

**CHALLENGES FACING SADC REGION WITH REGARD TO ILLEGAL MIGRATION  
OF ZIMBABWEANS IN MOPANI DISTRICT AND MANAGEMENT THEREOF**

BY

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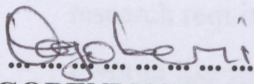
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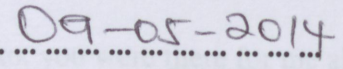


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## DECLARATION

I, **NGOBENI NGHENANI ONICA**, hereby declare that the mini-dissertation for the degree of Master in Public Management at University of Venda hereby submitted by me has not been previously submitted for a degree at this or any other university. This is my own work in design and execution, and that all reference material contained therein has been duly acknowledged.

  
.....  
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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### DEDICATION

I gratefully acknowledge the following contributors for having made this dissertation a successful and memorable piece of work:

- My beloved Husband Albert, for his words of encouragement, motivation and endless support from the beginning to the completion of this study,
- Prof. M.P Khwashaba, my promoter, for his honest but positive criticism that guided and fine-tuned this final research product,
- Mr. E Mahole who edited the first study-proposal attempt and thus exposed me to research requirements and principles,
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- I would like to thank my friend Livhuwani. You were there for me all the way;
- Last to God Almighty, in whom I trust, for guiding me and bestowing in me the wisdom to organise and conduct this project,

## DEDICATION

On my personal note, I dedicate this project to my Mom; you were there for me all the way.

The study used both quantitative and qualitative techniques for data collection and analysis. Qualitative techniques were mostly used in that they provide the researcher with a challenge facing SAAC region with regard to illegal migration of Zimbabweans in Giyani municipality and management thereof. Purposive sampling was used for the selection of sample for the study. Both primary and secondary data was used for analysis in this study. Secondary data were obtained from government publications, research publications, and reports. Primary data was obtained through interview and questionnaires.

Findings of the study led to the following conclusions:

- The findings of this study indicate that it was a tendency of employers both in formal and informal settings to report illegality of immigrants to avoid paying them.
- The Department of Home Affairs officials blame the South African Police Service for the high rate of illegal Zimbabweans in the country.

## ABSTRACT

This study investigated the challenges facing SADC region with regard to illegal migration of Zimbabweans in Giyani municipality and management thereof. The recent Zimbabwean migration into South Africa is the first post-1994 large-scale immigration from a neighbouring country. Its occurrence is due to the shifting grounds of Zimbabwe's unresolved political and economic crisis. Given its dynamic nature and the huge number of undocumented migrants, any attempt to describe current Zimbabwean migration is characterised by a lack of comprehensive data. This problem affects research on migration in Africa in general. Although migration into South Africa started as early as in the 1990's, now there is the highest increase in the number of Zimbabweans into South Africa than in any period in the previous years and the majority are undocumented immigrants. The economic and political environment is said to be one of the causes of the high migration rate. The socio-economic impact of illegal Zimbabwean immigrants in South Africa is viewed by different researchers as negative resulting in high crime rates whilst others view it as positive in terms of skills development and transfer.

The study uses both quantitative and qualitative techniques for data collection and analysis. Qualitative techniques were mostly used in that they provide the researcher with a challenges facing SADC region with regard to illegal migration of Zimbabweans in Giyani municipality and management thereof. Purposive sampling was used for the selection of sample for the study. Both primary and secondary data was used for analysis in this study. Secondary data were obtained from government publications, research publications, and reports. Primary data was obtained through interview and questionnaires.

### **Findings of the study led to the following conclusions:**

- The findings of this study indicate that it was a tendency of employers both in formal and informal settings to report illegality of immigrants to avoid paying them.
- The Department of Home Affairs officials blamed the South African Police Service for the high rate of illegal Zimbabweans in the country.

- The Department of Home Affairs indicated that it does not have resources to manage the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into the country and has to rely on the South African Police Service to manage it.
- According to research findings, it is easier for immigrants to enter the country illegally than legally because of the stringent measures put to control entry into South Africa.

**The following recommendations based on the findings of the study are made:**

- The deportation should be coupled with other measures to deter the illegal migration like prosecution of smuggling rings and individuals, employers of illegal immigrants, police and Home Affairs officials who extort bribes from illegal immigrants and stricter border controls.
- The study recommended that policies for the monitoring of labour laws be implemented to protect immigrants against exploitation by employers.
- The Department should make sure that before deportation, illegal immigrants are paid their dues by employers to prevent their exploitation where immigration is called when illegal immigrants are to be paid.

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DAF	Department of Home Affairs
DEA	Department of Foreign Affairs
DMSP	Domestic Migrant Surveys Programme
HRW	Human Rights Watch
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
ISA	Institute for Security Studies
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IED	International Labour Office
LEHR	Lawyers For Human Rights
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme
SAHRC	South African Human Rights Commission
SAPS	South African Police Services
SAMP	Southern African Migration Project

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

DHA	Department of Home Affairs
DFA	Department of Foreign Affairs
FMSP	Forced Migration Studies Programme
HRW	Human Rights Watch
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
ISS	Institute for Security Studies
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
ILO	International Labour Office
LHR	Lawyers for Human Rights
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme
SAHRC	South African Human Rights Commission
SAPS	South African Police Services
SAMP	Southern African Migration Project

## CHAPTER 1: BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

### 1.1 Introduction

At the time of 1860s, the situations of migrants in South Africa have rapidly become a humanitarian crisis. Attacks against migrants have spread like wildfire in the townships; xenophobia is reaching what the press refers to as an unprecedented peak of violence in the history of South Africa (Alexander and Jocelyn, 1993:99). Victims of attacks are flocking towards formal and informal NGOs in search of shelter. These recent attacks are, however, the result of the escalation of a deep-seated problem: the poor in South Africa. What is unprecedented is this victim-on-victim violence. The major problem in communities with high unemployment rates is the perception that migrants are stealing their scarce jobs and means of survival.

Large scale migration is a contemporary phenomenon that is transforming the demographics of the workforce worldwide. Migration has been defined as the more or less permanent movement of people across space (Suarez-Orozco and Suarez-Orozco, 2005:96). To give a picture of how prevalent migration is worldwide, Suarez-Orozco and Suarez-Orozco (2005:96) state that there were approximately 185 million trans-national migrants at the turn of the 21st century. Morgan, Sives and Appleton (2005:226) cite statistics to show that by 2005 there were over 175 million people living in a country other than the country of their birth.

The phenomenon of the migration of people from one country to another is not new. Migration experts, such as Kristoff (1999:35) and Sjursen (2000:vii) argue that migration was more prevalent in the 19th century than it is now because there were less stringent requirements for movement from one country to another at that time. Kristoff (1999:35) states that labour is less mobile today than it was in the 19th century when 60 million Europeans moved to the Americas, Australia and elsewhere. However, Kock (2006:30) and Appleton, Sives and Appleton (2006:227) argue that rapid globalisation in the last few decades has resulted in increased volumes and complexity of movement between countries and regions.

Miller, Ochs and Mulvaney (2008:90) cite statistics to show that the number of migrants in the world has more than doubled in the last 50 years and that by the year 2005 there were around 191 million migrants in the world. Due to globalisation, migration has also increased in the highly skilled labour force which includes health and education professionals (Morgan, et al. 2005:227). Migration is therefore an age-old global phenomenon that has influenced and continues to influence the development of all nations.

Government has recognised this crisis and has launched a full emergency alert. Over the weekend of 24-25 May 2008, the police escorted migrants to shelters, community halls became dormitories and soup kitchens opened. As from 25 May, the army has been accommodating and protecting migrants at barracks grounds. Having fled their homes, which are subsequently looted, migrants are at great risk of becoming homeless (Schafer and Richard, 2001:88).

Without denying the existence of a humanitarian crisis and every migrant's right to seek protection in South Africa, and at the cost of expressing an unpopular opinion, it must be admitted that migrants do appear to be flooding a precarious labour market. The possibility that their impact drives labour standards down is thus very real. The SADC region is experiencing considerable migration flows, with South Africa being the ultimate destination and a glaring example of various simultaneous and overlapping types of migration. Current patterns of migration in Africa are marked by temporary and repeated movements. Circulation between states has increased and most of the 'home' countries are now also 'receiving' or 'transit' countries.

#### 1.1 Specific objectives

### 1.2 Statement of the problem

To determine measures taken by the South African government to deal with the illegal  
Section 27 of the Constitution of the Republic South Africa guarantees basic rights to all who live in it, the right to education, and health care, housing and social welfare. That right extends to immigrants who have permanent residence. However, non-nationals are said to be generally excluded in South Africa. Since it is difficult for illegal immigrants to access services, they rely on church organizations and social networks for help. These organisations are not coping with the demand of illegal immigrants.

Although migration into South Africa started as early as in the 1990's, now there is the highest increase in the number of Zimbabweans into South Africa than in any period in the previous years and the majority are undocumented immigrants. The economic and political environment is said to be one of the causes of the high migration rate. The socio-economic impact of illegal Zimbabwean immigrants in South Africa is viewed by different researchers as negative resulting in high crime rates whilst others view it as positive in terms of skills development and transfer.

The current state of illegal Zimbabwean immigrants into the Mopani District is characterised by exaggerated half-truths and silences that are said to be dangerously misleading. The socio-economic impact of illegal Zimbabwean immigrants in Mopani District is viewed by different researchers as negative resulting in high crime rates whilst others view it as positive in terms of skills development and transfer. The current state of illegal Zimbabwean immigrants into the country is characterised by exaggerated half-truths and silences that are dangerously misleading. Therefore this study will investigate the challenges facing SADC region with regard to illegal migration of Zimbabweans in Mopani District and management thereof

### 1.3 Research aim

The aim of the study is to investigate the challenges facing SADC region with regard to illegal migration of Zimbabweans in Giyani municipality and management thereof

### 1.4 Specific objectives

- To determine measures taken by the South African government to deal with the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into South Africa
- To determine the challenges facing SADC with regard to Zimbabwe-South Africa migration
- To determine the causes of illegal Zimbabwean migration into South Africa;
- To explore the socio-economic impact of illegal Zimbabwean migration in South Africa in terms of crime, xenophobia, skills, social security, infra-structure and services;

- To advance recommendations on managing the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into South Africa.

### 1.5 Research questions

- What are measures taken by the South African government to deal with the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into South Africa?
- What are the challenges facing SADC with regard to Zimbabwe-South Africa migration?
- What are the causes of illegal Zimbabwean migration into South Africa?
- What is the socio-economic impact of illegal Zimbabwean migration in South Africa in terms of crime, xenophobia, skills, social security, infra-structure and services?
- How to advance recommendations on managing the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into South Africa?

### 1.6 Limitation of the study

The main limitation to this study is the size of the sample. Funds are a limiting factor as the study required a lot of funds for travelling, typing, binding and photocopying. Due to the sensitivity of the topic, some people were felt uncomfortable to answer research questions because they are not sure where the information will be taken to.

### 1.7 Delimitation of the study

The purpose of demarcating a study is to make it more manageable and to this end, the proposed research was limited to selected geographical areas of Limpopo Province, South Africa. The study focuses on the challenges facing SADC with regard to refugee migration of Zimbabweans to Mopani District and the management thereof.

### 1.8 Significance of the study

The study will help to add to the present knowledge base in as far as illegal Zimbabwean migration in South Africa is concerned. The study will add value on the socio-economic impact of illegal Zimbabwean migration into South Africa in terms of skills, crime, xenophobia, social

security, infrastructure and services with specific reference to the Giyani in the Limpopo Province. The study will also offer guidelines for authorities in terms of rethinking strategies and policies in managing illegal Zimbabwean migration in South Africa. Clandestine border crossing in South Africa is nothing new and most immigrants are from Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Unless the South African government and organisations that deal with migration issues are correctly informed about the state of immigration in South Africa, proactive measures to deal with the challenge cannot be put into place.

## 1.9 Definition of key terms

The following concepts will be defined in order to establish a common ground for discussion:

- **Legal immigrant** refers to people in a country other than their country of origin, with official documentation (McDonald 2000: xiv).
- **Illegal immigrant** refers to people in a country other than their country of origin without official documentation (McDonald 2000: xiv; Kok *et al* 2006: 52; Ranchod 2005:16; Human Rights Watch 2007:14; Danso & McDonald 2000:18).
- **Migration** refers to short-term departure, involving the crossing of magisterial boundaries, for purposes of seeking an income-generating activity (McDonald 2000: 50). Kok *et al* (2006: 135), Singh [ndp:4] and Cross *et al* (2006:104) defines migration as any movement of one month or more that involves crossing of magisterial boundary or any change from one type of settlement area to another. Migration is the movement of a group of people from one region to another. In the context of this study it is the movement of workers from one country to another country for the explicit purpose of seeking employment (Roberts, 2009:150).
- **Xenophobia** refers to negative attitudes and violent actions against foreigners in South Africa (Harris: 2001; CoRMSA 2008: 25; Crush 2008:36; Harris: 2001).

- **Brain-drain:** This is the loss of skills suffered by the source country due to the out-migration of professionals and the resultant negative socio-economic effects of such a loss (De Villiers, 2007:68).
- **Pull factors and push factors:** Pull factors are those socio-economic conditions in receiving countries that migrating professionals find attractive (El-Khawas, 2004:40). Push factors refer to those hostile conditions within the country that compels professionals and skilled persons to leave their home country and seek work in other countries (El-Khawas, 2004:40).

## 1.11 Organization of the Study

### Chapter1: Introduction and Background

Chapter 1 is mainly introductory and describes the context of school funding and financial management in support of curriculum management activities at “no fee” schools. Background to the problem, research design and method, definition of key terms, chapter division, specific and general aims of the study are all discussed in this chapter.

