

YOUTH AND LAND REFORM POLITICS: A POST-APARTHEID SOUTH
AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

by

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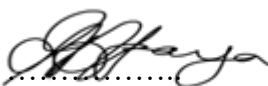
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Abstract

South Africa's post-apartheid government land reform programme is a central aspect and epitomises the constitutional measure to provide solid redress. Land reform policies and youth socio-economic concerns demonstrate how democratic political power has been used for the past twenty-nine years. Youth is the engine of every country and a critical mass of society. Emerging democratic administration is experiencing the highest level of youth crisis without accessing the basis of wealth, and land. This study explores the socio-economic predicament youth face on the land reform policies of post-apartheid South Africa. The qualitative research method and exploratory design were applied in this study. Purposive sampling was used to select participants and interviews were used for data collection. Content analysis with the help of Atlas.ti was used to analyse both raw data and documents. The study was premised on three objectives which were to analyse South Africa's land reform policies and assess its implementation. The critique on the impact of the policy on youth socioeconomic emancipation processes, and also explores potential transformation opportunities for land reform and youth. The redistributive justice theory was applied to provide a roadmap and interpretation of the arguments regarding the phenomena under study. The findings of the study suggest that the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, the National Assembly, and the Congress of South African Traditional Leaders need to improve the facilitation of land administration for youth to gain access to land. The study concludes that there is a serious need for the promulgation of a youth land ownership policy after the almost a quarter of a century under a democratic South Africa.

Keywords: Land reform; youth; Land administration; Communal Property Association; Communal land.

Declaration

I, **Simion Sekhonkwane Mashego**, declare that this dissertation is my original work and has not been submitted for any degree at any other university or institution. The dissertation does not contain other persons' writing unless acknowledged and referenced accordingly.



Signed (Candidate):.....

Date: 07/12/2023

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

DLA	Department of Land Affairs
RSA	Republic of South Africa
ANC	African National Conference
CPA	Communal Property Associations
LRAAD	Land Reform and Agriculture Advisory Panel
NYDA	National Youth Development Agency
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
ILO	International Labour Organization
FNB	First National Bank
CIPC	Companies and Intellectual Properties Companies
SRC	Student Representative Council
DRDLR	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
QLFS	Quarterly Labour Force Survey
STATS SA	Statistics South Africa

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1. INTRODUCTION

The land reform programs of a democratic South Africa comprise three key pillars: restitution; redistribution, and tenure, and they all have a huge bearing on the persisting inequalities in youth empowerment since the advent of democratic dispensation. For nearly a quarter of a century, the democratic South African regime has faced a highly pressing issue of youth empowerment in all socio-economic sectors. Youth is still waiting for the unfulfilled political promises of the democratic era, including land reform, and the existing imbalances threaten to disparage the potential of an entire generation. Although current youth are more educated and skilled, elders occupy every critical space of leadership and economy. According to Mthunzi,(2020) observed “the top levels of South African social hierarchy are still occupied by senior citizens. The average age of a Member of Parliament is said to at 66, and the average age of a farmer is 65”. Moreover, these enormous socio-economic challenges for youth affect their livelihoods and development and widen the transformation gap, which young people should decrease.

Ownership of and access to land by the youth remains very low and has been regarded as a critical contributor to the development of the agricultural sector in South Africa. Over two decades since the dismantling of formal apartheid, South Africa continues to grapple with disparities in land accessibility and ownership, particularly affecting the younger generation. The South African government’s land reform programme aims to enable access to land for previously disadvantaged people to improve the quality of their livelihoods and food security. The South African government’s land reform programme is divided into three components: restitution- (means the return of rights in land dispossessed after 19 June 1913 because of past racially discriminatory laws or practices), redistribution – (land for residential and productive purposes) and tenure’s reform – (ensuring the rights to hold land) (DLA 1997). The Natives Land Act (No.27 of 1913) was passed to allocate only about 7% of arable land to Africans and leave more fertile land for the whites (RSA, 1913). Land reform has been taking place since the advent of

democracy in 1994 to compensate and redistribute land to those who have been dispossessed and lost their land under colonial and apartheid racially discriminatory legislation. Colonialism is expounded “as the overall and direct control of one country by another based on state power being in the hands of a foreign power” (Ocheni & Nwankwo, 2012). According to Welsh (2009), apartheid is defined as “segregation on the grounds of race”.

Land reform, by its 1994 legislative construct, was an administrative process. The provisions of the Land Administration Act (No: 2 of 1995) in South Africa stipulate the delegation of powers and the assignment of the administration of laws pertaining to land matters to the provinces. Furthermore, the Act enables the creation of uniform land legislation and includes incidental matters. (South Africa, 1995). Effective land reform administration from the governance and beneficiaries’ sites is critical to recognise youth as landowners. Redistributive justice theory’s fundamental intervention will better equip and help them understand the land reform administration’s societal context and lived experiences of youth in terms of gaining access to land. The theory is envisioned to strengthen and improve land reform administration for youth. It is clear that the future of the land is in the hands of the youth, and it is crucial that in South Africa, the economic and social potential of the largest demographic group in the country, the youth, be unlocked by viewing them as development and deployment (LRAAP, 2019).

Kariuku (2020) argues that young people need platforms whereby policy decisions and welfare opportunities that concern them are influenced to prioritise their political and socio-economic needs, which often differ from older citizens. It is crucial to treat these individuals with esteem and warmth in order to establish a productive collaboration that will help turn their ambitions and objectives into a tangible reality. The authoritative land reform administration should create platforms accommodating youth to play an active role in land management. Youth is a legitimate stakeholder who should be integrated into the socio-political space.

