discussed. Land reform and human security such as food, economic, community and environmental security in South Africa and other parts of the world was discussed in order to develop an understanding of the reasons for reform worldwide.

Based on the extensive review of theoretical approaches to land reform and human security, there appears to be consensus that such a process is necessary in order to

promote equitable access to productive resources and reverse the injustices that led to inequality in land reform in most countries. That discussion also showed that land reform can be successful under given conditions such as where beneficiaries are given funds. Having reviewed relevant literature on land reforms and human security, the next chapter covers the overall research strategy employed in the study, focusing on data gathering techniques, data analysis and interpretation, and the research ethics involved during the research process.

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1. Introduction**

The previous chapter reviewed literature related to the study. This chapter discusses the overall research strategy employed in this study and explains the procedures that were followed to carry out this research. The aspects of methodology discussed include research design, methodology, case study, sampling procedures and population size. The main purpose of this chapter is to explain how data was gathered, analysed and interpreted, as well as the ethical issues observed during the research process. The purpose of this chapter is to show all methodological issues considered which made the research scientific, and to add to the credibility and reliability of the research findings. It is important to note that research design and methodology are key to research and the procedures should be clearly explained and this is what the researcher undertakes to do in this chapter.

#### **3.2 Research Design**

A research design is the program that guides the researcher in the process of collecting, analysing and interpreting the research findings (Creswell, 2007). It provides a systematic plan of procedure for the researcher to follow in a manner that ensures reliability of the whole research process (Kothari, 2004). In the context of this study, an exploratory descriptive design was followed. Exploratory and descriptive study design was deemed appropriate because land reform and human security issues of a community needs the researcher to explore and describe the phenomenon under investigation.

Human security concerns the land beneficiaries and there is therefore, need to explore and examine the lived experiences of the people and the selected research design best describes these elements. The researcher gave the people in Ratombo community the opportunity to describe their experiences regarding land reform in the area. This was made possible by use of a Case Study Approach to capture the phenomenon in a selected area Ratombo.

### 3.2.1 Case Study Approach

This study followed a case study research design where Ratombo was the case, and its community members were the units of analysis. This community is pictorially presented below. This helps understand its geographical location. A text that explains said location follows thereunder.

### 3.3 Description of the Study Area

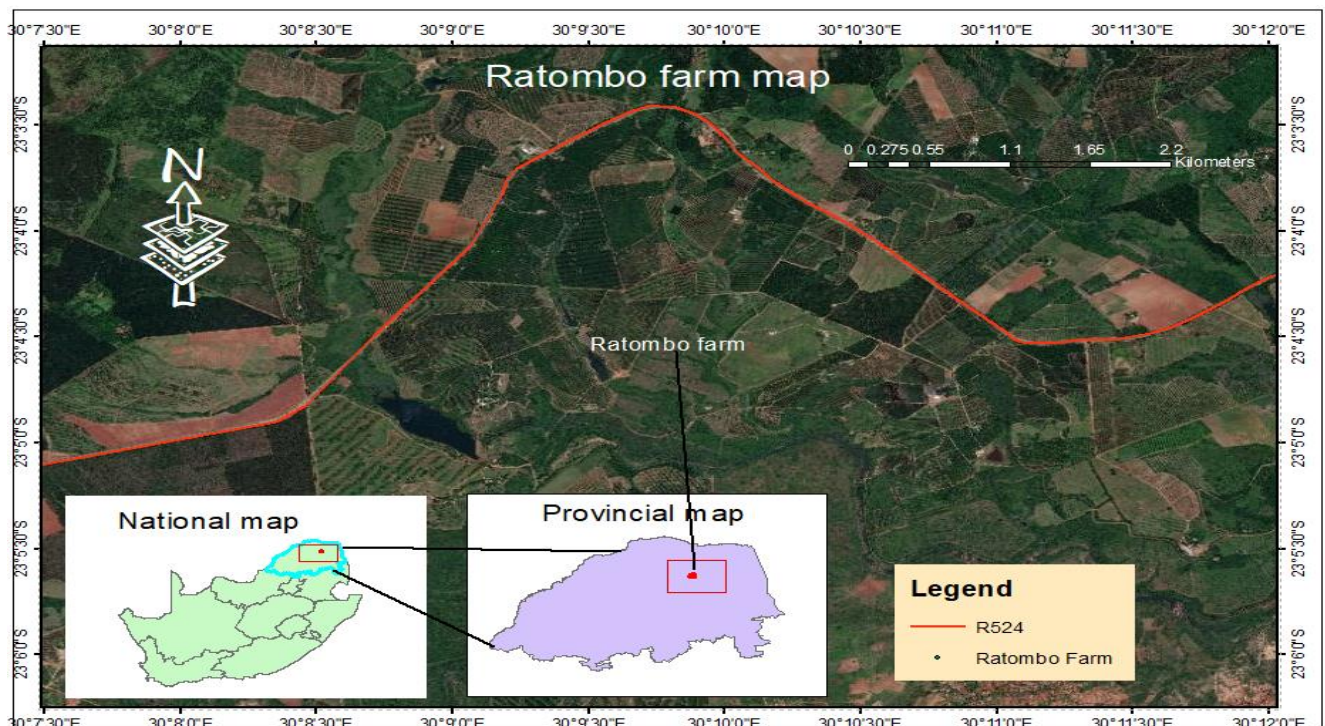


Fig 1: the map of Ratombo farm, showing main settlements and the Levubu valley

### **3.3.1 Geographical of study area**

The research was conducted in Ratombo; a rural community found in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe district, within the Limpopo Province of South Africa. Ratombo is in the North- Eastern part of the province. The place is situated  $\pm 40$  kilometres East of Makhado Town and consists of communities that have been successfully resituated to Levubu farms. Ratombo shares common boundaries with Matumba on the western side and Mauluma on the eastern side. Ratombo and other farms in Levubu cluster of farms produce sub-tropical fruits such as guavas, avocados, macadamia nuts and oranges. Rainfall ranges between 600 mm and 900 mm per annum. Temperature can go as high as 36 degrees Celsius in summer and drop to 14 degrees Celsius in winter. The soil of Levubu is, on the whole, fairly fertile with potential for excellent crop and fruit production.