### Chapter 2: Literature Review

Chapter 2 summarises the theoretical underpinnings of the study. The concepts of migration and globalisation are discussed. Macro-, meso- and micro-level theories of migration which inform this study is examined and an outline of the migration-remittances debate is made. And therefore discusses the contextual and historical issues in the migration of teachers worldwide, in Africa and in particular from Zimbabwe to South Africa. It seeks to expose the factors that drive the migration of teachers and determine the direction of migration.

### Chapter 3: Research Design and Methodology

Chapter 3 includes the detailed explanation of the research design, as well as a brief explanation of the theory underpinning the method, data collection instruments. A description of data analysis procedures is provided in this chapter. This outlines the research methodology, research approach and design. Justifications for the use of the selected design are provided. The ethical

considerations adhered to in the research and the issues of trustworthiness of results are discussed.

#### **Chapter 4: Data Interpretation, Presentation and Analysis**

Chapter 4 discusses the results of the research study in view of the stated theoretical framework and the research findings.

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

Chapter 5 contains the summary, conclusions and recommendations of the research study. Topics for future research are also highlighted in this chapter.

## CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 Introduction

This chapter focuses on the historical overview of migration in South Africa, the extent of illegal migration in South Africa, reasons for migrating to South Africa and the emerging trends in illegal migration. The impact of illegal migration in South Africa, xenophobia and the measures taken by the South African government to deal with the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into the country will also be discussed.

### 2.2 Challenges of illegal migration in Limpopo Province, South Africa

Section 27 of the Constitution of South Africa guarantees basic rights to all who live in it, the right to education, and health care, housing and social welfare (CoRMSA 2008:39, Crush 2001:9; 17, SA Constitution 1996). That right extends to immigrants who have permanent residence. However, non-nationals are generally excluded in South Africa. Since it is difficult for illegal immigrants to access services, they rely on church organizations and social networks for help. These organisations are not coping with the demand of illegal immigrants (Millard 2006:41-42).

South Africans feel that migrants have a negative impact on South African resources (Crush 2001:14, Harris: 2001). The White Paper of 1999 on International Migration suggests that immigrants have a negative impact on resources in South Africa (Harris: 2001. They are said to be having an impact on the economy, job sector, health, education, social security, housing and crime.

#### 2.2.1 Economy

South Africa is said to be stereotyped into thinking that foreigners, whether legal or illegal are a threat to the economy and security of the South Africans (Maharaj 2004:7, Tevera & Zinyama 2002:29-31). In 1994 it was estimated that illegal immigrants cost the state 221 million Rands

which is one tenth of the RDP budget, and it is estimated that the figure may increase to 941 million by the end of the century (Maharaj 2004:11). Most immigrants enter to trade i.e. buy goods for resale back at their place of origin, however the benefits of the trade in terms of export earnings is unknown since there is limited research on the impact of illegal immigrants on the South African economy (Tevera & Zinyama 2002:39-40).

However, immigrants are said to be contributing to economic development of host countries according to the international studies. In South Africa, there is improvement or indirect impact on the economy especially in the informal and formal businesses such as hair salons, supermarkets, crafts, taxis and upholstery. They are contributing via purchasing of goods and subsistence and other living expenses (McDonald *et al* 1999:25, Maharaj 2004:12). Studies carried out by the South African Migration Project (SAMP) indicate that immigrants in the informal sector bring new skills, capital and competitive services needed by ordinary South Africans.

They thus benefit local labour markets as they create jobs (McDonald *et al* 1999:25, Danso & McDonald 2000:14, ILO 1998:19, Singh [ndp: 25]). The supply of cheap labour by labour supplying countries such as Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, and Mozambique played an important role in the development of the mining sector and on white farms. South Africa should realise that it has always benefitted from migration in the past (ILO: 1998:8-9, 46). Sriskandarajah (2005:4) indicated that countries that have a shortage of manpower benefits from labour supply from sending countries, and in turn labour sending countries also benefit through remittances and that boost economic development in both sending and receiving countries.

The costs of deporting illegal immigrants are high and are a wasting of tax payers' money. Zimbabweans, as compared to other groups of illegalimmigrants such as Nigerians, Ethiopians and Swazi nationals, are likely to have been deported previously. This is indicated as a waste of tax payer's money and the capacity of the Department of Home Affairs and the South African Police Services according to CoRMSA (2008:67) and Solomon (2000:8). The majority of immigrants are said to have not more than three years of education and no skills, except in

subsistence agriculture, hence their inability to contribute positively to the economy of South Africa (Solomon 2003:91-92, Solomon 1996:8).

However, according to CoRMSA (2008:16,67) the Zimbabwean immigrants have high educational levels, and if properly managed they have a potential of having a positive impact and benefit South Africa, but instead they are hired for low wages (CoRMSA 2008:16). Other author's such as Stern & Szalontai (2006:134-135), argue that the impact of migration was thought to be positive on receiving countries as immigrants were skilled and less likely to depend on state welfare. However, Christie (1997:3) argues that the threat posed by illegal immigrants on the country's economy appears to be real. This is supported by Sebola (2008:112) who contends that the negative impact on immigrants on South African resources cannot be ignored. Illegal immigrants are said to have a negative impact on the productivity of the South African workforce through the diseases they are bring in the country. Those diseases include cholera, yellow fever, HIV and other subtropical diseases (Solomon 2000:14).

### 2.2.2 Job sector

Immigrants are seen as taking jobs away from South Africans and increase the unemployment rate in the country because they accept low wages. They are seen as depressing the remuneration of local labour (Maharaj 2004:7, Tevera & Zinyama 2002:29-31). This is because they accept wages below market wages which local people refuse to take, and this causes conflict and contributes to unemployment rates of local people (Simelane 1999:4-5, Solomon 1996:9, Harris: 2001, Solomon 2003:92, Solomon 2000:4) despite the fact that SouthAfrica has a high unemployment rate of 35-45% according to Danso & McDonald (2000:14).

They are undermining the ability of the South African labour unions to fight for better wages for the South Africans. According to Crush (2008:33), the perception that foreigners steal jobs from South Africans is not based on personal experience because 85% of respondents in a 2006 survey indicated that they have no personal experience or met anyone who lost a job to a foreigner. Organisations like the FMSP (2007:17) indicate that the perception that illegal migration impact

negatively on the job sector is true because it is impossible to enforce legal labour standards due to their illegality and the fact that they avoid being identified for fear of deportation.

The ILO (1998:19) does not dispute that illegal immigrants may have an impact on South Africa's employment sector; the problem is that illegal immigration is not documented. It thus becomes difficult to determine how they contribute to South Africa's unemployment rate due to their clandestine nature. Migrants are seen as playing a role in the country's industrial development serving as a backbone of key export-oriented sectors. They are said to have been essential in the creation of wealth and industrial expansion. Migrants help in that there is low production expenditure and thus constitute a cost advantage.

South Africa is getting a docile cheap labour especially in labour intensive sectors like agriculture and mining which make up 15% of South Africa's GDP (1994) (ILO: 1998:26-29, Kok *et al* 2006:79-80, Cross *et al* 2006:105). It is norm for South African employers to exploit illegal immigrants, violate labour standards, give them subminimum wages, and it is a practice for farmers to report illegality of immigrants to the police in order to avoid paying them for work done (Solomon 2000:7). Most Zimbabwean immigrants are employed on border areas in commercial farming in parts of the Limpopo Province (Kok *et al* 2006:40). Agriculture contributes 5% of the GDP and 10% of South Africa's total export.

Zimbabweans are seen as playing an important role as South African farmers are using them to meet temporary and seasonal labour needs (HRW 2007:19-20). Information on the impact of migration on the South African market is not sufficient (ILO 1998:8). However, according to Christie (1997:18), allowing illegal immigrants to work allows them to remit money and goods to their countries and may thus prevent future migration.

### 2.2.3 Health sector

There have been few studies to investigate the relationship between migration and the spread of diseases. Since illegal immigrants enter the country illegally, there is no information about their health status. It is only when they are detained that diseases with epidemic potential like yellow

fever, cholera, HIV and other subtropical diseases are identified (Maharaj 2004:12). However, Solomon (1996:8) and Solomon (2000:14) argue that immigrants do bring diseases.

Since they come from strife-ravaged areas they are said to need more medical attention than South Africans and thus put a burden on the health system. Recipient countries are said to be at risk of being exposed to unfamiliar infectious agents (Kok *et al* 2006:121). It is normal for immigrants to engage in cross-border movement to countries that have better facilities to obtain better health care (McDonald *et al* 2000:822). According to Sing and FMSP (2007:17), the perception that Zimbabweans are putting a strain on the South African health sector may be true because to the collapse of the health system in Zimbabwe. The concentration of immigrants in some places has a potential to affect health service delivery.

Illegal immigrants are barred from receiving health care and harassed by officials, thus few of them use the services (Crush & Williams 2005:16). It has been suggested that although immigrants want access to basic services, they also want to pay for them (Danso & McDonald 2000:15, McDonald *et al* 1999:25). The decreased access to health facilities may cause poor health for migrants (Kok *et al* 2006:123). In September 2007 the National Department of Health in South Africa passed a directive that asylum seekers and refugees, including illegal immigrants, should have access to ART at public health facilities (CoRMSA 2008:38).

Illegal migrants rely on hospitals and clinics in South Africa (Kloppers 2006:162). They are seen as placing a burden on the South African health system (Solomon 2000:14). There is little understanding about the relationship between HIV/AIDS and migration. The outbreak of the disease was, however, associated with migrant labour systems and population mobility (Maharaj 2004:12). In terms of HIV/AIDS, the prevalence is high in labour receiving countries like South Africa. It is, however, not clear whether it is brought in by immigrants hence a need for further research (Cross *et al* 2006:36). There is since empirical evidence of a link between HIV and migration. Migrant communities are higher infection rate than the general population because they are socially, economically and politically marginalised.

Mobility makes it difficult to reach people for prevention, education, condom provision or post infection treatment. Migrant women are more vulnerable to HIV infection as they may engage in transactional or survival sex or fall prey to trafficking networks. There is a need for further research on the impact of migration on services, including health services, and how available services act as pull factors for migrants (Crush *et al* 2005(a):33-34).

#### 2.2.4 Education sector

Mozambican illegal migrants are said to be using South African schools; especially illegal immigrants staying next to the borders and thus place a burden on the South African education resources (Kloppers 2006:162, Solomon 2003:94) According to CoRMSA (2008:44), due to lack of documentation about 50% of illegal immigrants' children do not attend school which means that there is relatively a few number of illegal immigrants using South African schools.

#### 2.2.5 Social security

In a study undertaken by Kloppers (2006) on the Mozambican and South African border, Mozambican citizens were collecting old age pension and other welfare grants from the South African government. They were perceived to be exerting pressure on the South African government welfare which makes it difficult for the country to achieve its socio-economic growth strategy and development targets. Kloppers (2006:155), Solomon (2000:15) and Ranchod (2005:16) also concur by indicating that illegal immigrants fraudulently claim pensions meant for South Africans. Once they enter the country they illegally obtain identity documents and use them to apply for grants and other services.

It is, however, noted by CoRMSA (2008:47) that, foreigners, whether legal or illegal have a right to access Social Relief of Distress grant for food needs. This is inconsistently applied because, in other areas an identity document is requested to access the Social Relief of Distress grant whereas in other areas an identity document is not requested.

## 2.2.6 Housing sector

According to Sebola (2008:107-112), the provision of housing for South Africans is one challenge that the government need to achieve, although Illegal migration is having a negative impact on realizing this goal. Illegal immigrants fraudulently benefit from houses that are meant for South Africans. Most Zimbabweans are blamed for illegal squatting in the country as they come in large numbers. They are unskilled and have very low levels of education as indicated in the Masungulo Project study on Mozambican illegal immigrants which found that illegal Mozambican immigrants had no more than three years of formal education.

This means that they cannot be employed in formal employment sectors but can only be employed in the informal sector, cannot afford to pay for their own housing and also add to the poverty level of the country. Solomon (2003:94, 1996:9) and Cross *et al* (2006:106) also confirm that illegal immigration contributes to squatting especially if illegal immigrants are unemployed. They then benefit from facilities and houses meant for South Africans under the RDP at the cost of South African tax payers.

## 2.2.7 Crime

Excessive immigration is an impact on the increase in crime, safety and security. It is create a climate for survival crimes and criminal recruitment. Illegal immigration leads to an increase in antisocial behaviour and criminal activity (Simelane 1999:4-5, Landau 2007:72) such as drug trafficking and gun-running, and thus contributes to violent crimes in South Africa (Maharaj 2004:7). They are contributing 14% of crimes in South Africa. This, however, depends on provinces with Gauteng being the most affected.

Illegal immigrants are said to be entering the country armed since they are coming from countries which have been undergoing long periods of civil war; they are said to have skills in fighting and have the capability to can overthrow the South African government. They have the potential to impact negatively on domestic stability and foreign policy goals (Solomon 2003:92, Solomon 2000:16-17). Vigneswaran (2007:6) argues that the reason why illegal immigrants are

associated with crime, terror and prostitution is because they lack residency rights and due to their illegality they engage in undetected movements.

Danso & McDonald (2000:16-17) indicates that illegal foreigners are involved in crime and that since 1994 the rate of crime in South Africa had increased. Solomon (1996:8-9) indicated that the involvement of illegal immigrants in crime affect investor confidence and that lead to the utilisation of state resources that should be used for RDP and now channeled into fighting crime. According to a study conducted by FMSP & MLAO (2007:10), illegal immigrants from Zimbabwe are projected as good mannered people who are disinclined towards criminal activity. The South African press is blamed for exacerbating information about immigrants for being responsible for crime by racialising crime and associating it with particular groups of migrants. Migrants from European countries are seen in a better light than those from Africa.