Young rural South Africans often struggle to participate in the economy due to lacking access to land and the non-availability of land. They are also exposed to poor economic

conditions and social infrastructure. The rural food-economy security, controlled mainly by a white-dominated establishment at a national level, also confronts their rural livelihoods. In South Africa, approximately 4 to 4.5 million individuals are engaged in agricultural activities to some extent, with roughly 93% to 95% of them primarily focused on subsistence farming. Despite the agricultural sector's dualistic nature reflecting the country's enduring land inequalities, it is essential to provide black smallholders with opportunities to expand and compete. However, it is also argued that subsistence production should be afforded greater respect and support than it currently receives, as it plays a vital role in addressing the country's socio-economic challenges (HSRC, 2021).

Per the QLFS report for the first quarter of 2022, the youth in South Africa's labour market are still confronting difficulties. The general unemployment rate was 34.5%, with a disheartening 46.3% among those aged 15-34 years. This suggests that almost half of the workforce was jobless during the first quarter of 2022 (STATS SA, 2022). To tackle this, youth employment should be prioritised through effective public employment programmes, internships, job placements, youth set-asides, increased procurement from youth-owned enterprises and other government programmes for the youth (ANC, 2017). The unemployment crisis should be a priority since the youth constitute almost a third of the South African population.

Between 1997 and 1999, the Department of Land Affairs adopted a policy to entrust decision-making control to land rights holders, as opposed to structures such as Tribal Authorities and Local Government. Ntsebeza observed that:

The 1997 White Paper on Land Policy guided that, where land is held in group form, the land rights holders should be the landowners through landholding entities such as Communal Property Associations. However, on land administration and management, landowners, as co-owners, should administer and manage their land.

(Ntsebeza, 2003: p,90)

Evidence indicates that over 8 million hectares of land have been transferred, and most of these hectares are in the hands of Trusts or CPAs – a total of about 3000 entities (High-Level Panel 2017). Land reform programme occurs in rural and urban areas, which provide an advantage for land access in rural communities and urban settlement for various land activities. If inappropriately addressed, the land is a critical political instrument and a significant source of social instability. Indeed, South Africa is currently grappling with an unprecedented youth crisis, which necessitates a comprehensive structural transformation within the food system. It is imperative that the government engages the zeal and enthusiasm of today's youth in addressing this critical issue. Any failure to do so would constitute a significant loss, the repercussions of which society cannot afford (Metelerkamp, Drimie & Biggs, 2019).

1.1.1. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Although land reform policies and frameworks are in place, the administrative aspect is unresponsive to the young people's needs. No existing active policies are intended to engage South Africa's youth in land ownership, and policies should aim to realise access and security of land rights because young people have diverse social needs (LRAAP, 2019). The land reform policy of a normal democratic state such as South Africa should factor in the interest of the youth. This includes accessibility to land for various land activities for promoting and unlocking economic emancipation platforms. South African youth is significantly marginalised in almost all sectors of the economy.

A crude example is their absence in land reform matters. Bornman (2022) observed that “remaining farmers were older people, and the industry was not being supplemented strongly enough by young people. In 2017, 71.7% of the farmers were older than 50, while only 4.3% were aged between 25 and 34. Older retired farmers were not replaced with young people at the same rate”. Although policies are generally in place, there is clear poor governance in facilitating land reform programmes. By legislative and political design, the objectives of land reform are evident in how the land question should be addressed; however, there is an absence of the political will to fulfil the objectives. By not giving attention to the identified ills, the country is at risk of experiencing political

instability, mainly because the youth are usually at the forefront of civic and political uprisings. Another disadvantage is that the country will miss an opportunity to exploit the abundance of skilled and educated youth interested in various land-related activities to address the transformation question. Addressing this dilemma will see the country accruing benefits from innovative youth participation while at the same time addressing the youth unemployment crisis. Moreover, accessing the land by the youth will provide long-term rewards for the future elders heavily experienced in working and valuing the land.

1.1.2. AIMS OF STUDY

This study explores the politics of land reform processes in South Africa; and how these affect the youth.

1.1.3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The study will rest on the following objectives.

- To analyse South Africa's land reform policy and assess its implementation.
- To critique the impact of the policy on youth socio-economic emancipation processes (developments/hindrances).
- To explore potential transformation opportunities on land reform and youth.

1.1.4. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The main research question of this study is, to what extent do politics and administrative issues disadvantage the South African youth in meaningful participation/benefiting for the application of the land reform policies and frameworks?

Investigative questions are:

- What is the state of South African land reform policies and their implementation?

- How is the land reform and youth socio-economic emancipation process enhancing and translating into development culmination/manifestation?
- What are the potential opportunities for transformation on land reform and youth?

1.1.5. JUSTIFICATION OF STUDY

Implementing land reform policies is critical in post-apartheid South Africa to address land inequality and ensure proper facilitation of youth in gaining access to land. Land reform programmes should be implemented with clear meaning and definition for adequate access by targeted groups particularly youth dominating the population for transformational outcomes.

1.1.6. DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS

Youth

According to the United Nations' definition (2014), individuals between the ages of 15 and 24 are considered youth. The African Youth Charter, adopted by the seventh ordinary session of the Assembly held in Banjul, The Gambia, on 2 July 2006, further specifies that the youth or young people include every person between the ages of 15 and 35 (Essayed, 2006). In light of this, the continental definition of youth will be applied in this study to encompass policies intended for young people. The South African National Youth Policy (2009, 2015, and 2030) additionally defines youth as individuals between the ages of 14 and 35 years old. In the context of this definition, adults will refer to people above thirty-five (35) years of age.

Land reform

The primary objective of land reform is to alter, divert, or modify the rights, usage, and relationships associated with land, especially in rural regions (Marcus, Eales & Wildschut, 1996). This initiative is primarily undertaken by the state. This study's

definition aligns with the South Africa land reform objectives.

Land administration

The process of land administration involves identifying the scope and nature of local land administration institutions, analyzing the processes related to their main driving force, which is the intention to register land rights and transactions, and examining the type of rights that are registrable, with a focus on the resulting transformation of customary rights (Wily, 2003). In this study, land administration will be closely linked to land reform policy administration.