### **3.2.1 Historical overview of the study area**

Lahiff's (2000) account of land dispossessions in the Soutpansberg area states that the arrival of the first trekkers in the Soutpansberg areas had a direct impact on the dispossession of the inhabitants of the Soutpansberg area (Manenzhe, 2007). Following the South African war (1899 – 1902), the Venda people were disarmed by the new British administration and the area was divided under three native commissioners' areas, namely; Louis Trichardt, Spelonken and Sibasa. In 1902, the first native commissioner was stationed in Sibasa. Most of the land, particularly in the south and the western part, was thrown open to white settlers and a greatly reduced area was delimited as native locations for leading Venda chiefs. The areas were subsequently scheduled under the terms of the 1913 Native Land Act, meaning they were reserved for black occupation

only. Forced removals began only after white settlers had established themselves in the early 1900s. Nefale (2000) describes the Ratombo community as one of the Luvuvhu river valley communities which was forcibly removed from their land by the White government in the 1930s. The community were detached from Levubu in the early 1930s by the White government. Ramudzuli (2010) states that the land affairs accepted the farms in the Levubu area with the purpose of forming a White irrigation settlement.

This removal brought about the total removal of the Ratombo community together with other native Africans from the Levubu valley such as Ravele, Masakona, Shigalo, Madzivhandila, Matumba, etc. They were destined for different areas chosen for them by the government. The Chief and his community of Ratombo lost their land and resettled at a portion of Tshituni tsha Fhasi Nzhelele area. The Levubu valley became white settlements. Other groups migrated to neighbouring villages such as Ha-Mashau, Tsianda, and Ha-Mutsha. Chief Ratombo lost his chieftaincy and became a headman. The Ratombo community wanted to be independent and secure from these strangers (whites), and to achieve this, a strong leader was needed to protect the valley against them. In 1998, Ratombo community submitted claims to the Land Claims Commission in agreement to Restitution of Land Rights Act 22 of 1994 in terms of location 25(7) of the contract to get their land back. They designed a land claims committee and lodged a land declare with the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights (CRLR).

The claim had to be registered with the land claims commissioner earlier than December 1998. The official did the affirmation of the felony claimants, verification of the validity of the claim, identification of the beneficiaries and decided the extent of land claimed. The

claim used to be then gazetted and at this point, no similarly improvement was once as soon as allowed until the claim had been settled.

### **3.3 Research Methodology**

There are two approaches used to carry out research in social sciences, namely; qualitative and mixed approaches. Quantitative research is a systematic way of research which involves figures to quantify and authenticate the research findings, while qualitative research seeks to embrace and understand feelings, attitudes, and behaviour of people regarding issues under investigations (Pierce, 2008). Hennink *et al.* (2011) further define qualitative research as an approach that allows the researcher to examine people's experiences by using a specific set of research instruments such as in-depth interviews, observations, content analysis and group discussion. This study employed a mixed method to collect and analyse data. This method helps make use of the scientific tools of data collection such as questionnaires that allow the researcher to have access to information that was not directly observable (Babbie, 2007).

This mixed methods research survey was also chosen because the study attempted to understand the totality of the environment being investigated, thus it provided an opportunity for the researcher to develop an insight into the basic aspects of human perception, behaviour and attitude (Yin, 2003). Furthermore, the information was given anonymously, and the study participants were likely to be truthful in their responses to the issues raised during the interviews.

This method was also suited for the study objectives as it sought to determine the knowledge levels of the Ratombo people on the human security dimensions of the land

reform as happened in their community. This is a critical point of departure when exploring and describing the activities of the Ratombo CPA, and whether it meets the community's human security needs. Given the nature of the problem that required understanding the people's lived experiences regarding human security concerns after the land reform, the mixed methods approach was deemed appropriate. This concurs with Bryman (1994) who noted that the mixed methods approach is deep and rich as it allows for further probing and flexibility in the field through its qualitative aspect.

As noted by Pierce (2008), one of the strengths of the qualitative aspect of the mixed methods approach lies in its special ability to enable the researcher to learn and apprehend the underlying values of society through interviewing. This enables concepts to be created by means of induction. Social meaning is also created in relation to the participants and their world, and hence the researchers are in a better position to 'see the world through the subjects' eyes (Pierce, 2008). Babbie (2007) further argues that the qualitative aspect of the mixed methods research provides measures with higher validity than do quantitative surveys and experimental measurements. In this research, the study participants explained their views on how land reform impacted on human security issues in the Ratombo Community, helping the researcher to better understand the phenomenon as it was presented by the research participants (Creswell, 2012).

### **3.4 Sampling Procedures and Population Size**

#### **3.4.1 Sampling Procedure**

A research sample is a set of individuals who form the participants or informants (Pierce, 2008). In this study, purposive sampling was utilised to understand the level of

understanding of the people of Ratombo on the link between land reform and human security. According to McMillan and Schumacher (2006), purposive sampling is whereby participants are chosen because they are likely to be knowledgeable and informative about the phenomenon the research is investigating. In this case, these were the Ratombo community members and the CPA leaders.

Purposive sampling brought more light on the activities of the Ratombo CPA regarding human security concerns of the community, hence a need to purposefully have research participants who were knowledgeable about the activities of Ratombo CPA. Their understanding of the issues that were investigated here was enhanced by the use of their local language during interviews.

That is, the research explained the purpose of the research, conducted the interviews in, and generally interacted with his informants in their own language, Tshivenda. Thus, the successes and failures of the Ratombo CPA were adequately expressed by the very people who had lived experiences of the land reform in Ratombo. Therefore, this study employed purposive sampling because the participants needed to be people who were land beneficiaries and part of the Ratombo CPA. These are the people who could give testimonies regarding how the land reform and the CPA have responded to human security needs of the community or not.

Creswell (2007) advises that the participants in the study need to be individuals who have all experienced and have knowledge of, the phenomenon in question. Creswell (2012) further recommend purposive sampling in qualitative research paradigm because it allows the researchers to derive meaning constructed by real participants on issues under

investigation. In this case, members of Ratombo CPAs were important study participants. As such, beneficiaries of land reform were purposively selected from the seven farms which fall under Ratombo land restitution. The beneficiaries were purposively selected at the ratio of 3 men to 2 women who had experienced the phenomenon under investigation.