Nigerians and Moroccans are associated with drug-trafficking, Congolese with passport racketeering, Zairians with diamond smuggling, Mozambicans and Zimbabweans women with prostitution, Lesotho nationals with smuggling of gold dust and copper wire. Such articles are said to be saying nothing about Thai, Romanian and Bulgarian women also involved in prostitution (Danso & McDonald 200:16-17). According to McDonald *et al* (1999:19) and Solomon (2000:6), instead of looking at illegal immigrants as perpetrators of crime, South Africans should be aware that illegal immigrants are themselves victims of crime due to lack of protection from the police. They are regarded as soft targets due to their vulnerability and because they will not report cases to the police.

The present information on the impact of migration on social services and domestic employment levels is scattered and inconclusive (ILO 1998:37, Danso & McDonald 2000:15). What is a contested issue is whether to deny illegal immigrants access to resources, although South Africans who were in exile during the apartheid era were given access to the very same resources (McDonald *et al* 1999:24). It is also argued that since illegal immigrants do not stay for long periods, they do not cause substantiated damage (Kloppers 2006:159). Due to the fact that the number of illegal immigrants in the country is unknown, the cost in terms of impact can't be estimated (IOM 2005:1). According to Cross *et al* (2006:8) US research confirms that the impact

of illegal immigrants on host countries is not positive. It is only positive on migrants, their networks, communities and countries. The only positive impact is from highly qualified migrants.

### 2.3 Zimbabwean migration to South Africa

The recent Zimbabwean migration into South Africa is the first post-1994 large-scale immigration from a neighbouring country. Its occurrence is due to the shifting grounds of Zimbabwe's unresolved political and economic crisis. Given its dynamic nature and the huge number of undocumented migrants, any attempt to describe current Zimbabwean migration is characterised by a lack of comprehensive data (Human Rights Watch, 2007:4). This problem affects research on migration in Africa in general. This immigration wave is having a huge impact on many aspects of South African society, from welfare to security to the economy. Crucially, South Africa lacks adequate policies and strategies to manage this large influx.

In relation to Zimbabwean migration, this is aggravated by the fact that despite the magnitude of the crisis, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has adopted a conservative position. It maintains that the vast majority of Zimbabweans are not refugees and that the situation in Zimbabwe does not warrant a group application of the Organisation of African Unity's (OAU's) Convention-based refugee definition. Moreover, Zimbabwe is South Africa's only neighbouring country that does not have a free visa policy, which hinders the freedom of movement that should exist across SADC (Human Rights Watch, 2007: 12). Thus, the line between political (refugees) and economic migrants is blurred, resulting in a large amount of undocumented migration.

While the humanitarian crisis emphasises migrants' rights (refugees status) and persecution, most migrants readily admit that they left their country of origin for economic reasons. The fact that the latter is due to a political crisis is hardly relevant when assessing their impact on the labour market. Accordingly, Makina observed that the reasons why Zimbabweans migrate have varied over the years, but economic reasons are predominant. From 1979 to 2001, the search for better employment was the driving factor; political reasons only became predominant around

2002. During the first half of 2007, however, employment and economic reasons outstripped political reasons (Makina, 2007: 5). In fact, once settled in the host country migrants do look for work, irrespective of their reasons for leaving their home country.

Thus, in the presence of any migration wave, the intersection between migration and the labour market is crucial and unavoidable. Although the right to work is contested territory in the debate on human rights, work is necessary to guarantee both survival and dignity, and also to avoid excessive pressure on the welfare system. For migrants, access to work is based on a 'paradox'. While barriers hinder migrants' access to the local labour market, their fundamental imperative is to find a job, and empirical evidence shows that they do eventually find some form of employment. (Human Rights Watch: November 2007).

Figures on Zimbabwean migration have been extrapolated from non-generalisable data including deportation numbers, border crossing statistics or asylum statistics which blows out of proportion.<sup>2</sup> A likely estimate based on various sources is that around one million Zimbabweans in South Africa have immigrated since 2000, as shown by Makina (2007). However, as with all largely undocumented migration flows', accurately establishing the number of Zimbabweans in South Africa is virtually impossible. Even a large-scale survey such as the census has failed to capture the full figure (Human Rights Watch, 2007).

Consensus is that knowing the exact and total number of Zimbabweans in South Africa is not necessary to assessing their situation or planning a response, since even the lowest estimates confirm that presently the majority of migrants are Zimbabwean. Zimbabwean migrants are a 'mixed-flow', with different levels of vulnerability and impacts on the South African society or economy that are neither geographically clustered nor dispersed evenly.

#### **2.4 Historical overview of migration in South Africa**

The issue of migration is not new to South Africa; it dates back to the 1860's with the discovery of diamonds in the Orange Free State and gold in the Witwatersrand. The discovery of these minerals led to the high demand and recruitment of cheap labour from countries like Malawi,

Namibia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Botswana and Swaziland (McDonald 2000:814, Simelane 1999:11, IOM 2005:1). With the demise of apartheid in 1994, South Africa was then entrenched as a focal point for trade and travel (Landau 2007:63). This led to a rapid increase of immigrants into South Africa (McDonald 2000 1-2).

The cross-border movement from Zimbabwe to South Africa has always been male dominated with labour contracts in the mining industry. The end of apartheid and positive changes in the South African economy has led to a high migration of foreigners into the country. According to Crush et al (2005 (a):1-2) and ILO (1998:8), migration patterns have changed in the last two decades and this was informed by:

- The end of apartheid and integration of South Africa within the SADC region; (ii) the reconnection of the region with the global economy;
- The growing rural and urban poverty and unemployment has led to the growing number of illegal cross-border flows; and
- Impact of HIV/AIDS on families.

The need for contract labour in the 1990's declined but that did not result in a decrease of people coming into South Africa, instead the country has seen an increase, especially in illegal migration (ILO 1998:45).

## **2.5 Trends in illegal migration**

The trends in migration have changed and of recent interest is the migration of women. There are also those who migrate illegally on a seasonal basis for trading purposes to sell arts and crafts in South Africa and also to buy commodities for resale back in Zimbabwe. Due to political unrest in some countries in the SADC region some have migrated to seek asylum whilst some people are trafficked into the country by human trafficking rings. For the purpose of this research, the trends in illegal migration focus on the following aspects, i.e. migration of women, informal traders, asylum seekers and human trafficking.

### 2.5.1 The migration of women

The migration of women across borders is not a new phenomenon. Most women who migrated were employed in the agricultural and domestic sectors. Much of the movement was clandestine as migration laws were strict on women and they were only allowed entry into the country as dependents. Most women who migrate are said to do so for informal trading, they enter to buy goods for resale back in their country of origin (Cross *et al* 2006:33-34, Crush & Williams 2005:14).

Women are staying for shorter periods than men (Tevera & Zinyama 2002:37). That is because due to gender inequality women have limited education and hence their confinement to unregulated sectors of the economy like informal trade, domestic work and prostitution (Roberts 2007:12-13). Another trend that has been identified in the migration of women is that due to the difficulty of migration channels they resort to illegal migration channels. Although they have higher education they are employed in low-skilled labour settings (Tevera & Zinyama 2002:31, Crush *et al* 2005 (a):14). Research on migration of women is limited and hence the need for further research and the role of legislative barriers (Crush *et al* 2005(a):35).

### 2.5.2 Informal traders

Cross-border trading fuels the mobility of both legal and illegal migration. Women are seen as more involved when it comes to informal trading than men (IOM 2005:2). Informal cross-border traders are said to be more prone to illegal entrance into South Africa in order to avoid paying taxes (PHAMSA 2005:22). The payment of custom duties has an impact on profits made by informal traders, hence their decision to migrate illegally (Roberts 2007:15).

The informal sector entrepreneurs are playing a very positive role in the formal and informal sectors because immigrants employ and train locals, and thus invigorate the sector. This is said to be a priority in governmental economic plans (Cross *et al* 2006:27,231, FMSP 2007:18). They are said to be contributing to the economy by paying for value added tax on the goods they purchase (IRIN 2008:1; Vigneswaran 2007:5; Peberdy & Crush 1998:2). Others feel that since

illegal immigrants sell their goods cheaply, they undermine the local hawkers' ability to sell their goods and thus cause domestic instability (Simelane 1999:4, Solomon 1996:10).

### 2.5.3 Asylum seekers

The fact that Zimbabweans are not given asylum or refugee status by the South African government is encouraging illegal migration. The police and the Department of Home Affairs are believe that there is no war in Zimbabwe for people to be given asylum or refugee status and unsuccessful applicants for asylum and refugee status are arrested and deported. In 2005 only 114 Zimbabweans were granted refugee status amidst 16 000 pending applications (HRW 2006:8, CoRMSA 2008:66). Asylum seekers are not supposed to be regarded as illegal in the country. The reason they do not have documentation because they are fleeing from conflict in their countries of origin (Harris 2001). It is, however, noted that even people from peaceful countries such as Mozambique, Namibia and Swaziland are known to have applied for asylum status (Landau 2007:65).

### 2.5.4 Human trafficking

The most illegal cross-border migration is caused by human trafficking and smuggling of people across borders. The porous borders, corruption of the police and Department of Home Affairs officials are encourage the trafficking of humans across borders. Women are said to be trafficked mainly for commercial sex work (IOM 2005:2-4, Oucho 2007:2, Cross *et al* 2006:34, Solomon 2000:7). In the absence of specific legislation there is no protection for trafficked people from being deported because they are without documentation (Crush *et al* 2005(a):26).

## 2.6 The extent of illegal migration in South Africa

Illegal border crossing is not a new phenomenon. It is however noted that the volume has, however, increased in the last two decades especially since 1990 (McDonald *et al* 2000:817). The economic inequalities within the regions have led to the high increase of migration and South Africa is the destination place and also a transit route (Tsheola 2008:45-46).

During the apartheid era recruiting companies were utilized to source labour from labour supplying countries and most of the migration involved illegal cross-border crossing. Hence, many families in the SADC region have inter-generational history of migration to South Africa (ILO: 1998:8-9). Illegal immigrants are divided into two, i.e. those who enter through official entry points but overstay after their visa expires, and those who do not have legal documents and do not use official exit points (Danso & McDonald 2000:18). On the other hand Crush *et al* (2005(a):12), distinguishes between three streams of illegal immigration:

- Lawful entrants/unlawful stayers.
- Unlawful entrants/lawful stayers and
- Unlawful entrants/unlawful stayers.

An addition is made by The Report of the Secretary-General United Nations General Assembly (2006:43) that tourists who have no permit to work, but work, those who fail to renew work permits and asylum seekers who fail to secure asylum status are regarded as illegal immigrants. The ILO (1998:15-17) mentions that visa overstayers are detected through the computerised National Movement System of the Department of Home Affairs. It records every person entering legally and their date of exit. It thus becomes easy to detect visa overstayers. In South Africa the illegal immigrant population is estimated to be around 80 000 each year.

However, there is no reliable statistics available about the number of illegal migrants in South Africa. It is said to be difficult to get the number of illegal migrants due to the clandestine nature of entry into the country. They always try to avoid being detected for fear of deportation (Oucho 2007:1). Statistics mentioned about the number of foreigners in the country is based on HSRC research which is said to be flawed, hence its withdrawal in 2001 (Dodson & Crush 2004:100).

Estimates about the number of illegal immigrants in the country is said to be based on the number of repatriations, the number of immigrants overstaying their tourist and study visas and information supplied by the Department of Home Affairs, South African Police and South African National Defense Force (Crush & Williams 2005:12). The fact that there is no

coordinated effort of collecting data in all the regions makes it difficult to collect information about illegal immigrants (ILO 1998:8). According to Solomon (1996:2) and McDonald *et al* (2000:824), estimates about the illegal foreigners in the country does not reflect individuals who have been deported several times, which according to ILO (1998:15-17) is the revolving door migrancy, which refers to the type of migrancy where migrants that have been deported return to South Africa to face repeated deportation. Vigneswaran (2007:4) mention that the migration of illegal immigrants is circular and seasonal. They enter to buy goods for resale back at their country of origin or for employment in the agricultural sector.

## 2.7 Reasons for migrating to South Africa

The reasons for migrating to South Africa are indicated as social networks; the economic and political conditions in Zimbabwe, pull and push factors and the conditions in post-apartheid South Africa. According to Mello (2008:20), globalisation has led to porous borders due to growth in trade, communication and technology.

### 2.7.1 Social networks

Kok *et al* (2006:227-234) defines migrant networks as sets of interpersonal ties that connect migrants, former migrants, non-migrants in origin and destination areas through ties of kinship, friendship and shared community of origin. They involve the flow of new migrants from their area of origin to the destination area and contrary flow of previous migrants returning home. Networks are said to have functions such as stimulating migration, facilitating migration, discouraging migration and channeling migration.

The fact that one migrant seems successful when returning home stimulates the desire for non-migrants to migrate. At the end of the year or during the Christmas period, Zimbabweans cross the border with vehicles full of goods bought in South Africa, and that gives an impression that those in South Africa are successful.

Networks provide information about accommodation and job opportunities in areas of destination. Networks make it easy for poor people to migrate because they offer cash, loans, and gifts to enable migrants to pay for travelling to destination areas. Those who have been in the country before provide money to bribe officials and for agents to smuggle immigrants across borders. Social networks also provide emotional support, friendship and opportunities to help reduce the psychological impact of migration. If they are concentrated in one area, they create a cultural milieu they have at place of origin.