Empowerment

Empowerment is the process of enhancing the capacity of individuals or groups to make choices into desired actions and outcomes (Journal, 2009). In this study, empowerment will refer to how youth gain access to land and the effective use of the land for their personal development.

Communal Property Association

The Communal Property Associations Act No. 28 of 1996 (CPA Act) established CPAs as landholding entities for beneficiaries of land reform, restitution, and redistribution programs who desire to collectively acquire, manage, and hold land. The CPA Act mandates government registration of CPAs and oversees their operations to ensure the rights of ordinary members are protected (Of and Programme, 2015). In this study, CPAs serve as a crucial platform for youth to access land.

Communal land

Land considered as communal land refers to territory outlined in section 2, which is either currently inhabited or utilized by a community's members, subject to the community's rules and customs. This concept pertains to South Africa (2004). In this study, communal land focuses on how youth can access and utilise communal land for various land activities. Communal land also highlights land administration processes in rural areas and challenges youth encounter in order to gain access to communal land.

1.1.7. LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Jossam (2014), the issue of land remains a significant gap in the international response in many post-conflict countries, particularly during the emergency and early recovery phases. It is essential to note that when the government fails to address land matters adequately, it can negatively impact the reconstruction period. Those who rely on land for their livelihoods often struggle to survive on smaller plots of land and face declining trade terms. Unfortunately, this leads to a process that creates increasingly unsustainable levels of land inequality, with a smaller number of people controlling larger areas of land. The high levels of land inequality have a detrimental effect on democracy, social cohesion, and the environment, particularly in areas where there is less dependence on the land (Wegerif & Guereña, 2020).

Two key features of South Africa's post-apartheid land reform continue to hinder its progress: a lack of connection between the political and economic aspects of land and a disconnect between rights-based policies and farmer support programs focused on production and rural livelihoods (Walker & Cousins, 2015). Belinkie (2015) suggests that to effectively transition from the colonial land ownership model to a system that provides the possibility of land ownership to black South Africans, the government should follow the successful model set by its mining sector. The industry was able to avoid racial tension and drama stemming from South Africa's history by creating a mineral reform system that was not based on racial lines.

Byamugisha (2017) posited that the challenge of land access for African youth is not insurmountable. Studies have shown that while Africa has a surplus of uncultivated arable land, policymakers can address the land access problem and leverage the abundance of educated youth to modernize Africa's agriculture while also creating employment and income-generating opportunities. Securing reasonable remuneration through farming which implies gaining accesses to the resources needed to farm will likely be related

positive to young people's interests and ability (Swarts & Aliber, 2013). Djurfeldt et al. (2019) emphasize that accessing land by youth is essential to transitioning into adulthood and setting up their agricultural households. Youth are typically marginalized in the ownership and management of critical assets in agriculture production, particularly land. The majority of youth use land without exclusive ownership rights, which may limit their investment in the land and their access to loans secured against land title deeds (Sumba, 2018). Economic background also hinders youth from accessing loans and providing collateral.

According to Al (2020), younger generations globally tend to be more dissatisfied with democratic performance than their older counterparts and are also more discontent than previous generations at similar life stages. Morales et al. (2009) found that the primary factor driving youth involvement in violence is structural exclusion and the lack of opportunities, which can delay or prolong young people's transition to adulthood and lead to dissatisfaction, disillusionment, and in some cases, participation in violent activities. Maskaeva and Msafiri (2021) argue that government policies addressing youth unemployment and labor market issues can have a positive impact on the South African economy. Additionally, Azeng and Yogo (2015) contend that high youth unemployment rates can make countries more unstable and vulnerable to armed conflict. Therefore, it is crucial to address the youth unemployment crisis.

South African agricultural land reform necessitates a significant shift in implementation approaches to be successful. This involves adopting a smallholder farming model and making comprehensive changes to the implementation programs and mechanisms. To enhance the performance of land reform, a well-defined smallholder strategy for South Africa is required, which should be based on the aspirations of beneficiaries and grounded in evidence from both within and outside South Africa, rather than relying on preconceived notions (de Villiers, 2009). According to Lille (2021), the only means of addressing the concerns of landlessness, which is a primary determinant of wealth, income, status, and power that affects our political and economic power, is through a land reform program. Lamola (2021) suggests that "the land ownership issue must be addressed in a manner that further enables our people to participate in the nation's social,

economic, and political life; anything less will be a failure to progress." In South Africa, fair and equitable access to land is a highly charged political, emotional, and developmental issue (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2013). The constitution, in section 25(4)a, and land reform policies aim to broaden and impartial access to land, thereby providing young people with an equal opportunity to acquire land compared to adults.

The future of South Africa's land stewardship lies with its youth, and it is essential to recognize the critical role they play in unlocking the country's economic and social potential. As the largest demographic group in the country, the youth should be seen as synonymous with development and deployment. Therefore, it is recommended that policies aimed at promoting youth access to land and security of tenure should not only focus on keeping them engaged in farming but also on stimulating dynamic agricultural productivity growth that drives continual economic transformation and diversification. This approach will enable youth to contribute to the implementation of land reform policies in a productive and sustainable manner.

Several studies reveal the importance of adequate implementation of land reform policy in post-apartheid South Africa. Land inequality is still a major challenge, and it is still based on racial categories. Youth should be integrated into the agricultural space and access land. No literature that applied the redistributive justice theory to the land reform topic was identified. Although there is heavy criticism of failed policies and inadequate implementation of land reform policy, there is a gap in the literature in the sense that few studies address the youth's lack of policies and guidelines on land ownership. Land reform is generally approached without the targeted group's meaning and definition. The struggle for youth to access land is embedded in this poor policy formulation.