### **3.4.2 Study Population**

Grinnell (1993) defines population in research as the totality of people or objects within which a research is concerned. As noted above, there are 7 farms under Ratombo land restitution with a membership base of 120 people. Of these, 53 are employed women and 67 are employed men. Five people were purposefully selected from each farm. Consequently, a total of 35 Ratombo CPA members were considered. These were beneficiaries of land reform in Ratombo. The sample was enough to be representative of the whole population and the information from that sample was adequate to respond to the goals of the research.

### **3.5 Data Collection Instruments**

Qualitative approaches of data system which include face to face interviews have been utilised to accumulate data. Face-to-face interviews in the form of semi-structured interviews were deemed appropriate due to the fact they gave the researcher room to probe for greater records as the interview took place.

An interview outline is a document used for interviewing, comparable to a questionnaire that includes directions for the interviewer, unique questions to be requested in a constant order, and transition phrases for the interviewer (Monette & Durrheim, 2008).

According to Bless (2006), this refers to statistics series based totally on series of questions, referring to the lookup topic, to be answered via research participants. The creator also states that the interview agenda helps the researcher to think previously about what he or she hopes the interview would possibly cover. An interview time table was once used due to the fact the researcher wanted to behavior face to face interviews with respondents. The researcher used face to face interview in order to clarify questions and make certain that the questions have been top understood. The interview agenda consisted of both open-ended and closed-ended questions. The researcher used face to face interview to get information about the human security implications of human settlement in the context of land reform and the participants have been allowed most possibility to tell their story (Greef, 2011).

### **3.5.1 Semi-structured interview**

A semi-structured interview is a qualitative method of inquiry that combines a pre-determined set of open questions with the opportunity for the interviewer to explore unique themes or responses (Corbetta, 2003). The researcher can provide an explanation for the query if respondents are doubtful about the question. In this study, the questions were more general, and the researcher could ask further questions to what was seen as significant responses (Bryman, 2004). More so, semi-structured interviews allowed research participants an opportunity to express themselves without limitations, on how the Ratombo CPA performed regarding human security concerns of the community. Semi-structured interviews helped to give a detailed picture of participants' perspectives

on a particular issue. The researcher used semi-structured interviews because they allowed the interviewees to express their opinions, concerns, and feelings.

### **3.5.2 Life Histories**

According to Belcher (1999), life histories are a research tool which inspires many informants to open up far more than in other types of interviews. The researcher solicited four life histories with purposively selected informants. Life histories have a good coverage of informants according to age, gender and race. Since this is history, one of my main research interests was to understand the long process of land dispossession, which was narrated by informants (some not necessarily witnesses, but some being witnesses). Again, the dispensation of land reform, and human security of such claims for restitution also need life histories, and in this case, most of the informants were eye observers. The effect of land reform policies on individual and community human security also required life histories. The experiences of farm workers, beneficiaries of land and community, during and after land reform, can also be told through life histories.

### **3.5.3 Other Primary Sources**

Added Primary sources blanketed Reports, Newspapers and different approved papers from the Archives, and archives from the department of Rural Development and Land Reform. Such substances authenticated the facts got from oral interviews, observations and secondary sources. They helped in areas where chronology is quintessential because a historic work without a chronologically correct report is not valid. As stated by Marwick (1987), a lookup is deemed scholarly and reliable in accordance to the extent to

which it is based on 'primary' sources that is basic, raw, imperfect evidence. The use of foremost sources gave numerous interpretations and analysis and made the work academically acceptable.

### **3.5.4 Secondary Sources**

Unpublished seminar papers, occasional papers and theses by means of different scholars have been also consulted. Acts as stipulated in Government gazettes have been used to understand mission on land policies. Secondary sources, especially published books, had been used to substantiate the points put forward in the study. Books, journals and articles accessed from the libraries and the web gave the research ample background upon which to recognize the empirical aspect.

### **3.6 Data Collection Procedure**

First, the researcher made entrance trips to meet the community leaders and ask for permission to carry out a research field work in Ratombo. After being granted permission by the community leaders, the researcher made appointments with the research participants. It should be noted here that these participants were purposefully selected. This ensured that the researcher chose those he thought would provide him with the type of data needed to answer the research question. The CPA members were identified through the snowball technique where the researcher was first led to his homestead, and he in turn identified the secretary who also identified committee members.

Having had what he regarded as a representative sample, the researcher then meet the informants for further instructions and clarification of the grey areas concerning the study.

Here, he clearly explained to them that they were relevant participants to the topic under investigation and that their participation in the study would give them an opportunity to talk about Ratombo CPA and in regard to meeting the human security issues of the community. The participants were the ones who suggested the time and dates they were free to respond to the questions, and if the time was not comfortable with the researcher, the researcher pleaded with them until a convenient time was reached. Each interview was expected to last for a maximum of 30 minutes. This was a measure taken to avoid consuming working time of the research participants.

The researcher employed one research assistant who was familiar with the study area. The major duties of the research assistant were to help in carrying out face to face interviews and transcribing and translating data. Field notes were taken as the interviews progressed and these field notes were transcribed and interpreted into research findings. This had the advantage to the researcher because field notes were used as a point of reference time and again during the data interpretation and analysis process. The other advantage was that field notes were initially recorded in the language of the research participant and then translated to English for data analysis purposes. These steps brought the researcher as close to the research findings as possible.

### **3.7 Data Analysis**

After data collection, qualitative methods were applied to analyse data. Monette, Duane and Dejong (2008) define data analysis as a process of assembling and arranging information which has been collected from the participants and drawing meaning out of the large data which the researcher has. Data analysis assisted the researcher to reduce

the large information by taking only what was relevant to study and coming up with themes under which data could be classified (Wellman, Kruger, & Mitchell, 2005).