Zimbabwean cross-border migration has increased although the magnitude is not clear, estimates

They disseminate information about the difficulty of getting jobs and about the extent of xenophobia in destination areas. Such information will ultimately make those who are not yet in South Africa to view it differently.

concentrated in Limpopo province border areas such as Musina, Potchefstroom, Mapungubwe, Weipani

## 2.7.2 The conditions in Zimbabwe (said et al 2003:814)

Illegal migration by Zimbabweans into South Africa has been on the increase since the 1980s. In the beginning illegal migrants were from western and southern districts of Zimbabwe. The areas are said to be prone to drought and severe food shortages. However recently, most migrants now come from all over Zimbabwe (Tevera & Zinyama 2002:19-20). The cost of visa or obtaining a passport is expensive and the process is said to be very long. Stringent measures to control migration have been known to lead to an increase in illegal migration.

rising cost of goods and basic necessities and drought. There are advantages pulling them to the country where they want

In Zimbabwe, the economic conditions have deteriorated badly and the lower income group people have no way to cope with the hardship and high levels of unemployment hence their decision to migrate (Crush & Williams 2005:3-4). Zimbabweans are said to be the largest group of foreigners in South Africa with 80% of deportations (FMSP 2007:7).

## 2.7.4 Post apartheid South Africa

South Africa deports between 600-6000 Zimbabweans every week from the Lindela repatriation centre according Ranchod (2005:14). In 1994, 55 000 Zimbabweans were deported, which was indicated as the highest number of deportation at that time (Solomon 2003:97). According to CorMSA (2008:67) and Solomon (2000:8) Zimbabweans as compared to other groups of illegal foreigners are likely to have been deported previously. The highest number of Zimbabwean

illegal immigrants is during December holidays when they go home to visit families and when they come back (Tevera & Zinyama 2002:21). According to Ranchod (2004:9) in 1999 the South African High Commission in Harare reported that the number of illegal Zimbabweans in South Africa after the expiry of visas, was about 75 000. Zimbabwe is regarded as one of the countries with a highest supply of illegal migrants in South Africa. This is detected through the number of deportations and is also seen to be a source of documented immigrants.

Zimbabwean cross-border migration has increased although the magnitude is not clear, estimates of Zimbabweans in the country are based on speculations only. Just like other sources of illegal migration, South Africa has never had a reliable estimate of foreigners in the country. It is, however, clear that Zimbabweans are in the majority in the country. They are mainly concentrated in Limpopo province border areas such as Musina, Pointdrift, Mapungubye, Weipi, Dongola, Madimbo and Chipise (McDonald *et al* 2005:814).

### 2.7.3 Pull and push factors

Globalisation has resulted in making push factors stronger and people migrate in large numbers to South Africa (Tsheola 2008:39-49). Often people move from their countries of origin to another because of disadvantages and this has been referred to as push factors i.e. poverty, hardship, poor living conditions, scarcity of food, fuel, high inflation, rising cost of goods and basic necessities and drought. There are advantages pulling them to the country where they want to move to, and this has been referred to as “pull factors” i.e. employment opportunities, higher wages, political stability, better social amenities, access to consumer goods and commodities and a better life than in the country of origin (McDonald 2000:826).

### 2.7.4 Post apartheid South Africa

As compared to other African countries post-apartheid South Africa is seen as having increased economic opportunities by both legal and illegal migrants (Tsheola 2008:35). Wide differences in income levels and economic conditions lead to irregular migration. People will take risks to explore economic conditions to improve their lives (Maharaj 2004:5).

According to the ILO (1998:22-23) people migrate to South Africa for the following reasons:

- The perception that South Africa's employment rate is low which means that it is easy for migrants to get jobs;
- South Africa has varied opportunities since its GDP is ten times than that of all SADC countries combined;
- The income level in South Africa is above the US\$500 mark when compared to that of SADC countries, and that acts as an incentive;
- The South African economy is seen to have the capacity to absorb its own population and labour migrants in the region;
- South Africa's unionisation and affirmative action has had an impact on wages in general;
- Even when the labour market is saturated with unemployment, foreigners are able to get jobs because there are employers who prefer them as a source of cheap labour; and
- The high brain-drain from South Africa acts as a magnet for others to enter.

According to Solomon (1996:3-7), the following are the causes of migration into South Africa:

- Communication and technology is said to strengthen the impulse to migrate because people have information and knowledge about whether to migrate or not.
- Zimbabwe shares borders with South Africa and thus it is easy to make a decision of whether to migrate or not.
- People migrate to areas where there are people from their place of origin. Such social networks provide food, shelter and sometimes arrange jobs for the "would be" migrants.
- Population growth, coupled with a decline in the economy, induces people to cross borders to search for a better life.
- Environmental factors like drought and famine.
- Politically induced ethnic strife, socio-economic disparities promote migration.

The South African borders are seen as “porous” and thus encourage illegal migration. Lack of staff, corruption and bribery by Department of Home Affairs officials are seen as perpetuating illegal migration into the country (McDonald *et al* 1998:14). The expectations of people in the SADC regions is that South Africa has a moral obligation to help them as these countries helped establish and develop the South African economy in the past through the by accommodating exiles (Mello 2008:21).

## 2.8 Access to employment for all migrants

Access to employment is not a right in itself, but it is essential for survival and gaining some level of independence. Documented asylum seekers and refugees have the right to work and start businesses in South Africa. This was the result of the case of *Watchenuka v. Minister of Home Affairs* (2002) JOL 10388, who, incidentally, is a Zimbabwean. As expected, undocumented migrants are not entitled to take employment or to work for themselves. However, once they are employed, workers have rights whether or not they are legally employed. A recent legal opinion from the Commission on Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) (the public body that hears labour disputes) has explicitly interpreted the Constitutional and labour law provisions on “fair labour practices” to include undocumented migrants (Alcock, 2008: 12).

On 7 April 2008, the Johannesburg Labour Court confirmed this opinion in the case of *Lanzetta v. Discovery Health*, ruling that South African employers have the same duty of care to illegal foreign employees as they do to South African citizens and that employment contracts are valid, irrespective of whether or not an employee is an illegal immigrant (Mabuza, 2008). According to the MRMP, 36.4% of respondents reported that they were unemployed, 58% were working in some way, with casual or temporary work dominant (16.5%). Self employment was also significant (15.6%). Out of those who are working, 26.8% are self employed. While women are as likely to be in work as men, they are more likely to be working part-time for someone than to be working full-time or self-employed. Those with documentation are more likely to be working than those without. More importantly, the well-educated have no advantage over those with less education. This means that available skills are being wasted.

The MRMP data shows extreme differences in employment patterns in Gauteng, Durban and Cape Town. Unemployment levels in Durban, for example, are almost twice as high as those of

Gauteng and Cape Town. Gauteng seems to provide more opportunities for full-time employment and self-employment than the other two cities. This suggests that local level economic conditions and policies, such as local industries or municipal trading permits, are at least as important as national level policies on such issues as national skills shortages, national unemployment levels, the right for asylum seekers and refugees to work, understanding actual migrant employment experiences as well as the way in which migrants are inserted into local employment markets.

## 2.9 Xenophobia

South Africans are seen as generally xenophobic, with immigration policies based on control measures which are said to be cruel and unsuccessful (Crush 2002:139; Solomon 2000:11, Vigneswaran 2007:1-2). The influx of illegal Zimbabweans into South Africa has led to humanitarian concerns where South Africa is accused of violating human rights. According to McDonald & Jacobs (2005:13) xenophobia refers to a deep dislike of foreigners.

It is a behavior that manifests itself in government, public and the media. According to Crush (2008:36) and Harris (2001) xenophobic prejudice is subtle, blunt and even violent. It is said to be dehumanizing and damaging. The xenophobic violence that erupted in May 2008 in the South African areas of Alexandra and Soshanguve, is an example of how violent it can get. Xenophobia is said to thrive where there is competition for scarce resources and employment (Maharaj 2004:7; Mello 2008:22). It is also caused by accessible stereotypes which help justify the behavior (Crush 2001:15). A 1996 HRSC survey indicated that individuals from the lower end of the spectrum were the ones who showed more xenophobic tendencies. Lack of international travel was cited as one of the reasons for xenophobic attitudes in South Africa.

### 2.9.1 South African history of violence

The culture of violence in South Africa is entrenched in the apartheid legacy (Harris, 2001:99). The televised event in 2000 of six white policemen who set dogs on three black foreigners was just another indication of how violent South Africans can be (Crush 2001:7).

## 2.9.2 Perceived political and state influence

South African politicians and officials are perceived to add to the negativity towards migrants (McDonald & Jacobs 2005:13). The Minister of Justice in South Africa Penuel Maduna indicated that they bring diseases and are parasites rather than adding to the improvement of the South African economy (Tevera & Zinyama, 2002:29-31).

The Minister of Home Affairs Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said that they shouldn't be employed as they take away jobs from South Africans, drawing on the RDP and health systems. Minister Joe Modise the then Minister of Defense they add to the crime rate in the country. Even the Minister of Housing Mthembu-Mahanyele indicated that the escalating housing shortage in the country is caused by foreigners (Maharaj, 2004:9-11). According to HRW (2007:60) state officials are also said to be extorting money, killing and assaulting illegal immigrants. There are incidences mentioned where they are even pushed from moving trains on their way to repatriation centers (HRW, 2007:60).

## 2.9.3 The South African media

The end of apartheid in South Africa has seen a rise in xenophobia captured by the press, especially towards Zimbabweans and Mozambicans (Tevera & Zinyama, 2002:29). The South African media is seen as playing a role in the exacerbating xenophobia (McDonald & Jacobs, 2005:5). A large amount of South African newspaper coverage is said to be "anti-immigration and non-analytical". The press is responsible for painting the image of foreigners as criminals, illegal's and job stealers. This is said to perpetuate ill-considered stereotypes of immigrants in the following manner:

- The media misrepresent cross-border migration in the negative light and it seems like they feed off each other's opinions because they report in the same way without analysing the situation.
- The negativity is towards immigrants from Africa whereas foreigners from Europe and North America are seen in a more positive light.
- Although the South African policy on migration is being changed into a positive one that embraces immigration, with policies being more liberal and have a managerial approach

instead of just controlling the flow of migration, the attitudes of politicians and officials do not echo the sentiment.

- The press relies on police reports and wire services because they are free. The information is not correct and as reporters are not experts in migration issues, they just report issues as they are without investigating.
- South African press relies on sensational and reactionary issues to sell newspapers (McDonald & Jacobs 2005: 13-23, McDonald *et al* 1999:30).

The role of the press should change and focus on human rights issues and the contributions of migrants on the South African economy instead of concentrating on the negatives only (Maharaj 2004:8). The May 2008 coverage of the xenophobic violence by the press is applauded because it exposed the xenophobia and fostered informed analysis and debate, unlike previous reporting (Crush 2008:42). The term illegal is used to those from African countries and not those from non-African countries without proper documentation. The South African government is also using it (1999 White Paper on International Migration) and thus lending it some form of legitimacy, hence the xenophobic response from the public (Danso & McDonald 2000:18, McDonald *et al* 1999:30). The lack of a clear definition of illegal migration, causes the exaggerated and alarmist assessment of the situation by using terms like illegal border jumper, floods and aliens (Crush, 2001:7).

#### **2.9.4 South African attitudes towards foreigners**

South Africans are intolerant of foreigners and support restrictive policies (Crush & Williams 2005:16), unlike people from Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Mozambique who are said to be having a more relaxed attitude (McDonald & Jacobs 2005:5). From a study done by SAMP in 1998, one in every five South Africans felt that all foreigners from neighbouring countries in South Africa legally or not should be sent home. South Africans feel that the government should put more effort into policing like turning the electric fence to lethal mode (the fences were erected during the apartheid era to deter ANC guerillas and Mozambican refugees), increasing border patrols, foreigners to carry identity documents and penalising those who employ illegal immigrants (Crush 2001:13-16). According to Crush (2008:25) a study conducted in 2006 by SAMP indicated a 72% support for electric fence.

What is interesting about the attitudes of South Africans is that most of them have had little or no contact with foreigners and yet they are xenophobic. The attitude is passed on from secondary sources and accepted as fact (McDonald & Jacobs 2005:5, Crush 2008:31). Unskilled immigrants are more prone to be exposed to xenophobic tendencies than skilled immigrants (Millard 2006:38-39, Solomon 2000:3).

## 2.10 Measures South Africa has in place to manage illegal migration

South Africa's responses to migration are diverse, incoherent, inconsistent and essentially contradictory. The concern is more on control than the protection of migrants and management of migration. South Africa is using the same methods that were used by the apartheid government which were xenophobic. The country is more interested in skilled migrants than unskilled (Christie 1997:4).

According to Tevera & Zinyama (2002:31) the South African government has tried to put stringent measures in place to curb the inflow of foreigners especially the less educated and the less skilled by only recruiting skilled immigrants because they are improve the economy of the country. Immigration control regulations have been tightened by asking Zimbabweans to produce proof of confirmed and paid hotel accommodation or a letter of invitation from a business associate, friend or relative legally staying in South Africa. The letter should include the information on identity number, physical address, period of stay and proof that they will be able to sustain themselves whilst in South Africa, thus they should produce a letter from an employer indicating that they are employed in Zimbabwe and that they will return when they have finished their business in South Africa.

South Africa's measures to controlling the inflow are seen as ineffective and contribute to high levels of xenophobia and human rights abuse. It should rather take cognisance of the economic contributions made by migrants and deal with the issue in a humane manner (Maharaj 2004:2, Crush *et al* 2005(a):25). Deporting is not always a solution as it seems as merely putting a bandage on a complex issue rather than addressing the root causes (Ranchod 2005:15). Another measure that was taken by South Africa in conjunction with SADC regions was the drafting of the Protocol of Free Movement of People in 1995. The aim of the policy was to facilitate the

movement of citizens of SADC member countries. The protocol was concluded in May 1998. It had four phases:

- a visa-free entry of SADC nationals for short visits not exceeding a period of six months;
- Rights of residence extended to all SADC nationals;
- Right to work; and
- The elimination of all internal borders between SADC member states (Solomon 1997:1-5).