This study will analyse the notion of land reform through redistributive justice theory; defined "as the attainment of a system for the apportionment of privileges, duties, goods and services in consonance with the goals equality and equity, and in the best interest of society as a whole" (Lembrechts & Frohlich, 2015). Redistributive policies are also key for promoting values that are consistent with sustainable development and for shaping a socio-economic context and incentives that are conducive to financial stability and

economic development, political inclusion, gender equality and social mobility as lastly environmental sustainability (Kohler, 2015). The theory's central claims are equality and equity in society. Redistributive justice theory will assist in addressing the theoretical purposes of the politics of land reform policies and youth in the democratic regime of South Africa. The theory will also highlight how land reform could enhance land justice. Moreover, theory claims will indicate why youth should be bothered by access to land.

1.2. DESIGN AND METHODS

1.2.1. Study settings

In accordance with Creswell (2014:32), the present study will employ a qualitative approach in order to explore and comprehend the meanings that individuals or groups attribute to social or human problems. This approach is preferred due to its ability to capture the contextual complexity of the study settings, as well as its capacity to investigate the everyday lives of diverse individuals across various situations (Yin, 2016).

1.2.2. Study design

The present investigation will employ an exploratory research design, which is an approach utilized to uncover new and distinct phenomena that have not been extensively studied previously. This type of study is often conducted in situations where there is no detailed preliminary research and formulated hypothesis to be tested, when a specific research environment is not suitable for the chosen applied methodology (Streb, 2010). The primary purpose of an exploratory study design is to clarify the exact nature of the problem being investigated and to gain a better understanding of the existing problem. This type of research is particularly useful in guiding the development of a topic where considerable uncertainty exists, and a more extensive study is required.

1.2.3. Study population

The target population is the specific, conceptually bounded group of potential participants representing the nature of the people of interest (Casteel & Bridier, 2021). Sampling is defined as a process of selecting a sample from a population with a sample representing certain characteristics (Argerich & Cruz-Cázares, 2017). The study will employ purposive sampling as a technique to understand youth and land reform deeply. Isaac (2023) defines a purposive sampling as a non-probability sampling technique whereby the researchers select only those subjects that satisfy the objectives of the study based on the researcher's conviction.

The identified study population will assist in defining the eligibility of individuals for the study. The study population is focused on youth and adults in the North-West province participating in various land activities. Respondents will be limited to individuals only; no institutions will be factored in the research due to the level of the study. The study will consider the identified population's ages and educational and socio-economic status. Respondents will be selected by applying the purposive sampling approach which will assist with achieving a manageable amount of data. Identification and sampling of every person will be implemented. Mentioned participants are relevant to the study based on their broad and general knowledge.

1.2.4. Data collection

In qualitative research, the data are collected to explore the unit of analysis, which may be a phenomenon or lived experience (Dieumegard *et al.*, 2021). Data will be collected through two principal tools, structured interviews because of their potential to provide uniformity for the information obtained, which assures the data comparability and document analysis. All interviews will be conducted online, through links sent to their emails. The interviews will assist in assessing the effects of inadequate land reform policies, particularly on youth. The frame of questions seeks to accommodate all sectors with land reform policy implementation roles and recipients. Virtual data collection will be applied and informed consent forms will be distributed and collected digitally before data collection sessions.

1.2.5. Data analysis

Qualitative data analysis transforms raw data by searching, evaluating, recognising, coding, mapping, exploring, and describing patterns, themes, and categories in the raw data to interpret them and provide the underlying meaning (Patton, 2002). The data collected will be analysed through Atlas TI qualitative data analysis. Atlas TI data analysis helps researchers uncover and systematically analyse complex phenomena hidden in unstructured data. The analysis will be trying to assist with modelling data to discover useful information, inform conclusions, and support decision-making. The analysis will be done through coding in a computer-assisted analysis by assigning a label to a data segment. Data will be analysed through the creation of a code system.

1.2.6. Measurement of the research (Validity and Reliability)

Validity and reliability are concepts used to measure the quality of the research study. The study's validity is intended to strengthen the credibility and its findings (Yin, 2016). Its aim is to ensure that a valid study has adequately interpreted the data and that the method measures what it is intended to measure. Reliability is defined as a degree to which research results are consistent over time and an accurate representation of the total population under study (Bashir & Azeem, 2015). Reliability focuses on consistency in terms of the method of measuring something.

1.2.7. Ethical consideration

Ethical clearance certificate application will be submitted to the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education. Ethical considerations about the study will be applied, and extreme care will be exercised to protect those individual's rights. Although the study mainly deals with policies and limited human interaction through interviews online. The study will not engage on sensitive topics that intrigue trauma and psychological challenges to participants. The following ethics will be considered:

- Social responsibility to the public and the people

- Integrity and honesty
- Respect for people – security, dignity, diversity, and self-worth
- To be open and truthful

The above ethics factored into the respondent's preferences regarding applying confidentiality. Honour the informed-consent rules and protection of anonymity and confidentiality. The National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) requested an ethical clearance since the identified respondents are its clients and stakeholders. Furthermore, it was easy for the researcher to engage the respondent since he is employed by the agency.

1.3. DELIMITATION

The study will focus on the politics of land reform policies and youth socio-economic challenges in post-apartheid South Africa. The study will cover the period from 2012 to 2022. The study will focus on a youth cohort from the North-West province, South Africa.

1.4. CONCLUSION

This chapter served to introduce the research study, providing a comprehensive overview of the research objectives, statement of the problem, aim of the study, justification of the study, definition of concepts, and research questions. Additionally, the envisioned methodological and practical contributions of the study were presented. The review of relevant literature is then presented in chapter two.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. INTRODUCTION

Chapter one provided the background and justification of the study and introduced and defined the key concepts. This chapter contains the relevant literature review. The literature review is categorised under the following sub-headings: International perspective on land reform, African-perspective on land reform, Land reform perspective on South Africa, land reform and youth, land reform perspective on Communal Property Association, land reform and redistribution, land reform and land tenure, land reform perspective on land restitution, land reform on land administration and land reform. The approach is shown in the following subsection.