Thematic analysis was applied to analyse data. This involved systematic coding and categorising of themes emanating from the data. This was effective given that participants described their views and feelings in broader and different ways. As a result, large amounts of textual information needed to be coded into themes or trends and patterns according to the meanings after interpretation (Gbrich, 2007). After coding, themes were created and linked to the research objectives. These became the sub-headings on research findings to make sure that the research objectives were met.

### **3.8 Ethical Considerations**

Ethics can also be defined as a system of moral beliefs about what is right and what is wrong and a system of moral beliefs about what a researcher can and cannot do to research participants to assure professionalism (Williman, 2006). Ethics is designed to protect the right of research participants and to clearly define the responsibilities of the researcher. For the purpose of this research, the following ethical considerations were observed:

#### **3.8.1. Permission to conduct the study**

Prior to data collection, ethical clearance was issued by the University Ethical Committee. Letter of approval to conduct the study was also issued by the Department of Rural and Land Reform. Participants were informed that they were not being forced to be part of the research and that they could withdraw from participating in the research at any time.

Consent forms were given to participants who could read and write, and those unable to read and write gave verbal consent.

### **3.8.2. Confidentiality**

Confidentiality is a research ethic which ensures that the information which has been provided by those who are used as the source of information for the study is made available only to the researcher, and it prohibits the discussion of such information with other people (Monette et al., 2008). Information that the research participants provided during interviews was kept confidentially. The information was discussed with the supervisors only since they were part of the research.

### **3.8.3. Anonymity**

According to Swatz de la Rey, Duncan and Townsend (2011), anonymity indicates that information collected from respondents must not be linked in any way to their names or identities or addresses. Real names of the respondents were not used to protect participants. Thus, research participants gave information on condition of anonymity and this was adhered to throughout the research process. As a way of making data analysis easier, letters A, B, C, etc. were used for referring to research participants.

## **3.9 Limitations**

Research is normally characterised by some hurdles. In this research, the researcher had to deal with two critical issues during data collection process. First, the Ratombo community members were sceptical that the research would expose some of the corrupt activities taking place at the farm. This led to an element of reservation among the

research participants when it came to express themselves regarding day to day running of the CPA. This was overcome by the researcher who had to set aside a day where he met with them to clarify such sensitive issues. After lengthy engagements and a series of questions, the informants' fears were allayed. In the final analysis, they were all happy to be interviewed. Second, the management at the farm was very reserved in terms of the information the researcher wanted. This was dealt with amicably as the researcher assured them that this was purely an academic research with no implications on policy and the running of the farm. They, however, demanded the university ethical clearance letter, and after being provided with such, they became happy to participate in the research.

### **3.10 Conclusion**

This chapter described the research design and methods that the researcher followed in conducting the research. The population of the study, the area of the study, the data collection process, and tools used to gather that data were explained. It concluded by summarising some of the important limitations for the study. The chapter indicated that the study used qualitative methods to explore the human security implications of human settlement in the context of land reform. A case study approach was applied and Ratombo provided the test case. Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis were the best to express the feelings and views of research participants in this study. All applicable ethical issues were considered to make sure that the study was conducted in a scientific manner without harming the research participants. The participants were assured that the information would be treated confidentially and would only be used for research purposes

and to inform policy in terms of land reform. The next chapter presents, interprets and discusses the research findings.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY FINDINGS**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

The previous chapter explained the methodological issues that were applied in the study. This chapter discusses the research findings. Focusing on the primary information provided by the study participants, gathered information was coded into themes or categories and these themes allowed thematic analysis to take place. Thematic analysis which involved categorising recurring ideas in themes was followed and infused into the research objectives so that the goals of the research were met. To accomplish the objectives of this chapter, the research questionnaire was thoroughly put into use to make sure that key issues are addressed. Chronologically, the study analysis was done in three phases: Phase one focused on the link between land reform and human security. Phase two focused on the activities of Ratombo CPA in relation to how such activities met human security needs of individuals and the community at large. Phase three addressed the challenges facing Ratombo CPA in meeting human security concerns of the people. The successes recorded by land reform in Ratombo so far are discussed to show that human security, as an important component of land reform, is attainable.

#### **4.2 Findings on the Link between Land Reform and Human Security in Ratombo**

Findings revealed that there is a direct link between land reform and food security. Land is important in any food security discourse and it is critical to consider its distribution and utilisation. It is argued that effective land reform and resettlement would lead to

improvement in agricultural productivity and has the potential to reduce poverty in developing countries (UNDP, 2010; DFID, 2010, FAO, 2012; World Bank, 2012). In the context of Ratombo, study participants showed that, although they were not familiar with the human security discourse, what they expected from land reform was intrinsically and inherently connected to all the seven dimensions of human security. Study participants indicated that they took the goals of land reform from the mission statement of Ratombo CPA which states that the land reform should fight poverty, create jobs and expand the farm to create more opportunities for the community members. The issues listed in the mission statement were critical human security issues. Fighting poverty was a critical human security issue. Ratombo is a 'poor community' because it is was initially settled a in drier areas that had little rainfall. As such, the community lived from hand to mouth. That is, due to its lack of production, Ratombo did not produce much in terms of food and the surplus to sell for cash. This perpetuated poverty among community members.

In other words, not much was produced by this community before it was resettled in Ratombo. They did have much to sell for extra cash as what little they produced was only enough to feed their families. Poverty is a real threat to human well-being and in most rural areas in South Africa, poverty continues to manifest in various forms. By definition, poverty means lack of survival requirements, either food, clothing, shelter, income and health facilities. In the case of Ratombo, study participants indicated that if land reform was done in a satisfactory way that catered for livelihoods after land reform, then they could be assured of fighting human security threats like food insecurity. This observation was in line with the South African government policy which, through the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform's (DRDLR) strategic plan, offered a Comprehensive

Rural Development Programme (CRDP) with an emphasis on changing rural people's lives through land reform (DRDLR, 2011). The CRDP also emphasised that land is a catalyst for poverty alleviation, job creation and food security. In a statement by the then Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, Nkwinti (2011), the department was committed to the achievement of "vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities and food security for all" (DRDLR, 2011)

As argued above, land reform is an engine for development, and it is hoped that successful land reform has immediate results. The immediate results include access to food, income generation, job creation, and general improvement of the standard of living. Once land reform meets the above goals, economic security of the community is also secured. Moyo (2000) notes that there are opportunities for land distribution to benefit poor rural households, especially, if they are given better quality land and if they have access to the necessary farm inputs and mechanisation. Todaro and Smith (2014) further note that economic and social development is often impossible without corresponding changes in social, political, legal and economic institutions of a nation, especially land tenure systems and property rights.