The Protocol was rejected by South Africa, Namibia and Botswana for the following reasons:

- It assumed that the free movement of people will result in the interdependence and integration of economies for the harmonious balanced and equitable development of the region; however that can only happen if the economies are of the same relative size. The South African Gross National Product (GNP) contributes 84% to Southern African regional GNP. The wide disparities and economic imbalances will thus impede the regional integration. For countries like South Africa, Botswana and Namibia, the free movement of people will add a burden on the socio-economic infrastructure as it will intensify the brain-drain to the core and consolidate the underdevelopment status of the region.
- Border Police, Customs and Excise officials of neighboring countries are known to be inefficient and corrupt and there is no centralised computerised data pool that would enable all member states to keep track of movements in third world country nationals.
- There is fear that the free movement of people will serve to boost the illicit activities of crime syndicates, which are estimated to be at 400.

Due to the above-mentioned problems/pitfalls in 1997 South Africa, Botswana and Namibia refused to sign the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons. The Facilitation of Movement of Persons was then developed. Its objectives were to:

- expand bilateral agreements as a step towards multilateral regional agreement;
- co-operation in preventing illegal movement of citizens;

- co-operation in improving control over external borders of SADC community; (iv) promotion of common policies with regard to immigration matters where necessary and feasible, and;
- facilitation of movement of citizens of member states by gradually removing obstacles which impede such movement.

The Facilitation of Movement of Persons is have been signed by nine states and South Africa and others are ratifying it (OKok *et al* 2006:64-67).

## 2.12 Conclusion

The end of apartheid in South Africa in 1994 has led to a high migration by citizens from SADC countries into South Africa. Zimbabwe is seen as a source of the majority of illegal immigrants because it is also a source of legal immigrants. The impact of illegal immigrants on the resources of the country cannot be confirmed due to lack of extensive research but at the same time it cannot be ignored. The high immigration of Zimbabwean immigrants has raised humanitarian concerns for South Africa and the recent xenophobic attacks on immigrants have exacerbated the issue. The methodology adopted in this study is explained in chapter three.

## CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter deals with the method that was used to conduct the study, as well as the preparation involved. It begins with brief descriptions of the study design, followed by descriptions of the population, study setting and sampling. Next, the direct study is described, followed by the methods of data collection, and method of data analysis. The ethical considerations are described in the last part of the chapter.

### 3.2 The research Design

The concept research design implies the overall plan of a research study (Hopkins & Antes, 1990: 456). A similar reference of this concept is that of Kerlinger (1986:27) who defined research design as a plan and structure of investigation. Bless and Smith (1995:63) views a research design as the planning of any scientific research from the first to the last step. These views are also endorsed by other researchers such as Babbie (1998:89) and Bogdan & Biklen (1992:58). Mouton (2001:55) also described a research design as a plan or blueprint of how one intends to conduct research. This will used both quantitative and qualitative research design.

### 3.2 Research Methodology

The methodology focuses on the research process and the kind of tools and procedures to be used (Mouton, 2001:56). Glass and McKay (1999:11) refer to methodology as doing research according to a particular process. This study will be used both quantitative qualitative research paradigms have been studied in depth. This was meant to select suitable paradigms for this research. The use of more than one paradigm is further meant to combine appropriate research perspectives and methods that are suitable for taking into account as many different aspects of a problem as possible.

### 3.3.1 Quantitative Methods

Quantitative research tends to be associated with measuring (Barnes, 1992:108). According to Good (1993:279) as well as Denzin and Lincoln (1994:4), quantitative studies emphasise the use of numerical measures to arrive at specific findings. Data collection in quantitative research is accumulated by means of inanimate instruments such as scales, tests, surveys, questionnaires and computers (Storbeck, 1994:73).

A quantitative paradigm allowed the researcher to best obtain an insider perspective of the socially constructed nature of reality as experienced by challenges of SADC. The quantitative research design further allows the researcher to gain an understanding of the life world of the challenges facing SADC with regard to refugee migration in South Africa. In addition, sufficiently detailed thick descriptions could be obtained from the respondents regarding their perceptions and experiences in their natural settings. Quantitative researcher is more interested with the process than the outcome or products of how people make sense of their lives, experiences and their structures of the world. Within a quantitative research paradigm, the researcher gathered knowledge and embarked on a social science research journey.

### 3.3.2 Qualitative Method

Wimmer and Dominick (1988:44-45), state that qualitative research describes or analyses a phenomenon without specifically measuring variables. No statistical analysis is involved in qualitative research although the data might be expressed numerically. In contrast, qualitative research is typically used to answer questions about the complex nature of phenomena, often with the purpose of describing and understanding the phenomena from the participant's point of view of constructivist or post positivist approach

Qualitative research deals mainly with unmeasurable features of research (Barnes 1992:108). According to Rudest am and Newton (1992:31), qualitative studies imply the data are in the form of words. This programme is useful in those categories concerning the understanding of human

phenomenon and for investigating the challenges facing SADC region with regard to illegal migration of Zimbabweans in Mopani District and management thereof.

### 3.3 Study area

The study will be conducted in South Africa's Limpopo Province, in the Mopane District. Limpopo shares international borders and districts with Zimbabwe's Matebeleland South and Masvingo provinces to the north and east, respectively. Mopani district has five local municipalities, namely, Ba-Phalaborwa, Greater Giyani, Greater Letaba, Maruleng and Greater Tzaneen. The area of the study is selected because it has many farms where unskilled immigrants are employed; it is 220 km from the Beitbridge border and is also the first main economic area after crossing the border into South Africa.

### 3.4 Population of the Study

The population of this research was a group of people about whom this research wanted to draw conclusions (Babbie, 1998). Not all the members of the population were studied, only those who were selected by means of purposive sampling were involved. The target population of the present research comprised government departments which controlling population of South Africa like Home Affairs, Police Service and Statistics and Zimbabweans migrants will be the part of the study. The total population of this study is comprised of 2500

### 3.5 Sampling

A sample according to De Vos *et al* (2005:194) comprises of elements of the population considered for actual inclusion in the study. Samples are drawn because researchers want to understand the population from which they are drawn and to explain facets of the population. A combination of non-probability sampling processes will be employed in the study in the form of snowball, purposive and accidental sampling. These sampling processes are chosen because they are less complicated and more economical in terms of time and expense (Welman *et al* 2005:68).

This study will the sample of study is characterised by Home Affairs Staff, Police Service staff, Zimbabweans (Legal and Illegal Migrant), Traditional Leader and other stakeholders.

### 3.6 Sampling Methods

According to McMillan and Schumacher (2001:169), the nature of the sampling procedure used in a particular study is usually described by one or more adjectives, such as random sampling, convenience sampling or stratified sampling. This describes the technique used to form the sample. According to Leedy and Ormrod (2001:218), in non-probability sampling, the researcher has no way of forecasting or guaranteeing that each element of the population will be presented in the sample. Furthermore, some members of the population have little or no chance of being sampled. The selected type for this research was therefore the purposive or purposeful sampling. Purposive sampling has been selected for this research. It is appropriate for the research problem for this study.

A purposive sampling method will be used to reach out to employees of government departments to be included in the study. A purposive sampling method refers to a sample in which the researcher deliberately obtain units of analysis in such a manner that the sample obtained may be regarded as being representative of the relevant population.

### 3.7 Sampling size

According to Wimmer and Domminick (1988:68), determining an adequate sample size is one of the most controversial aspects of sampling. Best and Kahn (1993:19) stated that there is no fixed number or percentage of subjects that determine the size of an adequate sample. It may depend upon the nature and the population of interest or data gathered and analysed

The total sample size consisted of fifty participants selected from SADC; Zimbabweans lived in Limpopo province, Home affairs employers, statistics officers of South Africa, and other stakeholders of Limpopo province. The study used self-administered questionnaires with 5-likert questions for both learners and teachers.

In this study, all the fifty (50) personnel of public workers were given a questionnaire. A sample size of Fifty (50) will be utilised for the study. (20) Illegal Zimbabwean immigrants, 20 legal migrants, 5 police members and 5 individuals per department from the Department of Home Affairs, Health and Social Development, South African Police Services, will be selected for involvement in the study. The rationale for choosing 20 illegal immigrants is that due to the clandestine nature of their migration, it may not be feasible to access a bigger sample.

### 3.8 Data Collection Methods

As noted by Mouton (2002:156), data collection subsists in the use of a variety of methods and techniques of data collection in a single study. Schulze (2002b: 14) maintains that data should meet the requirements of a qualitative or quantitative research design or a design consisting of a combination of these approaches. The data collection methods in this study combined these two approaches. In an effort to acquire different facets of the same problem (symbolic reality) of the participants (Berg 1995: 4) and obtain more valid results in the research, the following three methods were used to collect data: document analysis, and questionnaires.

#### 3.8.1 Questionnaires

For many good reasons, the questionnaire is the most widely used technique for obtaining information from subjects (McMillan and Schumacher 2001: 257). Furthermore, McMillan and Schumacher (2001: 257) note that a questionnaire is relatively economical, has the same questions for all subjects and can ensure anonymity.

The instrument's items, format and procedures were taken from Noveno (2003); however, some modifications were made by the researcher to fit to the current study. The first part of the instrument contained a statement of purpose and directions, and was designed to collect biographical or personal data that include gender, age, and civil status, educational attainment and years of work experience.

In this study, all the fifty (50) personnel of public workers were given a questionnaire to complete prior to the onset of the focus-group discussion. The questions contained close ended questions addressing various aspects of education and how improvement could be made to the present system on challenges of SADC.

### 3.8.2 Open ended interviews

Data will be collected from illegal Zimbabwean immigrants who will be the respondents in the study, through a structured interview questionnaire. This method of data collection is characterised by having a set of predetermined questions on an interview questionnaire, in which the order of questions may be varied. Some questions may not be asked depending on the organisational context. Additional questions may be added to get more clarity and the nature of questions may be altered to suit the educational level and background of respondents (De Vos *et al* 2005: 296). The rationale for utilizing a structured interview schedule is that managers in government departments have no time to fill in questionnaires. An interview schedule will be appropriate for illegal Zimbabwean immigrants because of the clandestine nature of migration and xenophobic attacks.

### 3.9 Data of Analysis

#### 3.10.2 Informed consent

Data will be sorted, coded, organised and indexed in a manner that will make it easier for the researcher to interpret and understand. Text will be summarised by checking key themes, phrases or passages that will be used in a more detailed analysis. The process will be guided by the original aim of the study (Payne & Payne 2004: 36 - 40; Mason 1996:106 – 109).

Statistical package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used to analyze the questionnaires which were used to interview members of community. The obtained information from questionnaires will be first coded for each and every question and then entered in the Microsoft excel spreadsheet in words and numerical. The entered data from the spreadsheet was exported to the SPSS so the data could be analyzed to yield the results. SPSS is much more reliable and provides a board range of capabilities for the entire analytical process. With SPSS you can generate

decision-making information quickly using powerful statistics, understand and effectively present your results with others using a variety of reporting methods. Results from your data analysis enables you to make smarter decisions more quickly by uncovering key, patterns, and trends.

### **3.10 Ethical Consideration**

In the context of research, according to Saunders, Lewis and Thornhill, (2000:130), ethics refers to the appropriateness of your behavior in relation to the rights of those who become the subject of your work, or are affected by it. Most ethical issues in research fall into one of four categories namely, protection from harm, informed consent, right to privacy, and honesty with professional colleagues (Leedy & Ormrod, 2001:107-108):

#### **3.10.1 Protection from harm**

In cases where the nature of a study involved creating a small amount of psychological discomfort, participants, would know about it ahead of time, and any necessary debriefing or counseling provided immediately after their participation.

#### **3.10.2 Informed consent**

Participants were told in advance about the nature of the study to be conducted, and were given the choice to withdraw from the study at any time, as participation in a study should be strictly voluntary. It was suggested that an informed consent form that describes the nature of research as well the nature of the required participation be presented to participants in a research study.

#### **3.10.3 Right to privacy**

The research project respected participants' right to privacy. In general, a researcher kept the nature and quality of participants' performance strictly confidential.

### 3.10.4 Honesty with professional colleagues

Researchers should report their findings in a complete and honest fashion, without misrepresenting what they have done or intentionally misleading others as to the nature of their findings. Under no circumstances should a researcher fabricate data to support a particular conclusion, no matter how seemingly 'noble' that conclusion may be.

### 3.11 Conclusion

This chapter has covered all issues concerning overall research methodology adopted, population identification, sampling procedures and units of analysis, the means of access to study sites and methods for data collection and analysis. The issue of how data were collected and analysed were dealt with in this chapter. The next chapter deals with the interpretation and analysis of the collected data.

Table 4.1: gender status of the respondents

	Frequency	Percentage
Male	24	47
Female	26	53
Total	50	100

Out of the 50 responses the observations made were that 24 were males and 26 were females which constitute 47% and 53% respectively while 2% of respondents had not indicate their gender (See table 4.1). This means that males were in majority of migration.

Table 4.2: Employment status of the respondents

	Frequency	Percentages
Full time	6	12
Part time	7	14
Unemployed	31	62
Pensioner	6	12
Total	50	100

## CHAPTER 4: DATA PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

### 4.1 Introduction

This purpose of this chapter presents data collected by means of questionnaire. The research results were presented and data were analysed and interpreted. A Likert questionnaire was used to collect data. The questionnaire used was divided into three sections, viz., A and B. Section A entails gender, marital status, number of dependants and educational qualifications of the respondents. Section B sought to determine the involvement of the respondents in the challenges facing SADC with regard to migrations.

### 4.2 Biographical information

**Table 4.1: gender status of the respondents**

	Frequency	Percentage
Male	24	47
Female	26	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Out of the 50 responses the observations made were that 24 were males and 26 were females which constitute 53% and 47% respectively while 2% of respondents had not indicate their gender (See table 4.1). This means that males were in majority of migration.