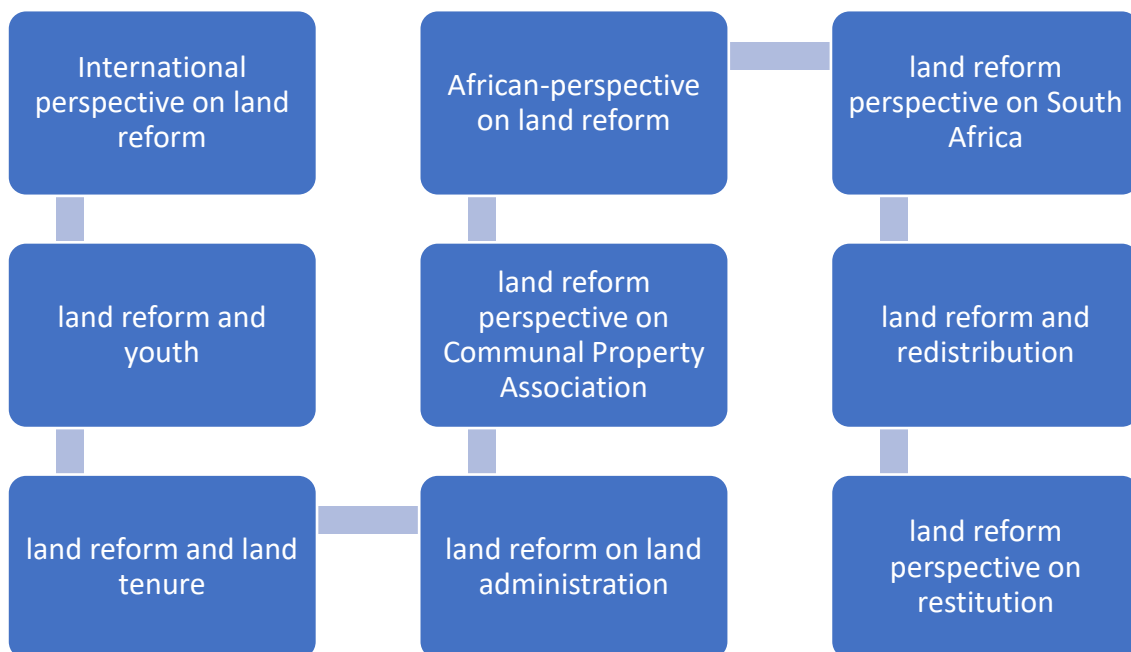


Figure 1: Literature review subheadings

2.1.1. The international perspective on land reform

Land reform is a phenomenon that has been experienced throughout the world, including Europe, and its comparative analysis is crucial in identifying common themes and trends (Reform and Banking, 2015). The complexities of modern social problems, such as how families cope with evolving change and resource deficiencies, can be traced back to colonial durability, which is characterized by the misuse of tropes such as land conflict and customary land (Hopwood and Hopwood, 2022). Wars, colonization, and invasions have played a significant role in shaping modern global land reform modalities. To achieve the goal of equitable access to land, it is necessary to conduct a fair assessment of the proper implementation of land reform policies on a global scale.

Montgomery (2019) observed that there is a basis in principle for international involvement in land reform. He argues that the strongest moral argument should be based on intentions related to basic human rights and subsistence, but this is rarely the major political motivation. Furthermore, development contradictions are thus reproduced locally as well as globally, specifically within the agricultural/land development sector, reaffirming the view that ‘primitive accumulation must be seen as a permanent, rather than finite, process (Hoffmann, 2013). Land reform will forever remain a global phenomenon and international moral standard in implementing the program is crucial.

The main aims for land reforms to be carried out varied between and within nations during the 1940s-1980s, even though two dominant classes could be noted, namely, economic and socio-political reasons (York and Borras Jr Cristóbal Kay A Haroon Akram Lodhi, no date). In addition, he observed that land reform was disregarded from official development policy agendas of international institutions and nation-states. Although many nation-states did not legislate new laws to stop or halt land reforms, many of them decided to place existing land reform laws and policies in dormant status: land reform laws continue to exist at least officially, but no significant funds were allotted to them, nor administrative machineries set up or maintained for their implementation. Evidently, there was no political will to implement the land reform law. The observation is that, so many years later land reform programs have not succeeded to achieve their goals because they failed to create the institutional and social capital of civil society necessary for creating a landowning class out of landless and disenfranchised populations (FAO *et al.*,

2022).The land reform program continues to dominate the policy discussion on global institutions, continents, nation-states, and South Africa.

Cavalier (2017) postulates that land reform can make a substantive difference in the lives of real people and developing nations, and therefore is a worthwhile attempt for governments to undertake. Additionally, market-compatible land reform is the most pragmatic approach for eradicating poverty because it generates the fewest negative externalities that accrue to the worst-off members of society. In the end, programs that qualify as redistributive, market-compatible land reform highlight that market compatibility is an umbrella designation that encompasses a whole variety of programs. Only one problem that remains is that land reform programs still do not make enough land available to serve the crucial goal of eradicating poverty. In agreement (Jürgenson, Hass & Maasikamäe, 2010) notes that land reform as a process must be split into its components if the results of the land reform are investigated and that will help better understanding of the processes and gives better results. There is a mutual agreement that land reform is a critical tool to eradicate poverty and should be regarded as a very strong instrument globally to deal with inequality.