Study participants also expressed this dearth of livelihoods and human security concerns after land reform as post-settlement policies have been politicised at local and national level to the extent that the intended beneficiaries end up not benefitting. But it should be noted that in as much as they raised such concerns, their situation is far way better than they were prior to their being resettled in Ratombo. That is, they can now produce and adequately feed their families, and still remain with surpluses to sell to various markets in

the area. Thus, land reform should provide an impetus for securing economic security. FAO (2012) Reports have repeatedly identified land reform as a necessary precondition for poverty reduction and rural progress. Food security encompasses the accessibility to basic food to meet the dietary and nutritional consumption patterns of the people. Food Security talks about people (individuals and communities or nations) having the physical and economic opportunity to have adequate food that caters for nutritional needs of the people. According to FAO (2010), people are food secure when they always have access to adequately nutritious food to live a healthy life.

In the contemporary human security dimension, access to food does not only relate to abundance, but to the quality of food. When food is available, quality is important to assure that families have access to a balanced diet which ensures health security. There is a direct link between food security and health security. When families have a balanced diet, cases of malnutrition are reduced, and such communities have healthy people who can perform different duties for the advancement of the community. Study participants in Ratombo expressed concerns over inadequacies in terms of diet and access to food in the community when land has been under their control for over 2 decades now. The importance of food security at family level which directly transcend into health concerns of a society leaves a lot to be desired. This augurs well with Buzan (1991) reflection that food security encompasses the accessibility of basic food to meet the dietary and nutritional consumption patterns of the people. As reflected by Ratombo community, there is a direct link between land reform and human security in all its dimensions, which include food security, health security and community security. This concurs with Manjengwa's (2006) argument that, although not itself a guarantee of economic development, land

reform is a necessary condition for a more secure and balanced society. When government policies like land reform meet human security issues, political stability is also guaranteed because there is a 'social contract' between the policymakers and the recipients of the policies. Under such circumstances, political security and social cohesion is also achieved. The United Nations (UN) also recognises the Right to Food in the Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, and has since noted that it is vital for the enjoyment of all other rights (UN, 1948).

Turning to land reform in Ratombo, there is a consensus among the research participants that the land reform is remotely connected to human security. This is because the people are not realising direct human security benefits from the land reform process. This is mainly because the policy of restitution has failed to transform the livelihoods of communities where land reform has taken place decades ago. The land reform which followed restitution and the idea of Strategic Partners has become very unpopular with beneficiary communities in recent times. Research participants indicated that the strategic partner who are in most cases former white landowners have failed to perform the expected responsibilities and contributed to the collapse of farm production. In Ratombo, as noted by one informant, the biggest enemy of land reform in South Africa is the strategic partner.

This has led many people in Ratombo to argue that the idea of strategic partner was a top-bottom approach which was implemented without deep research and reasoning around it. It is alleged that people who were strategic partners were previous owners, and their aim was to embezzle funds, and that one of the strategic partners once ran away

with at least R7 million from timber sale. Asked if they were satisfied with the land reform policies, research participants showed dissatisfaction. They argued that in practice, they had not received their land at all since they only had control of a 10% stake of the farm. They indicated that they wanted their land which was unfairly taken away during the colonial period. From these sentiments, people in Ratombo still felt that their economic security like income and job creation was not assured if they did not possess land with full title deeds.

As indicated in the first paragraph of this section, economic security is critical in land reform discourse. When workers in Ratombo CPA were asked about their perceptions of the land reform, they showed mixed feelings, but strong sentiments showed that they were not economically secure. The major issues raised concerned low wages and job insecurity. It was alleged that the CPA management was failing to create enough employment opportunities for the Ratombo community. For land reform to meet the security issues of job creation and entrepreneurship, workers are supposed to be reasonably paid so that they did not live in want. Furthermore, job security and good working conditions guaranteed economic security.

Respondent who is a section supervisor responsible for fruits showed that there were workers who were well-paid, there were those who were not happy at all with their wages and salaries. Indications are that, some workers were paid below the Poverty Datum Line (PDL) of farmworkers in South Africa, and this impacted their well-being as well as their families. When it came to job security, workers complained that there were recurring retrenchments to the extent that a worker was not very sure about his/her security at work.

Financial crises and economic recessions were always cited as the basis for retrenching workers time and again. Thus, land reform in Ratombo was, allegedly not meeting the key issues of economic security which included income generation and employment creation.

### **4.3 Findings relating to the Question: What are the Activities of the Ratombo CPA in relation to human security?**

One other fundamental question to be addressed by the study concerned the activities of Ratombo CPA in relation to human security. Findings from the study revealed that the activities of Ratombo CPA did not adequately meet human security concerns of the community. It is important to first explain the composition of the Ratombo CPA as expressed by the study participants. Respondents indicated that there was a Board which was inclusive of all races. It included at least two white South Africans and community members who were drawn from the land beneficiaries' families. However, there was a serious problem with gender balance within the board since no women were included in the Board. The CPA is elected after every five years and it is comprised of all families that were beneficiaries of the land claims. So each family will send its representative to the CPA, to avoid situations where one family is dominating the CPA, to avoid corruption. However, research participants indicated that there was a number of shortcomings on how the Ratombo CPA operates.

As revealed by study participants, CPA's Mission Statement is clear on its goals to eradicate poverty and create employment, but the activities at the farm tended not to fulfil these noble goals. Consequently, it was alleged that the activities of the CPA had failed

to meet human security concerns of the community. One of the major reasons for this failure as noted by informants was the nature of the management board. During the first decade, the activities of the CPA were far from meeting human security issues, food security and job creation. The Board was ineffective and inefficient. Workers interviewed accused the management board for poor financial management which they attributed to all the failures of the CPA to meet human security concerns of the community. Workers suggested that if the farm was properly managed and their finances kept all in order like what was currently happening with the current CPA, there was nothing that would stop the farm from growing.