**Table 4.2: Employment status of the respondents**

	Frequency	Percentages
Full time	6	12
Part time	7	13
Unemployed	31	62
Pensioner	6	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

In terms employment status the majority of the respondents were unemployed, that is, 62%. Ironically, 25% of the respondents were employed although the majority of this category was employed on a part-time (i.e. 13% and 12% full-time employed). In addition, pensioners constitute 13% of the total number of respondents (See Table 4.3).

**Table 4.3: Income per month Income of the household head/month (R) Percentage distribution (%)**

Monthly income	frequency	Percentage distribution (%)
R100-R1000	32	64
R1000-R2000	10	20
R2000-R5000	4	8
R5000-R10 000	2	4
R10 000 plus	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Results found out that from 89% of the participants, only one person contributed towards the demands of the family and for a big family of about 8 people or more, a lower salary hindered the dependants to live a healthy standardised life. People usually failed to follow proper sanitation and hygiene practices due to the lack of money, which has to cover all their basic needs such as water, food, education, health.

The choice of facilities in terms of service delivery and sanitation was also affected by the lack of money which usually led to people choosing unimproved facilities like pit latrines and Dams (for their water supply), which might prove to be very detrimental to their health. These were preferred because they do not require any maintenance and therefore no money will be spent.

**Table 4.4: Educational information of the respondents**

	Frequency	Percentages
Below matric	24	48
Matric	9	19
Diploma	12	23
Degree	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

The responses from the respondents have shown that the majority (55%) had no matriculation certificates. Only 19% of the respondents had passed Matriculation exams, and those that have diplomas constituted 23% and those with degrees made 10% of the total number of respondents (See Table 4.4). However, 14% of the respondents did not respond on the question which could be because they did not understand the question or had no education at all.

### 4.3 Interpretation of Quantitative data

Quantitative research methods include the implementation of statistics to measure data. Statistics, according to Leedy (1993:244), are a very simple matter but are a powerful tool in the hands of the researcher who is able to view their nature and interrelationships more understandably. Through statistics, therefore the researcher is able to conceptualise what otherwise might be incomprehensible hence the advantages of this study. The facts gathered from questionnaires were translated into tabular form. This was done so that the facts (statistics) would speak more clearly.

**Table 4.5: Zimbabweans are much more likely to be undocumented and much less likely to have attained refugee status**

	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	1	2
Agree	3	6
Uncertain	2	4
Disagree	18	36
Strongly disagree	26	52
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Tables 4.5 indicate that 4 respondents which constituting 8 percentage of the total sampled were strongly agreed with the statement while 2 respondents were uncertain with the statement. Table 4.5 shows that 44 respondents which constituting 88 percentage of the sampled were disagreed with statement. The results revealed that majority of the respondents which constituting 88 were disagreed with the statement of Zimbabweans are much more likely to be undocumented and much less likely to have attained refugee status.

**Table 4.6: Migration to South Africa is thus male dominated**

	Frequency	Percentages
Strongly Disagree	6	12
Disagree	12	24
uncertain	2	4
Strongly Agree	12	24
Agree	18	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.6 shows that 18 respondents which constituting 36 percent of total sampled were strongly disagreed with the statement while 2 respondents were uncertain. Again the table indicate that 30 respondents which constituting 60 percent of the total sampled were agreed with the statement. The table revealed that Migration to South Africa is thus male dominated.

**Table 4.7: Lack of official statistics, it is possible to profile the demographic of Zimbabweans in South Africa based on the available data**

	Frequency	Percentages
Strongly Disagree	8	16
Disagree	30	60
uncertain	2	4
Strongly Agree	12	24
Agree	4	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.7 shows that 38 respondents which constituting 76 percent of the total sampled was disagreed with the statement while 4 percent of the total were uncertain of the statement. Again table 4.7 indicates that 18 respondents which constituting 32 percent of the total sampled were agreed with the statement. The results indicates that Lack of official statistics, it is impossible to profile the demographic of Zimbabweans in South Africa based on the available data.

**Table 4.8: Zimbabwean migrants are a ‘mixed-flow’, with different levels of vulnerability and impacts on the South African society**

	Frequency	Percentages
Strongly Disagree	0	0
Disagree	0	0
uncertain	0	0
Strongly Agree	30	60
Agree	20	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.8 indicates that all respondents of the total sampled was strongly agrees with statement. Thus the Zimbabwean migrants are a ‘mixed-flow’, with different levels of vulnerability and impacts on the South African society. The results revealed that refugee migration because great damage to South Africa as a results of urbanization.

**Table 4.9: Migrants do look for work, irrespective of their reasons for leaving their home country**

	Frequency	Percentages
Strongly Disagree	10	20
Disagree	20	40
uncertain	10	20
Strongly Agree	6	12
Agree	4	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.9 shows that 30 respondents which constituting 60 percent of the total sampled was strongly with the statement while 10 respondents were uncertain with statement due to the lack of information. Table 4.9 indicates that 10 respondents which constituting 20 percent of the total sampled was agreed with the statement. The revealed that majority of respondent disagreed with the statement of Migrants do look for work, irrespective of their reasons for leaving their home country.

**Table 4.10: Economic migrants is blurred, resulting in a large amount of undocumented migration**

	Frequency	Percentages
Strongly Disagree	6	12
Disagree	10	20
uncertain	6	12
Strongly Agree	10	20
Agree	18	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.10 reveals that 16 respondents which constituting 32 percent of the total sampled was disagreed with the statement while 6 respondents were uncertain with statement due to the lack of information. Again Table 4.10 indicates that 28 respondents which constituting 56 percent of the total sampled was agreed with the statement. The majority of respondents which constituting

56 percent of the total sampled was agreed with the economic migrants is blurred, resulting in a large amount of undocumented migration.

**Table 4.11: Zimbabwe is South Africa's only neighbouring country that does not have a free visa policy**

	Frequency	Percentages
Strongly Disagree	4	8
Disagree	30	60
uncertain	2	4
Strongly Agree	10	20
Agree	4	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.11 indicates that 34 respondents which constituting 68 percent of the total sampled was disagreed with the statement while 4 percent of the respondents were uncertain with the statement due to the insufficient information. Again the Table reveals that 14 respondents which constituting 28 percent of the total sampled was agreed with the statement. The Table shows that majority of the respondents was agreed with the statement of the Zimbabwe is South Africa's only neighbouring country that does not have a free visa policy.

**Table 4.12: Zimbabwe's unresolved political and economic crisis is major cause of refugee migration**

	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	2	4
Agree	4	8
Uncertain	7	14
Disagree	8	16
Strongly disagree	29	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.12 indicates that 6 respondents which constituting 12 percent of the total sampled was agree with the statement while 7 respondents were uncertain with the statement due to the lack of information. Table 4.12 revealed that 37 respondents which constituting 74 percent of the total sample was disagreed with the statement. The result from the above Table indicates that majority of respondents which constituting 74 percent of the total sampled was disagreed with the Zimbabwe's unresolved political and economic crisis is major cause of refugee migration.

**Table 4.13: Individual economic challenges such as poverty, unemployment, and homelessness, may not however, be the only factors contributing to international relocation**

	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	1	2
Agree	8	16
Unsure	4	8
Disagree	10	20
Strongly disagree	27	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.13 reveals that 9 respondents which constituting 18 percent of the total sampled was agree with the statement while 4 respondents were uncertain with the statement due to the lack of information. Table 4.13 reveals that 37 respondents which constituting 74 percent of the total sample was disagreed with the statement. The result from the above Table indicates that majority of respondents which constituting 74 percent of the total sampled was disagreed with the Individual economic challenges such as poverty, unemployment, and homelessness, may not however, be the only factors contributing to international relocation

**Table 4.14: Zimbabweans essentially face hardship in dealing with institutions and xenophobia**

	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	10	20
Agree	5	10
Uncertain	10	20
Disagree	10	20
Strongly disagree	15	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.14 shows that 15 respondents which constituting 30 percent of the total sampled was agree with the statement while 10 respondents were uncertain with the statement due to the lack of information. Table 4.14 reveals that 25 respondents which constituting 50 percent of the total sample was disagreed with the statement. The result from the above Table indicates that majority of respondents which constituting 50 percent of the total sampled was disagreed with the Zimbabweans essentially face hardship in dealing with institutions and xenophobia.

**Table 4.15: Zimbabweans also access South Africa through other Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries**

	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	1	2
Agree	2	4
Uncertain	8	16
Disagree	24	48
Strongly disagree	15	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.15 indicates that 3 respondents which constituting 6 percent of the total sampled was agree with the statement while 8 respondents were uncertain with the statement due to the lack of information. Table 4.15 reveals that 39 respondents which constituting 78 percent of the total sample was disagreed with the statement. The result from the above Table indicates that majority

of respondents which constituting 78 percent of the total sampled was disagreed with the Zimbabweans also access South Africa through other Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries.

**Table 4.16: Zimbabwean migrant cause lack of jobs to the South Africans**

	Frequency	Percentages
Strongly Disagree	6	12
Disagree	6	12
uncertain	2	4
Strongly Agree	12	24
Agree	24	48
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.16 reveals that 36 respondents which constituting 72 percent of the total sampled was agree with the statement while 2 respondents were uncertain with the statement due to the lack of information. Table 4.16 reveals that 12 respondents which constituting 24 percent of the total sample was disagreed with the statement. The result from the above Table indicates that majority of respondents which constituting 70 percent of the total sampled was disagreed with the Zimbabwean migrant cause lack of jobs to the South Africans.

**Table 4.17: Migration is pushed by political (oppression, persecution, war and violence) and economic factors**

	Frequency	Percentages
Strongly Disagree	6	12
Disagree	6	12
uncertain	2	4
Strongly Agree	12	24
Agree	24	48
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.17 indicates that 36 respondents out of 50 participants which comprises 72 percent of the total sample agree with the statement that Migration is pushed by political (oppression, persecution, war and violence) and economic factors. Only 2 respondents who comprise only 4 percent of the total sample are uncertain about the statement whereas 12 respondents out of 50 who comprise only 24% disagree with the statement that migration is pushed by political and economic. Looking into the 72 percent of the respondents who agree with the statement that migration in Zimbabwe is pushed by political (oppression, persecution, war and violence) and economic factors, one can agree that migration is pushed by both political and economical factors.

**Table 4.18: Foreign people increase diseases**

	Frequency	Percentages
Strongly Disagree	4	8
Disagree	30	60
uncertain	2	4
Strongly Agree	10	20
Agree	4	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.18 states that, 34 respondents out of 50 who comprise 68 percent, of the total sample strongly disagreed that foreign people increase diseases, while only 2 respondents out of 50 who comprise only 4 percent of the total sample are uncertain with the statement. 14 respondents out of 50 who comprise 24 percent of the total sample strongly agree that foreign people increase availability of diseases. The majority of the respondents disagree with the statement that foreign people increase diseases. That means South Africans affected by disease, caused by foreign people are not main cause.

**Table 4.19: Refugee migration is the major cause of crime**

	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	2	4
Agree	4	8
Uncertain	7	14
Disagree	8	16
Strongly disagree	19	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.19 indicates that 27 respondents out of 50 who comprise 74 percent of the total sample disagree with the statement that refugee migration is the major of crime in South Africa. 7 respondents out of 50 who comprise 14 percent of the total sample are uncertain with the statement. Only 6 respondents out of 50 who comprise only 12 percent of the total sample agree that refugee migration is the major cause of crime. The majority of the respondent disagree with the statement that refugee migration is the major cause of crime. This does not mean that the Zimbabwean refugees are not responsible for some kinds of crime in South Africa, but the refugee migration is not the major cause of crime in South Africa

**Table 4.20: Zimbabwean migrant cause urbanization in South Africa**

	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	1	2
Agree	8	16
Unsure	4	8
Disagree	10	20
Strongly disagree	27	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.20 indicates that 9 respondents which constituting 18 percent of the total sampled was agree with the statement while 4 respondents were uncertain with the statement due to the lack of information. Table 4.20 reveals that 37 respondents which constituting 74 percent of the total sample was disagreed with the statement. The result from the above Table indicates that majority

of respondents which constituting 74 percent of the total sampled was disagreed with the Zimbabwean migrant cause urbanization in South Africa this means that Zimbambbeans they migrate to rural areas in huge.

**Table 4.21: Employers in Zimbabwe are well aware of this dynamic: they give citizens working in industry the minimum wage**

	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	30	60
Agree	5	10
Uncertain	5	10
Disagree	5	10
Strongly disagree	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.21 shows that 35 respondents which constituting 70 percent of the total sampled was agree with the statement while 5 respondents were uncertain with the statement due to the lack of information. Again, Table 4.21 reveals that 10 respondents which constituting 20 percent of the total sample was disagreed with the statement. The result from the above Table indicates that majority of respondents which constituting 70 percent of the total sampled was agreed with the employers in Zimbabwe are well aware of this dynamic: they give citizens working in industry the minimum wage

**Table 4.22: Xenophobia increase poverty in South Africa**

	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	10	20
Agree	25	50
Uncertain	5	10
Disagree	5	10
Strongly disagree	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4.22 shows that 35 respondents which constituting 70 percent of the total sampled was agree with the statement while 5 respondents were uncertain with the statement due to the lack of information. Again, Table 4.22 reveals that 10 respondents which constituting 20 percent of the total sample was disagreed with the statement. The result from the above Table indicates that majority of respondents which constituting 70 percent of the total sampled was agreed with the Xenophobia increase poverty in South Africa.

#### 4.4 Analysis of data collected through interview

Regarding the qualitative data, a simple qualitative data analysis method was used. Henning (2004:104) describes a tool for reduced, condensed and grouped data. Steps on how to process and analyse qualitative data are documented by several authors who wrote on research methods, including Henning (2004:67) as well as Rubin and Rubin (2005:21). Firstly all the data must be transcribed. It must be read and re-read for the researcher to become familiar with the data, and notes must be made to capture recurring concepts, common themes, events and other patterns in the data.