Evidence indicates that the gains some indigenous peoples won show that even when states have little interest in redistributing land, collective pressure from below has the potential to force them to implement land reform in particular cases. States are likely to avoid land reform and favour policies that do not threaten landowning elites or challenge power relations when they are free from sustained social pressure as it happened in the Ecuador (Goodwin, 2017).Though, the limited land reform process has dealt a significant blow to the medieval arbab-ra'iyati system, has weakened the political and economic position of large landowners as a class, has dampened the semi-feudal oppression, and has overall contributed to the increase in peasant landowners despite not resulting in the resolution of the land reform issue in favour of peasant (Randjbar-Daemi, 2022). States will always need pressure from society to address inequality, particularly regarding land ownership patterns.

Boyce, Rosset and Stanton (2007) indicate that experience and evidence show that pro-poor land reform is possible, and it was done successfully in the mid-20th century in East Asia, and it is being done successfully today in Brazil. Land reform, when done well –

with genuine grassroots engagement, the redistribution of power as well as land, and a supportive social and policy environment –is a powerful strategy to reduce poverty while improving environmental quality. In agreement, (Faguet, Sánchez & Villaveces, 2016) point out that land reform increased public investment in important areas such as agriculture, which promotes economic growth and well-being and led to improvement in household consumption of private goods such as housing, and publicly provided primary services such as education, health, water and sanitation, and electricity. However, the presence of concentrated land ownership counteracted these effects once again, decreasing agricultural expenditure, and worsening outcomes in housing and services. Land reform has the potential to resolve half the problem of society if properly executed.

Land reform is a transformational social and economic policy, it can have profound political effects that impact the constraints and opportunities that guerrillas face in terms of resources and recruitment. These insights can potentially enhance the understanding of conflict dynamics between rural dwellers, insurgents, and the state in other countries where land reform has coincided with or immediately preceded rural conflict (Albertus, 2020). The character of land distribution to private farms in Russia and Ukraine is only a small part of the entire project of privatizing land, its effects are characteristic of post-Soviet reform in general and indeed of neoliberal economic reform programmes in many developing countries: those on the margins were pushed further to the edge of society; the well-connected and powerful increased their wealth and influence, and the vast middle was left out of the distribution process entirely (Allina-Pisano, 2004). Unresolved land reform cannot only stir ethnic or societal conflict but can also be a source of war, and invasion, and cause international instability.

Land reform is closely associated with an East Asian model of economic development which was induced through structural transformation and stimulated the growth of industry and its export orientation. Several aspects of these historical episodes should be kept in mind in the process of evaluating the general economic significance or redistributive land reforms (Işcan, 2018). Land reform's role in opening access to economic opportunities and establishing a state monopoly of violence was critical to later economic and political development, it also made a huge contribution to expanding education and establishing meritocratic and autonomous bureaucracy (Wicaksana, 2016).

Globally, land reform is at the centre of various societal economic development and is the key to opportunities for all sections of society.

Land reform was exogenous; the success or failure of land reform was not determined by corruption but by exogenous factors such as external communist threat and U.S pressure and as a result, it can show how land reform, by affecting inequality in wealth and income, influenced corruption (You, 2014). To remedy external influence, successful land reform will entail inherent contestation and interdependence between the agencies of the state, society, and the market, embodied by the interaction of all societal pillars (Bhandari and Linghorn, 2011). Land reform accomplishment requires a collective contribution of all sections of society to ensure external influence is controlled.

According to Hartvigsen (2013) the land reforms have resulted in different outcomes, including quite different farm structures, and were dominated by large-scale cooperatives and state farms. Although, the land reforms after 1989 have resulted in a complete breakup of these farm structures in some countries, in other countries the farm structures remain dominated by large-scale corporate farms that now operate on lease agreements with the private owners of the land. The differences in the farm structures that emerged from the land reform process can, at least to a large degree, be explained by the chosen land reform approaches in each country. Land reform channels that can work to undercut the development potential include withholding land titles from beneficiaries (Albertus & Popescu, 2020). Clearly, land reform for farm structures needs proper innovation.

Most land reforms were carried out according to political ideologies and ad-hoc policy decisions. This has led to irreversible problems in the rural land sector impeding sustainable land use in the long run (Wijesinghe, 2022). In contrast, (Me-Nsope & Larkins, 2016) contends that land reform has a huge bearing on microeconomic factors, agricultural production, and low food import prices than a failure of the government's agricultural policies. Modest land reform programme success – in a country with a small agricultural sector – is nonetheless a very significant achievement for the Bolivarian socialist government, because it represents one of the few success stories of land reform in the twenty-first century. Land reform does not exist as a programme and is implemented without a clear ideological position. States that need to succeed in

implementing land reform properly need to be clear on their ideological version that suits their societal needs.

The main sources of current land conflicts and disputes result from the ownership structure and the characteristics of land operation, both being the consequence of the modality of land reform application and of the permanent changes in the regulations regarding the legal circulation of land (Rusu & Tudor, 2015). There are many types of land reforms strongly associated with democratic transitions, especially pro-poor ones, and some specific types with motives related to inequality and poverty reduction. These indicate robust controlling for ideological transition variables and the existing stock of land reforms, addressing endogeneity concerns to the extent possible (Bhattacharya, Mitra & Ulubaşoğlu, 2019). Relevance ideological application of the land reform programme is key to ensuring society relates to power structures. Ideological compatibility and policies are powerful instruments to address land reform disputes in the world.

2.1.2. African-perspectives on land reform

The advent of colonialism introduced a cadastral system that is misaligned with the lived experience of customary land rights-holders, and such are commonly found in Africa and land reform programs should begin with an honest interrogation of belonging. That would reveal how people relate to land (Hull, Babalola & Whittal, 2019). Customary law is not yet exhausted as an avenue for redress, and it exposes the colonial fallacies upon which the custom was based; the attempts to put it aside, and the assumptions that underlay these attempts. The structure of land acquisitions in essence pits the state against itself and demonstrates that local communities historically develop highly differentiated relations to land, a fact that makes it difficult to reduce dispossession brought on by land grabs to a narrow analysis of primitive accumulation (Ossome, 2014). Africans have a unique relationship with the land and the land reform programme to be effective and successful needs to factor in that crucial aspect.