Reminiscent to Ratombo CPA, as way back as 2002, a study by Cousins and Hornby arrived at the conclusion that most CPAs were partly functional from an institutional perspective but largely or totally dysfunctional in terms of allocation of individual resources. Lack of clear usage rights, responsibilities, powers and procedures for members and the decision-making body were cited as the major stumbling blocks to the operations of CPAs in South Africa (CSIR 2005: Executive Summary). In 2009, summarising the problems associated with CPAs, Lahiff (2008) notes that recurring problems included failure to define clear criteria for membership of the CPA or the rights and responsibilities of members, lack of capacity to deal with business and administrative issues, and lack of democracy both in procedural matters and in terms of access to benefits, among others. On operational problems, workers also cited lack of transparency, especially in employment procedures. The first managers of the CPA were old and had little managerial skills required for the development of the farm. In most cases, decision making was dominated by corruption, nepotism and personal interests. Consequently,

the farm was left in a poor condition until the new Board took over in 2004. Most machinery was dysfunctional, mainly due to lack of service. This had a negative impact on production and working conditions. Besides some successes in fruit business, the farm is also currently doing well in forestry and timber business. However, study participants revealed that job security is not guaranteed as witnessed by recurring retrenchments and job cuts. CPA management who provided information stressed that on the issue of farm employment, as management they always practised caution because they depended a lot on the income the farm was generating.

Mr Masindi who is a general labourer, argued that they experienced problems with the community members who did not understand how business works and also ended up in the courts. He further stressed that it was not easy to run the farm, especially when some community members were involved in looting with the net effect on poor standard of production. This augurs well with Lahiff and Manenzhe's (2012) study on joint ventures in agriculture which used Levubu and Moletele as case studies to show that joint ventures have struggled to get off the ground and some have already collapsed with major losses. In some cases, employment and productivity on the farms has declined severely (Lahiff et al., 2012).

From the above findings, the study has shown that there is a direct link between land reform and human security concerns of Ratombo community. What study participants expected from land reform in Ratombo is inherently connected to all the seven dimensions of human security. However, indications are that Ratombo community continued to face human security challenges like food insecurity and unemployment many

years after land reform. As revealed by study participants, there were shortcomings in terms of the direction of land reform, especially post-land reform support. Study participants revealed that the activities of Ratombo CPA did not adequately meet human security concerns of the community. Operational problems were cited as major impediments to the efficiency of Ratombo CPA, and among the worst problems were corruption and nepotism. The next section focuses on human security challenges facing Ratombo CPA.

#### **4.4 Findings on the Human Security Challenges facing Ratombo CPA**

The main question to be answered concerned challenges facing Ratombo CPA regarding meeting human security concerns of the community. The idea was to establish how people in Ratombo comprehended the challenges at hand so that they can come up with meaningful coping initiatives to make Ratombo CPA an efficient productive entity that alleviates human insecurity in the area. Research findings showed a number of challenges facing Ratombo CPA. These challenges also negatively affected human security. Study participants cited nepotism, corruption, financial problems, managerial deficiency, environmental management and natural disasters in the form of climate change as the challenges.

##### **4.4.1 Nepotism**

Community engagements and developmental programmes in much of Africa's rural areas have been derailed by nepotism. This is mainly because rural African societies have close knit ties, and this presents favourable conditions for favouritism on the grounds of family

ties and relations. Nepotism can be defined as the act of favouring one's relatives in resource and opportunity distribution and utilisation. Respondent, who is a member of the Ratombo CPA revealed that there has been rampant nepotism in Ratombo regarding distribution of employment opportunities and other benefits accrued from the farming activities. She alleged that nepotism is a serious challenge to the smooth running of the Ratombo farm. In most cases, workers are drawn from the close relatives of the founding members of the CPA and while this is positive in promoting locals' access to employment, there are problems inherently connected to the employment of relatives. When asked how nepotism affected day to day running of the farm, Mr Munyadziwa who is a supervisor in the crop section, stressed that it had become difficult for management to control and discipline workers because of their connections to founding members who are influential. The supervisor further decried the hiring process arguing that nepotism seems to be too influential when hiring workers, yet some duties and responsibilities require people with skills and expertise on the job.

In-house training normally given at the farm is sometimes inadequate for certain office bearers. Consequently, from the management's perspectives, some of the losses incurred by the farm are a direct result of nepotism and the hiring of unskilled labour in posts that required specific skills. This hampered production and made it difficult for the farm to meet its critical goals of food security and economic security. This confirms findings by other researchers which show that once they have acquired land, and few receive much in the way of training, credit or extension services from either state or private service providers (Jacobs, 2003; Hall, 2007; Lahiff et al., 2008; Aliber et al., 2010).

Informants pointed out major concerns on nepotism touching on the Ratombo family clan. There seemed to be rife corruption within the Ratombo family. One informant accused some members of destroying farm equipment for their own personal gain, and others stole from the farm's petty cash while the rest of the members seemed to be misdirecting finances into other accounts before depositing the remaining money into the main account. It seems everyone wanted to gain something before the actual work was done as large amounts of money were being misused by family members who went to an extent of resigning from jobs to work in the Ratombo CPA to gain access to the farming funds. From the responses, nepotism was a serious problem which negatively impacted on the day to day running of the farm. The net effect was failure of the farm to be productive and to meet critical human security concerns like food and economic security. On the other hand, the Chieftaincy uses power to appoint their relatives to positions of power such as the Chairperson of the CPA, *inter alia*. Also, most of the ordinary employees are from the Royal Family.

#### **4.4.2 Financial Challenges**

Like other farms in Levubu cluster farms, Ratombo CPA was also affected by perennial shortages of money which negatively affected the activities of the CPA. Study participants indicated that the land reform was not followed by adequate funding from the government and this posed a serious challenge to the CPA and its quest to make the community secure, especially regarding employment, income and food. Study participants, regardless of their positions in the CPA, urged government to financially assist them so that the farm could be able to expedite production and open new markets. Most of the

projects failed to kick off because of lack of money to finance them. It is, however, important to note that government gives some assistance through Economic Empowerment programmes, but the government grant was blocked as a result of conflicts within the CPA. All workers bemoaned the failure and corrupt activities of the previous CPA and castigated it as the root cause of their financial problems. They lamented that corruption resulted in retrenchments of workers.