##### 4.4.1 The reason for migrating illegally into South Africa

Respondent 1 revealed that most of illegal Zimbabwean immigrants were easier to enter the country illegally than legally hence their decision to enter illegally.

Respondent 2 indicated that applying for a visa is said to be costing (around R2000) and a lengthy waiting period of up to three years. There was, however, no consistency in the waiting period because others said from three months whilst others said three years but, whatever the waiting period, it discouraged them from applying for visas.

Respondent 3 shows that since Zimbabwe's economy had dropped the currency used is either South African rand or the US currency which is too costly for ordinary Zimbabweans. Some Zimbabweans indicated that they did not have passports and thus couldn't apply for visas. They cited the long waiting period and the fact that at some stage Zimbabwe stopped issuing passports

due to lack of material, as a reason for getting into South Africa illegally. Some said they would not wait and starve whereas there were other means of getting into South Africa easily.

Respondents 4 said: *“Applying for a passport was difficult because one needed a birth certificate and for one to apply for it one needed to have a spouse present and it is difficult because most spouses are in other countries like South Africa and Botswana looking for greener pastures”*.

Respondents 5 indicated that due to the political turmoil they had to flee from their country to seek asylum in South Africa and thus had no time to apply for visas.

Respondent 6 said *“I had a tailoring and upholstery business in Zimbabwe but then it was required that I should register my business and pay levies and I realised that if I keep my business running it would be at a loss hence my decision to migrate illegally to South Africa as the currency here is much stronger than the Zimbabwean one”*.

The urge to migrate into South Africa was so strong that Respondent 7 said *“I would rather be mauled by wild life whilst trying to cross the border to South Africa than stay in Zimbabwe and be unable to fend for my family”*. From the interviews in this regard it becomes clear that, the pressing reasons are mostly economic than political.

#### **4.4.2 Pressing issues that led to Zimbabweans to flee from their country to South Africa**

When asked whether there were any pressing issues forcing them to flee from Zimbabwe to South Africa almost all respondents indicated that they left due to the poor economic conditions and came to South Africa to look for employment.

Respondents 2 were said to be in South Africa to pursue small businesses. In this study, the majority of immigrants came to seek employment. Respondent 3 indicated that most immigrants come into the country to look for employment. The high inflation rate makes it difficult for them to afford basic commodities, shortage of food especially mealie meal which could only be bought

in the “black market” for exorbitant price, a high rate of unemployment. Others indicated that employment was there but due to the poor currency it was like working for nothing.

Respondent 3 indicated that the drought in Zimbabwe made it difficult for them to engage in subsistence farming.

Respondent 4 revealed that the takeover of white-owned farms is also said to contribute to the high shortage of food because farms were left unutilised. The South African currency is seen as stronger with vast opportunities, they can thus be able to send remittances to their families in a form of basic commodities and money. As indicated earlier on in this chapter Zimbabwe is using the South African and US currency exclusively, the respondent 5 indicated that they had to flee their country due to political persecutions with some respondents indicating that they nearly lost their lives.

The fact that Zimbabwe does not offer loans to start small businesses and unlike South Africa, there were no grants either was one of the reasons mentioned for migrating to South Africa illegally. There were some who came to South Africa for trade in crafts and also for buying commodities for resale back in Zimbabwe. In this instance, one can conclude that there are basically two pressing issues for Zimbabweans to migrate into South Africa, namely, economic and to escape political persecutions. Economic factors feature high with few indicating political persecution as a factor.

#### **4.4.3 The role played by social networks in the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into South Africa**

Respondent 1 indicated that they came to South Africa alone without knowing anyone. Some sold livestock and handcrafts and used the money to bribe officials and to pay for transport to help them migrate illegally to South Africa. To adjust and find a place to stay in South Africa on arrival, they were helped by other Zimbabweans who were already in the country and had shelter, who accommodated them for a short while until they found their own shelter.

Respondent 2 revealed that some were assisted by family members to migrate i.e. brothers, sisters and parents. Of those who came with the assistance of family members, i.e. brothers, sisters and parents. They were provided with food, shelter and were also assisted to get jobs. Some were loaned money for travelling and which was paid back once they obtained jobs.

Respondent 3 said *“when I saw a friend who came to South Africa working on the farm coming back home with groceries and other commodities, I was inspired to migrate illegally to South Africa so I can also look after my family”*.

Respondent 3 indicates that social networks stimulate migration because when other migrants return home from South Africa, they brought goods bought in South Africa, and those who wished to migrate were then motivated to do so.

Respondent 4 said that they already had family members who had migrated illegally in the country which made it easier for them to cross the border because they were provided with transport money, bribes to cross the border had been paid, were offered accommodation, food and some jobs were even arranged for them.

Respondent 5 indicated that they used to come to South Africa illegally for trading purposes and then decided to stay and look for employment.

From the responses it can be deduced that social networks played a role in the migration of Zimbabweans from their country, with family members offering transport fees, shelter, food and helping illegal immigrants in securing jobs. Some came into the country without knowing anyone but were accommodated by other Zimbabweans who were already in the country. Respondent 6 indicated that the majority of illegal immigrants are said to have contacts in destination areas.

#### 4.4.4 The socio-economic impact of illegal migration in South Africa

To determine the socio-economic impact of illegal migration seven questions were asked and they were as follows: (i) employment details of illegal immigrants, (ii) their perception of the South African labour system, (iii) their views on the treatment they receive from their employers, (iv) their contribution to the South African economy, (v) access to health facilities, (vi) access to social welfare grants, and (vii) perceptions of the attitudes of South Africans towards them.

##### 4.4.4.1 Employment details of illegal immigrants

In determining the socio-economic impact of illegal migration in South Africa respondents were asked whether they were employed and the kind of employment in which they were engaged.

Respondent 1 indicated that most male were unemployed and survived by doing odd jobs like painting, gardening, building and other jobs South Africans offered them.

Respondent 2 revealed that most women they were employed in restaurants and clothing stores, although a male Zimbabwean source said they were indeed prostitutes. There were those who were self employed and were selling crafts, doing upholstery and had small stalls where they sold vegetables and fruits. Some did electrical work like fixing fridges and cars. They, however, have not created any jobs for South Africans as some have suggested.

This might be due to the clandestine nature of their migration. A few had steady jobs and were employed as domestic workers, boilermakers and builders.

Respondent 3 revealed that most of such immigrants are involved in informal employment sectors of the country where there is likely to be a competition of work and resources with the locals.

#### 4.4.4.2 Illegal Zimbabweans' perception of the South African labour system

In response to the question whether they thought the South African labour system was fair to illegal Zimbabweans, respondent 1 indicated that they were not treated fairly. Respondent 2 said they were treated fairly. It seems like when they were referring to a fair treatment they related it mostly to remuneration than working conditions because those who said they were treated well indicated they were paid the following salaries:-

Domestic workers – R800 – R1200 pm, restaurant employees – R300 a week, auto electricians - R4000 pm, odd jobs R300 – R350 a week, boiler maker – R6000 pm.

The majority of those who said they were not treated fairly gave the following reasons:

They were given hard labour which South Africans refused to do and were paid less than what a South African would be paid if he/she was doing the same job.

They worked long hours and also weekends without remuneration for overtime worked.

They had no choice over the way they were treated by South Africans because they were in the country illegally and felt that South Africans took advantage of that fact.

#### 4.4.4.3 Views on the treatment received from employers by illegal Zimbabwean immigrants

Respondent 1 said they were treated well by their employers. It was interesting to note that almost all respondents indicated that their previous employers treated them badly.

Respondent 2 indicated that they were treated badly by their employers were females. There were a few who mentioned that they were sometimes treated well.

Respondent 3 indicated that he had no idea because he had just arrived in South Africa and had not been employed to form an opinion.

#### 4.4.4.4 The contribution of illegal Zimbabweans on the South African economy

Almost all the respondents argued that illegal Zimbabwean immigrants contributed to the South African economy. The following reasons were given:

Respondent 1 indicated that they were contributing through the buying of commodities since South Africa was one of the countries supporting the economy of Zimbabwe.

Respondent 2 revealed that most Zimbabweans were buying everything from South Africa, starting with mealie-meal to other basic commodities. These goods were bought to support families in Zimbabwe and also for resale, hence the South African formal and informal business sectors were booming.

Respondent 3 indicated that the bribes that the South African police extorted from them helped boost the economy of the country.

Respondent 4 indicated that since illegal Zimbabwean immigrants did not have access to facilities like clean water and housing. They did not impact negatively on the economy of the country.

Respondent 1 revealed that South Africa was also benefiting through cheap labour as illegal Zimbabweans were paid less than South Africans, and sometimes worked for free because South Africans would call the police when they were supposed to pay them.

Respondent 2 shows that they helped in improving productivity at a lesser cost, especially on farms during planting and harvesting as the majority of them worked there.

Respondent 1 said they were offering skills in engineering and construction.

Respondent 2 said that stadiums for 2010 and Reconstruction and Development Programme houses were built by Zimbabweans for a less cost. They do hard labour and take jobs that South Africans refuse to do.

Respondents 3 indicated that illegal immigrants contributed nothing to the economy of South Africa whilst some even said that most illegal Zimbabwean immigrants are engaged in survival crimes like housebreaking, which were seen as bad for the country. From the research findings it proves that illegal immigrants contributed positively to the South African economy through buying of commodities to send to Zimbabwe, cheap labour, high production especially in the farms since they were paid less than South Africans.

Respondent 4 indicated that immigrants who enter South Africa for trade contribute to the economy of South Africa via purchasing of goods.

Respondent 5 shows that labour intensive sectors like agriculture and mining benefit through low production expenditure. South Africa seems to be spending less on production whether in the formal or informal employment sectors because they pay illegal immigrants less than they would pay South Africans.

#### **4.4.4.5 Access to health facilities**

To establish the impact of illegal migration by Zimbabweans on the health system, the respondents were asked whether they are able to access health services.

Respondent 1 indicated that they accessed health services i.e., clinics and hospitals without problems and the clinics did not ask for identity documents in order to offer them medical treatment.

Respondent 2 indicated that some nurses were xenophobic and diagnosed them with sexually transmitted infections without even running tests.

Respondent 3 indicated that some nurses would not even touch them. They were accused by some nurses of selling medicine to other Zimbabweans or taking the medication to Zimbabwe and would thus be only offered pain killers for all their ailments. Generally, they were impressed that health services were free as compared to their country.

In this study it would be impossible for illegal immigrants to afford to pay for services whilst the majority was unemployed. Respondent 4 said they would not go to health centres and preferred buying their medication at supermarkets or would rather go back to Zimbabwe than face arrest and deportation.

Respondent 5 indicated that they would be arrested if they went to health centres without the proper documentation allowing them to stay in South Africa. Some respondents indicated that although they never used any health facility in South Africa, should they get sick they would use them because they heard from other illegal Zimbabwean immigrants that the services were accessible.

Respondent 6 revealed that the majority of illegal Zimbabwean immigrants had access to health facilities in South Africa, according to the findings of the study. The most utilised health facility is the Giyani Health Centre in Mopani. Even those who haven't been sick indicated that should a need arise they would use the facilities. The fact that health services were free and having an identity document was not a requirement encouraged most illegal immigrants to use the facilities even though Respondent 7 mentioned that illegal immigrants were likely to be excluded from having access to health services.

#### 4.4.4.6 Access to social welfare grants

When asked whether they thought illegal Zimbabweans should have access to social welfare grants a respondent 1 said they thought they should have access to social welfare grants and some said they shouldn't.

Respondent 2, ' yes indicated housing, disability grants, old age pension, child support grant and other types of grants like food parcels and loans to start small businesses.

Respondent 3 indicated that South Africa had the capacity to take care of its own people and foreigners and should thus take care of everyone living in it.

Respondent 4 indicated that illegal Zimbabweans who have been in the country for more than twenty years should have access to grants.

Respondent 5 indicated that they had no intention of settling in South Africa and would like to go back to their country as soon as things got back to normal, and thus did not want any grants and only required jobs. They indicated that getting grants would keep them in the country and that is not what they wanted. Grants were said to be for South Africans and not for foreigners. Other respondents indicated that since they did not have South African identity documents they did not think about accessing social welfare grants. Another respondent indicated that it would be pushing boundaries for one to expect to get welfare grants whilst one was in the country illegally.

#### 4.5 Conclusion

During the interviews it was apparent that most illegal immigrants had no idea of what social welfare grants were available. What they wanted was jobs, food and money to start small businesses. Respondent 6 revealed that only immigrants who have permanent residence are entitled to social assistance in South Africa.

#### 4.4.4.7 Perceptions on the attitudes of South Africans towards illegal Zimbabwean immigrants

Respondent 1 felt that South Africans were xenophobic, and treated illegal immigrants like animals. Illegal immigrants are accused of bringing diseases like sexually transmitted infections, cholera and increasing the crime rate (theft) and prostitution.

Respondent 2 indicated that the police have been mentioned by almost all the respondents as highly xenophobic, extorting money from them, or threatening to deport them if they refused to pay.

### 3.1 Introduction

There was only one respondent who was exposed to violence where the house she was renting was stoned just because she was a foreigner. A lot of the respondents mentioned that South Africa needs to understand that the situation in Zimbabwe was beyond their control and that during the apartheid era Zimbabweans helped South Africans who were in exile. They felt that South Africans should return the favour.

Respondent 3 said South Africans were not xenophobic indicated that they were offered shelter, food, clothes and sometimes offered jobs. The Tsonga are said to be more tolerant of illegal Zimbabweans than the Vendas and Zulus who were likely to call the police on them if they were to pay them for services rendered. Only one respondent could not respond to the question because he was only in the country for a week. The Tsonga are seen as more tolerant and kind because they offered them food and sometimes even clothes and shelter.