Cain (2019) observed that the land matter has become a political issue debated in the Parliament and is influencing the platforms of political parties. Moreover, opportunities are increasing for civil society and community representatives to employ emerging local

spaces such as municipal forums and consultative councils in order to bring the debate on land rights into the public space. Mitchell (2021) agrees that one thing is for certain: there is an urgent need for more research and debate on the potential for land reform to enable peacebuilding in Africa. Citizens' preferences on land ownership patterns are vital to defusing ethnic and civil unrest caused by land reform disputes.

According to Franzsen (2020), policymakers and scholars are increasingly recognizing that improving land governance in Africa can address a range of long-term agrarian challenges, such as population growth, increasing land investments, rapid urbanization, and the need to enhance land productivity and food security, as well as the challenges posed by climate change. However, the administrative capacity for land reform in most African countries is extremely weak, and policymakers must acknowledge and accommodate these limitations to ensure the success of land reform policies. It is essential to understand that state administrative structures do not necessarily imply functionality, and they may not function uniformly across different regions. Furthermore, the character of local politics and historical experiences can significantly impact the outcomes of any policy, particularly a contentious and fundamental policy such as land reform (Brill & Isbn, 2005). Therefore, African policymakers must ensure that land reform policies are not merely theoretical, but are seen to be improving the livelihoods of the population.

Land tenure reforms in Africa should prioritize the needs of land users over those of foreign investors, as Zhao and Xu (2019) noted. While a win-win situation for all, particularly the most vulnerable rural groups, would be the ultimate goal, it would also be challenging to achieve. Manji (2006) found that the influence of banker's organizations is crucial in shaping and determining the content of Africa's new land laws, liberalization of land markets, and the promotion of formal credit. This has provided unprecedented opportunities for commercial lenders in Africa. Land reform in Africa features banks and investors, it will be difficult for the landless to meet the requirements of these establishments to develop their land for various land activities. Land reform policies in Africa should prioritize indigenous citizens over access and ownership patterns on land, even when the landless do not have enough capital, governments should still prioritize their citizens.

According to Chigbu (2020), it is crucial that land reform in Africa addresses the specific land-related issues that women face. It is essential that all sectors of society work together to support women's land rights, as a shared goal of promoting secure land access for women must be achieved. Men operating within patriarchal land tenure systems must overcome their fear of equality and embrace it as a principle and daily practice. This cultural repositioning is necessary to improve the outcomes of land reforms for women. In highly patriarchal societies, land reform is unlikely to increase women's land rights without effective policies on gender equality. Governments must take steps to complement land reform by integrating women into key institutions in the land sector and other areas of women's empowerment. However, the attainment of women's rights goes beyond the legality or creation of institutions of the land, as recognized by Akinola (2018). Globally, land reform cannot be fully implemented unless women's rights as landowners are recognized.

According to Yeboah and colleagues (2019), the implementation of policies aimed at promoting access to land and ensuring land tenure security is essential for engaging young people in agriculture and creating sustainable livelihoods. To achieve success, these policies must consider and address the changing dynamics in land distribution and ownership trends and develop effective strategies that foster inclusive, competitive, and productive agricultural growth. Julioe (2017) argues that while access to land is a significant challenge for African youth, the continent possesses a vast amount of uncultivated arable land, which policymakers can utilize to modernize agriculture and create employment and income-generating opportunities for the educated youth population. The success of land reform in Africa will highly depend on policymakers ensuring that all social groups and genders are well represented in land policies to achieve balance and inclusivity.

The future of young people in Africa is currently threatened by a vast disparity between the professed significance of agriculture and the actual attention given to it by African leaders. To address this issue, it is imperative to redouble efforts to overcome constraints related to land, capital, and skills and to introduce measures that cater to the needs of

young people in agriculture. Such measures should be made available on a piecemeal basis, but they have yet to be integrated with a clear focus on promoting profitable and productive agriculture among young people. It is crucial to recognize that food security and the well-being of young people are two of the most pressing development challenges in Africa, and policymakers must go beyond superficial societal issues, anecdotes, and narratives to address these concerns (Sumberg et al., 2012). African leaders must act swiftly to enforce policies that enable young people to play a transformative role in various land-related activities. The current situation is untenable and cannot be sustained.

Djurfeldt *et al.*, (2019) state that accessing land by youth is important to transitioning into adulthood and setting up their own agricultural households, moreover, youth are normally marginalized in the ownership and management of critical assets in agriculture production, particularly, land. Blair (2022) accentuates that Africa is a young continent, and its young people are its brightest hope for a prosperous future. In addition, he suggests that many governments need to sharpen their focus on delivery around social and political implications of mass youth unemployment. However, the vast human potential in its rising generations also poses a clear challenge to its leaders-how to transform their countries' economies to generate employment for the increasing numbers of young people entering the job market, now and in the years to come. Africa is currently sharing a common matter of a relatively youthful population and African states will have to deal with common policy formulation to accommodate youth in all state programmes.

According to Obioha (2013), he analysed that there have been factors changing more and more rapidly in which land tenure has to adjust to it as in recent times in Africa and there should be considerations on the native African people's beliefs and meaning to land. The devastating consequences of the redefinition of land rights are caused by the incessant land disputes and ethnic feuds over land in the African continent and the situation now requires efficacious practices to handle the uprisings. Unless something meaningful and urgent is done to readdress African land policies and laws in consonance with the people's beliefs, there appears to be no end to the problem. Land reform demonstrates that understanding the value of land involves questioning not just how land in turn comes to present other things that are of value, such as belonging, rights, and authority (Leonardi & Browne, 2018). Access and ownership of land should attach commodity elements only but also the spiritual relationship people have with the land.