Workers often suffer from dismissals and retrenchment as the farm is not growing and does not have enough revenue to be sustainable due to mal administration. Some problems are due to poor management and incompetence. The current Ratombo community lacks unity and is poorly coordinated. The relevant government departments which must assist are well known as among the weakest. This compromise economic security of workers in terms of job and income security. Instead of increasing the number of workers, the farm is decreasing from 120 to current 80 workers. This shows that the mission of opening up income opportunities for the Ratombo community remains a pipedream.

Financial irregularities committed by a former General Manager of the Ratombo CPA, and difficulties in paying workers on time further contributed to the problems. Another informant stated that the Ratombo CPA could not pay workers for two months because there was no money. "We had to sell bananas before they were ripe just to make some money to eke a living," she said. She added that despite the difficulties since receiving the land in 2004, the CPA had persevered and was now in a better state condition. This confirms various studies which have been carried over the years which revealed that most

land reform beneficiaries, or groups, are effectively left to fend for themselves since CPAs fail to provide proper structures for human development and economic security (Hall, 2007; Lahiff et al., 2008; Aliber et al., 2010). Early experience with restitution also revealed that communities faced a range of challenges in terms of agricultural production and the distribution of benefits to group members, including lack of working capital, lack of expertise in the areas of production and marketing, abuses of power by local elites, and internal conflicts (Hall, 2007).

#### **4.4.3 Managerial Deficiency**

Lack of proper planning and forecasting creates serious problems in relation to job security and economic security of the employees. Workers indicated that the major challenge which affected their daily operations was lack of money as a direct result of mismanagement.

Thus, managerial deficiency was identified as a serious blow to the operation of the CPA. Year in and year out, there is not enough money in the CPA's reserve fund and management is caught wanting and not sure how to deal with the situation which led to job cuts and retrenchment of some workers. Budgets are not properly done and where they are done, corrupt senior members of the farm misappropriate funds, and this adversely affects job and income security. Of note here is the fact that such corrupt officials, when caught, they are immediately dismissed. However, this becomes a problem when the said suspect is from the Ratombo Royal Family. It seems as if these are protected by the Chief who has the prerogative to hire and fire due to his traditional authority and the respect accorded to him by his subjects.

As noted by the Vice-Secretary of the Ratombo CPA, the CPA had to deal with various challenges, including frequent changes of General Manager because of the lack of organisational experience. The frequent changes also created factions. The issue of changing management time and again affected farm production and this was also noted in previous studies. According to Manenzhe (2012), from 2005 to 2012, partnerships have changed hands 3 times on average in Levubu farms. Manenzhe (2012) gives a good example of Ravele which was run by SAFM between 2005 and 2007 and between 2007 and 2009, another company took over, and from 2010, it is being run by Mauluma Farming Enterprises 1938 Pvt Ltd. As a result of the change in management, Manenzhe (2012: 15-17) concluded that all CPAs in Levubu were struggling to break even and were on the verge of collapse. This scenario obtained at Ratombo CPA and negatively affected human security concerns of the community.

## **4.5 Other Findings**

### **4.5.1 Climate Change**

Despite human-induced challenges, Ratombo farm also suffers from natural threats, especially climate change, which poses a serious threat to the farm. Informants explained that natural disasters such as hailstorm and drought damaged the production on the farm leaving the community insecure and in a financial crisis. In human security discourse, Sabina (2003) emphasises that when coming up with a working definition of human security, all natural hazards that are beyond the immediate control of human beings should be considered and the vital elements that should be included in the definition need to encompass 'freedom from fear and freedom from want'. Once climate change poses a

threat to human security, environmental security is also under threat. According to Buzan (1991), environmental security concerns the maintenance of the planetary biosphere as the essential support system on which all human enterprises depend. It also concerns the sustainable management of natural resources without compromising the future generations. There is growing need for sustainable environmental management in Africa. As noted by Booth (1999), the idea of environmental security views ecological processes as catalysts of conflict, barriers or limits to human well-being. Hoff (1998) states that the development of a community is also controlled by good agricultural practices that are environmentally friendly. It is also important to note that environmental problems are closely connected to health and food security. Stressing on the importance of linking land reform to environmental security, scholars and researches posit that environmental degradation in southern Africa cannot be adequately addressed until the inequities of land distribution and land tenure are addressed (Moyo *et al.* 1993; DFID, 2002). Thus, as climate change takes its toll on Ratombo, environmental security is also compromised and the community ends up trapped in a vicious circle of other human security threats like food shortages and malnutrition, among others.

#### **4.5.2 Findings on Successes of Ratombo CPA on Human Security Matters**

The research findings show that every dark cloud has a silver lining. Although Ratombo farm has not achieved every intended goal and is still facing a myriad of challenges, there are some successes which have been recorded. Human development has taken place, though not at the expected pace. Employment creation, income generation, food

production and food security are some of the positive things to take note of. These successes have direct human security implications as will be discussed.

### **4.5.3 Human Development**

Although not to expected levels, Ratombo CPA has made some strides towards Human Development, especially imparting technical and agricultural skills to community members. This takes care of both individual and community security. When people, especially the youths get work-related skills, this is positive for the individual and the community. Skills make youths to be productive and shun crime and other negative practices like alcohol and substance abuse. Workers indicated that when they are hired to do certain jobs, there is no qualification needed. They are taught the necessary skills right at work and that has worked well to give people hands-on experience. Workshops are also arranged by the management and people are given certificates of attendance in partnership with the Madzivhandila Training College. In the process of employment, skills and human development, not only Ratombo community is considered and this is a score on human development which guarantees all other security issues.

Commenting on the link between land reform and human development, Brink (2007) concluded that focusing on a more equitable distribution of land, with an emphasis on small-scale peasant farmers, will greatly contribute to more social cohesion, which will foster more inclusive institutions and policies, and consequently improved long-term development. Sabina (2003) observes that, although human security is a necessary part of human development and fulfilment, it is not on its own sufficient because the requirements of human development and well-being go beyond those of human security.