## 4.5 Conclusion

In this chapter an analysis of the research findings was presented. Data was collected from twenty (20) illegal Zimbabweans in town and twenty (20) from an informal settlement called Mopani just five kilometers outside Giyani on the way to Tzaneen and from six (6) officials from government departments of Health and Social Development, Home Affairs and The South African Police Service. The aim of the chapter was to investigate the socio-economic impact that illegal Zimbabweans have in South Africa and the measures taken by the South African government to deal with illegal migration. Chapter five will draw conclusions from the research findings together with literature review outlined in chapter two. The chapter will also make recommendations.

## CHAPTER 5: FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

### 5.1 Introduction

This chapter draws conclusions based on the research findings and literature review on the socio-economic impact of illegal Zimbabwean immigrants in South Africa and the measures taken by the South African government in dealing with the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into South Africa. Recommendations based on the findings and literature review will also be made.

### 5.2 Major Findings

- The majority of illegal immigrants are in South Africa because they are looking for jobs.
- The findings of this study indicate that it was a tendency of employers both in formal and informal settings to report illegality of immigrants to avoid paying them.

5.3 The Department of Home Affairs officials blamed the South African Police Service for the high rate of illegal Zimbabweans in the country.

• The Department of Home Affairs indicated that it does not have resources to manage the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into the country and has to rely on the South African Police Service to manage it

#### 5.3.1 The South African Government

- According to research findings, it is easier for immigrants to enter the country illegally than legally because of the stringent measures put to control entry into South Africa.
- In this study, immigrants indicated that it cost a R50 bribe to enter the country illegally. This shows that there are no measures in place to deal with corruption by officials

- Illegal Zimbabwean immigrants have no intention of applying for grants but would like to have jobs, shelter, medication and food. The majority of them have access to health facilities in South Africa
- The majority of illegal Zimbabwean immigrants was unemployed and was thus unable to create jobs for South Africans.
- Respondents regard the South African labour system as unfair, they indicated that they were treated humanely by South African employers.
- From the findings of the study it is evident that illegal immigrants do contribute to the economy of South Africa through cheap labour, and that the benefit is on a larger scale on farms where they are used in agriculture.
- The findings also indicate that they support the formal and informal business sectors through the buying of commodities for use and resale back in Zimbabwe.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

The recommendations in this study are based on the findings of the study and the body of literature reviewed and presented in chapter two. The recommendations are made to the South African Government, South African Police Services and the Department of Home Affairs.

#### **5.3.1 The South African Government**

In order to make relevant contributions in terms of recommendations to the South African government in managing illegal migration of Zimbabweans into the country, Crush et al (2005(a):5-6) mentions that it is important to understand illegal migration in the regional and historical context. Apartheid is destabilised many African countries and those countries supported the liberation struggle for South Africa. The South African government is thus asked to be sympathetic to illegal immigrants from those countries that supported it.

### 5.3.2 The South African Police Services

In addressing the root cause of migration and helping in the economic development of those countries affected, South Africa will reduce population movement by those to its country. If the situation in Zimbabwe is not resolved, it will affect countries like Botswana, Namibia and South Africa; hence the problem should not be regarded as only a Zimbabwean one.

Deportation of Zimbabweans as a way of managing illegal migration according to literature and the findings of the study is not a solution because they return soon after deportation. It is seen as a waste of tax payer's money because deported illegal immigrants always find ways of coming back into the country. The deportation should be coupled with other measures to deter the illegal migration like prosecution of smuggling rings and individuals, employers of illegal immigrants, police and Home Affairs officials who extort bribes from illegal immigrants and stricter border controls.

### 5.3.3 Department of Home Affairs

The smuggling of illegal immigrants should be regarded as a high priority crime. This should be done through establishing migration networks and exchanging information on illegal migration to help come up with preventative measures.

In terms of xenophobia, the government should prosecute perpetrators of xenophobic violence, past and present to discourage any further tendencies. Solutions to the Zimbabwean problem should be accepted and supported by all South Africans, hence the importance of educating the public to halt xenophobia.

The study recommended that policies for the monitoring of labour laws be implemented to protect immigrants against exploitation by employers. Giving permits to illegal immigrants who can prove that they have jobs, housing and means to support them is said to help reduce and manage illegal migration.

### 5.3.2 The South African Police Services

The management of corruption, especially through the extortion of bribes from illegal immigrants by corrupt SAPS officials should be a priority for the department of Safety and Security. Corrupt officials should be prosecuted.

The scope of the police in terms of illegal migrations should focus only on crime and the Department of Home Affairs should handle its own matters. According to FMSP (2007:12) SAPS has a strong impact on Zimbabwean migration because the department enforces the Immigration Act on behalf of the Department of Home Affairs through arrests and deportations. SAPS are, thus, seen as one of the causes of the high rate of illegal migration because they make it easy for illegal immigrants to enter the country through police accepting bribes.

### 5.3.3 Department of Home Affairs

According to research findings, it is easier for immigrants to enter the country illegally than legally because of the stringent measures put to control entry into South Africa. The cost of applying of a visa is said to be R2000 plus other requirements as cited by Tevera and Zinyama (2002:31) such as proof that one would be able to sustain themselves whilst in South Africa, a letter from an employer, proof of residence whilst in South Africa, a letter from a spouse in case of married couples, whereas it costs R50 for one to enter the country illegally and one does not have to prove anything to anyone except when arrested for being in the country illegally. It thus becomes imperative for the Department of Home Affairs to relax visa requirements as a way of reducing illegal migration.

It is important that The Protocol on the Facilitation of the Free Movement of Persons should be ratified and implemented as a way of managing illegal migration. According to the findings of the study, the protocol does not show how visa overstayers are going to be detected and managed. The Department of Home Affairs indicated that it does not have resources to manage the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into the country and has to rely on the South African Police Service to manage it.

Porous borders, lack of staff and bribery by the Department of Home Affairs officials is said to increase illegal migration into South Africa according to HRW (2006:8). It is important that a “turnaround” strategy be implemented which will include the provision of resources to manage illegal migration to South Africa. According to Berne (2004:16) border control measures should be effective, efficient, fair and transparent. They should show how corruption would be prevented. In this study, immigrants indicated that it cost a R50 bribe to enter the country illegally. This shows that there are no measures in place to deal with corruption by officials.

South African employers who employ illegal immigrants should be prosecuted. The Department should make sure that before deportation, illegal immigrants are paid their dues by employers to prevent their exploitation where immigration is called when illegal immigrants are to be paid.

#### 5.4 Conclusion

According to the body of literature, the migration of people from the SADC region is not a new phenomenon, it dates back to the 1860’s with the recruitment of cheap contract labour for the mining sector (IOM 2005:1). When South Africa ceased from recruiting labour from SADC countries, the end of apartheid however increased the migration levels into the country (Crush *et al* 2005 (a):1-2). South Africa has a diversity of illegal immigrants i.e. those who enter legally but overstay their visas, those who enter illegally but stay legally by acquiring fraudulent documents, those who enter illegally and stay illegally, those who enter as tourists but end-up taking work in South Africa without work permits and who fail to secure asylum status.

Social networks (Kok *et al* 2006:227-234), the stringent measures put in place by South Africa to control entry into the country through stricter visa requirements (Lefko-Everett 2007:26-27), pull and push factors (Maharaj 2004:6) and the perceived increased economic opportunities in South Africa (HRW 2006:6) has contributed to the increased migration into the country.

Immigrants migrate to South Africa for different reasons. They are noted as trading, which is mostly done by women (Cross *et al* 2006:33-34), the political situation in Zimbabwe which is

said to have led to people migrating to South Africa to seek asylum (CoRMSA 2008:66). Most immigrants are said to come into the country to seek employment (PHAMSA 2005:18). Others have had no choice and have been trafficked into the country by human trafficking rings. The most vulnerable group for trafficking is said to be women (IOM 2005:2-4).

The overall picture emerging from this study is that, the majority of Zimbabweans come into South Africa illegally because they do not have passports. Those who have passports cannot afford R2000 which is a requirement for securing a visa. The South African borders are said to be porous since it costs a R50 bribe to enter the country illegally.

According to the findings of the study, only three respondents fled Zimbabwe due to political persecutions and none of them applied for asylum. This may be an indication that there is no war in Zimbabwe. According to respondents from the Home Affairs Department there is no war in Zimbabwe for any Zimbabwean to qualify for asylum status. This also disputes the statements made by CoRMSA (2008:66) that the high illegal migration into South Africa by Zimbabweans is due to them being denied asylum or refugee status. The majority of illegal immigrants are in South Africa because they are looking for jobs.

Social networks in the form of family and friends play a role in the illegal migration because they loan illegal immigrants money for travelling, paying bribes at borders, provide shelter, food, and sometimes even secure jobs for illegal immigrants. Those who did not have any contacts in South Africa had confidence that other Zimbabweans will help them with accommodation and directs them to where they will find jobs, once they arrive in the country.

The Department of Home Affairs officials blamed the South African Police Service for the high rate of illegal Zimbabweans in the country. This confirms the “revolving door” migrancy as indicated by ILO (1998:15-17).

Illegal Zimbabwean immigrants have no intention of applying for grants but would like to have jobs, shelter, medication and food. The majority of them have access to health facilities in South Africa.

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The impact of illegal migration in South Africa is a contentious issue. Some researchers argue that illegal migration has a negative impact on the economy (Sebola 2008: 112) whilst others say the impact is positive because South Africa benefits through cheap labour in terms of low production expenditure, especially the mining and the agricultural sectors (Kok *et al* 2006:79-80). Most researchers argue that since the number of illegal immigrants in the country is unknown due to the clandestine nature of their migration, it is erroneous to assume that they have a negative impact on the resources of the country if the impact cannot be measured (McDonald *et al* 2000:824). Literature indicates that the mechanisms in place by South Africa to control illegal migration are ineffective because it relies solely on deportation and strict visa requirements. These migration control systems are blamed for contributing to human rights abuse (Tevera & Zinyama 2002:31; Ranchod 2005:15).

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## INTERNET A: QUESTIONNAIRE

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Female	
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Table 4.2: Employment status of the respondents

Full time	
Part time	
Unemployed	
Pensioner	

Table 4.3: Income per month Income of the household head/month (R) Percentage distribution (%)

R100-R1000	
R1000-R2000	
R2000-R5000	
R5000-R10 000	
R10 000 plus	

Table 4.4: Educational information of the respondents

Below matric	
Matric	
Diploma	
Degree	

## APPENDIX A: QUESTIONNAIRE

**Table 4.1: gender status of the respondents**

Male	
Female	

**Table 4.2: Employment status of the respondents**

Full time	
Part time	
Unemployed	
Pensioner	

**Table 4.3: Income per month Income of the household head/month (R) Percentage distribution (%)**

R100-R1000	
R1000-R2000	
R2000-R5000	
R5000-R10 000	
R10 000 plus	

**Table 4.4: Educational information of the respondents**

Below matric	
Matric	
Diploma	
Degree	

**Table 4.5: Zimbabweans are much more likely to be undocumented and much less likely to have attained refugee status**

Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Uncertain	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

**Table 4.6: Migration to South Africa is thus male dominated**

Strongly Disagree	
Disagree	
uncertain	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	

**Table 4.7: Lack of official statistics, it is possible to profile the demographic of Zimbabweans in South Africa based on the available data**

Strongly Disagree	
Disagree	
uncertain	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	

**Table 4.8: Zimbabwean migrants are a ‘mixed-flow’, with different levels of vulnerability and impacts on the South African society**

Strongly Disagree	
Disagree	
uncertain	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	

**Table 4.9: Migrants do look for work, irrespective of their reasons for leaving their home country**

Strongly Disagree	
Disagree	
uncertain	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	

**Table 4.10: Economic migrants is blurred, resulting in a large amount of undocumented migration**

Strongly Disagree	
Disagree	
uncertain	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	

**Table 4.11: Zimbabwe is South Africa's only neighbouring country that does not have a free visa policy**

Strongly Disagree	
Disagree	
uncertain	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	

**Table 4.12: Zimbabwe's unresolved political and economic crisis is major cause of refugee migration**

Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Uncertain	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

**Table 4.13: Individual economic challenges such as poverty, unemployment, and homelessness, may not however, be the only factors contributing to international relocation**

Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Unsure	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

**Table 4.14: Zimbabweans essentially face hardship in dealing with institutions and xenophobia**

Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Uncertain	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

**Table 4.15: Zimbabweans also access South Africa through other Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries**

Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Uncertain	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

**Table 4.16: Zimbabwean migrant cause lack of jobs to the South Africans**

Strongly Disagree	
Disagree	
uncertain	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	

**Table 4.17: Migration is pushed by political (oppression, persecution, war and violence) and economic factors**

Strongly Disagree	
Disagree	
uncertain	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	

**Table 4.18: Foreign people increase diseases**

Strongly Disagree	
Disagree	
uncertain	
Strongly Agree	
Agree	

**Table 4.19: Refugee migration is the major cause of crime**

Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Uncertain	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

**Table 4.20: Zimbabwean migrant cause urbanization in South Africa**

Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Unsure	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

**Table 4.21: Employers in Zimbabwe are well aware of this dynamic: they give citizens working in industry the minimum wage**

Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Uncertain	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

**Table 4.22: Xenophobia increase poverty in South Africa**

Strongly Agree	
Agree	
Uncertain	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

THANK YOU FOR PART-TAKING

## APPENDIX B: INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

What are the reasons for migrating illegally into South Africa?

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.....  
.....

What are the pressing issues that led to Zimbabweans to flee from their country to South Africa?

.....  
.....  
.....

What is the role played by social networks in the illegal migration of Zimbabweans into South Africa?

.....  
.....  
.....

What is the socio-economic impact of illegal migration in South Africa?

.....  
.....  
.....

What are the perceptions on the attitudes of South Africans towards illegal Zimbabwean Immigrants?

.....  
.....  
.....

**THANK YOU FOR PART-TAKING**