In 2012, the South African government, through the DRDLR noted that land reform facilitates the development of rural economies through transformation of agriculture to ensure food security and the elimination of abject poverty.

Access to safe water is now considered a human right and it guarantees health security. Human security emphasises health security because health is a critical component of development. As a way of meeting some critical human security concerns, Ratombo CPA has assisted in many areas in the community. Informants were grateful that there was a time where the Ratombo community did not have water and the CPA assisted them with a borehole so that they could have safe water. However, currently the CPA is in financial problems and these have compromised some of the community projects. Safe water is important for health security and a health society is a developmental society.

## **4.6 Conclusion**

The chapter interpreted the data provided by research informants and discussed the research findings. It was noted that there is a direct link between land reform and human security. When governments and communities embark on land reform, the major goal is to create new opportunities for the local communities and to create a community which is self-sufficient in terms of food, income and employment opportunities. These are some of the human security threats bedevilling many societies in developing countries. As for Ratombo community, the research findings showed that due to challenges, Managerial Deficiency, nepotism, financial and climate change the much-needed results of land reform to secure the community from insecurities have largely remained unfulfilled as many challenges hinder progress. On the activities of the Ratombo CPA, findings showed

that the previous CPAs failed to live up to the expectations in regard to human security because corruption, mismanagement and nepotism impacted negatively on human security. These challenges were well elaborated by the informants to show how they impacted on job and income security. However, some informants managed to identify some benefits of the CPA in regard to human security concerns of the community. The most identified success was in the domain of human development, specifically skills and technical developments among community members. The next chapter concludes the research and proffers some of the recommendations that can see Ratombo farm being productive and consonant with the demands of mitigating human security concerns of the community.

## CHAPTER 5

### RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

#### 5.1 Introduction

The previous chapter interpreted the data provided by study participants and discussed the research findings. It established that there is a direct link between land reform and human security. However, due to implementation and funding challenges, the much-needed results of land reform to secure the community from insecurities have largely remained unfulfilled as many challenges hinder progress in Ratombo community. Tapping from the research findings, the current chapter suggests some of the recommendations that can see Ratombo farm being productive and able to assure human security concerns of the community.

#### 5.2 Recommendations

- There is need for the Ratombo CPA to realise that land reform that does not satisfy the needs of the community is not only insufficient but a clear failure from a human security perspective.
- The research recommends that at local and national level, there is need for land reform to practically meet the human security concerns of the communities because human security and human development are two sides of the same coin. This implies that without human security, there is no human development and vice versa.
- Land reform beneficiaries must be skilled on applicable skills related to categorising, crop production, spraying programmes, irrigation, fertilisation of

harvests, sorting, packaging and marketing of produce. Complete formal and informal training must introduce to support the project community members and beneficiaries. Substitution plan should remain in place for new ideas to support the project. Co-option of capable workers to mentor, trainer to strengthen beneficiary management team is essential.

- The government has a duty to motivate the use of extension officers so that the community is aware of production factors and methods which, in the long run, will contribute to reducing poverty in the local communities.
- Challenges which are man-made like corruption, nepotism and mismanagement, and which affect the day to day running of the farm, should be holistically dealt with. This should involve the Department of lands and Rural Development, traditional authority and CPA members themselves.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

There is a proposed case relating land reform and human security. The land reform programme was implemented as a means of retrogressive the legacy of expansionism, in access to land, and removing poverty by providing a resource to allow the poor, landless and aspirant farmers to derive livelihoods. It was predicted that the programme would contribute to development through the delivery of an asset base to the poor that could generate employment and income, as well as produce food.

The study revealed that there is a direct link between land reform and human security. It is argued that effective land reform and resettlement would lead to improvement in agricultural productivity and have the potential to reduce poverty in economically

marginalised communities like Ratombo. The study considered the critical human security issues which bedevilled the Ratombo community and explored how food security, economic security, health security, environmental security, individual and community security can be broadly addressed through land reform in the area. It has been brought to light that land reform can adequately ensure food security, which is the starting point for the well-being of any society. However, taking Ratombo community as a test case, the study revealed that, while efforts have been made to meet human security concerns of the community, a lot still needs to be done if land reform in Ratombo is to achieve its set goals. The study contained a review of literature on land reform, especially on land restitution, with specific interest on human security. The study was based on repeated field visits to Ratombo land restituted project, on interviews with CPA management committee members, interviews with employed beneficiaries of Ratombo restituted project using semi structured interviews.

Regarding food security, land reform in Ratombo has not lived to the expectations. Findings revealed that the farm has been experiencing low production levels and this is clear evidence that food security is not adequately addressed. As production levels remain low, the CPA is left with little option but to cut production costs; and one of the routinely used method is job cuts through retrenchments. As envisaged in the Ratombo Mission Statement, poverty alleviation and creation of employment opportunities remain the key pillars of the CPA's goals. Workers expressed that they were not job secure and lived in fear of retrenchments. This defied the human security definition of freedom from fear of want.

The research endorsed that economic security is critical to individual security and community security. When local people are employed and given some skills, the individual and the community benefits in the short and long run. Human development ensures society of progression, as human resources are directly tapped for the good of the society. Social evils like crime, prostitution, destitution and substance abuse are kept at a minimal when people are occupied. However, with the recurrence of retrenchments and job losses, it can be concluded that Ratombo CPA has a task to assure the community of economic security and social development.

The study clearly identified the major factors leading to Ratombo CPA's failure to deliver. Among other factors, nepotism, corruption and managerial deficiency scored highly on negatively impacting the day to day running of the farm. However, it was noted that the new CPA management was working flat out to improve the operations of the farm. Members and workers alike showed confidence in the new administration, but its capabilities to transform the farm into a human security secured entity is still under scrutiny as little has been achieved so far. As a result, one can argue that the CPA has good intentions which need to be tested by tangible results. As noted from the research, the optimism which characterises the new management board and the community provides positive prospects for the Ratombo community regarding land reform meeting human security concerns.

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