The objectives of land reform should prioritize one of the most susceptible groups of stakeholders—women. Despite their critical role in managing farm and household resources and ensuring household food security, women's rights to land ownership, access, or use are typically not addressed and may even be violated. Including women in the political process and development can lead to better land governance and improved food security. However, international support for land reform has not fully recognized or engaged with the underlying interests, politics, and power dynamics that impact access to land and resistance to women's land rights. Constitutional and land reform measures have established new formal rights, but these have had limited effects on women's outcomes. A significant obstacle has been the implementation of these reforms, with women facing strong opposition at multiple levels when attempting to claim their new rights. International support has primarily focused on the initial reform process, but a longer-term engagement is needed to support women's ongoing mobilization and action to demand and monitor implementation of these new frameworks. It is essential to incorporate women's rights and standards in advocating for land reform implementation in various countries to ensure the interests of vulnerable yet crucial societal groups are considered (Paper, 2009; Menocal, 2022).

According to Apio and Jackson (year unknown), land administration personnel engage with their immediate socio-political and socio-organizational context when implementing novel land administration policies. It is vital to comprehend the legal, technical, and operational ramifications of these policies, as well as the dynamics of the environment, in order to evaluate and anticipate the potential of land administration innovations and their likelihood of success. In line with this, Version (2019) posited that politicians and decision-makers in the land sector play a pivotal role in this transformation and must become advocates of change by grasping the social, environmental, and economic benefits associated with this process of change. The land reform programme in Africa will never be materialized without the politicians and various societal leaders understanding the needs and historical imperatives attached to the land, policies, and its people. Land reform implementers should realize dynamics related to land in the African continent, mainly considering how indigenous people relate to the land.

2.1.3. Land reform perspective on South Africa

Coles (1993) states that the land reform issues remain at the core of negotiations, and of disagreements between the government and the ANC. However, the compromise over land issues suggested includes constitutional guarantees of individual land rights, provisions for the government to take land in the public interest in accordance with due process, and a land reform program that encompasses significant land redistribution and affirmative action measures, along with limited nationalization and compensation. Robinson (1997) notes that it is a valid form of reparations to redress the profound and extensive social and economic harm black South Africans have endured under apartheid and rural land should be redistributed. The integration of black South Africans into the political and economic mainstream is a necessary element in the creation of the just and united South Africa envisioned by the constitution. The land reform framework emanating from negotiations had a long impact on equitable access to land, particularly by the majority.

According to Indaba (2014), the South African government must overhaul the entire land reform system to achieve economic empowerment for the majority who have been disadvantaged by both colonialism and apartheid. The democratic government must avoid the neoliberal agenda of capitalist countries and instead implement sustained, coordinated, acceptable, and legal land reform to bring about genuine redress for the people and a victory for democracy. Lille (2021) concurs that addressing the concerns of the landless is essential to addressing wealth, income, status, and power disparities that affect political and economic power. To achieve this, the government must dedicate itself to a clear objective of implementing a land reform program.

According to Huggins (2016) observed that the potentials for land reform in the near future are limited, due to a general lack of political will related to the vested interests of the political elite, most of whom are concession-holders. In agreement, Charles and Peer (no date) observed that South Africa's people have lost hope in the government itself and the institutions that are supposed to mirror a commitment and a people-centered user service delivery network. There is an indication that there is a lot to be done by government institutions and their processes before a major challenge such as land transfer

can be trialled and tested. The success of land reform and the institutions and the processes heavily rely on the government to be effective.

The situation in southern Africa with regard to political and economic realities is not favorable for those who advocate for a cautious and carefully thought out approach to land reform. The winds of change initiated by Mugabe are blowing across South Africa and Namibia, stimulating calls for radical, non-market driven land reform processes (Villiers, no date). The land reform process in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Namibia still has room for improvement, and it is viewed as an ongoing political project that has yet to be completed in all three countries. Each country must develop its own strategies to address land reform. Additionally, the success of land reform, particularly in South Africa, is largely contingent on political factors (Mudau, Mukonza & Ntshangase, 2018). To address the land reform program in South Africa, it is essential to first establish a political environment that is conducive to change.

To succeed, it appears the agrarian land reform in South Africa requires a radical change in implementation and wholesale changes in programmes and mechanisms for implementation, including shifting to the smallholder farmer model. A proper smallholder strategy for South Africa is needed and it should be based on the aspirations of beneficiaries and needs to be based on evidence from within and outside South Africa rather than on a priori assumptions in order to improve performance of land reform (Economics and Library, no date). South Africa still has a chance to make the land reform programme a success and it should be done in a way that does not compromise the economy and food security. However, South Africa has knowledge of experiences from surrounding Sub-Saharan countries and many other countries that have shown the pros and cons of the land reform programme if not dealt with properly (Tshabalala, 2018). South African government must craft a policy that will enable the reform programme to have an acceptable approach to satisfying the land demand, moreover, not ignoring poor implementation from fellow African states.

Simtowe and Carpio (no date) suggest that successful land reforms need a combination of access to land with complementary assets, functioning education and health care, the availability of competitive input and output markets, extension services, and links to

financial and credit institutions. Lamola (2021) recommends that the land ownership question must be addressed in a way that further enables our people to participate in the nation's social, economic, and political life; anything less will be a failure to progress. The land reform matter should not be looked at from one angle in terms of its potential and the options it provides to citizens. Various land activities should be integrated into the land reform programmes through implementation.

South Africa's post-apartheid land reform faces ongoing obstacles, including a separation between the political and economic aspects of land and a disconnection between rights-based policies and farmer support programs aimed at rural livelihoods and production (Cousins, 2015). According to International et al. (2015), the South African government should adopt the successful model of its mining industry, which avoided racial tensions and conflicts by creating a mineral reform system that was not based on racial lines. By addressing the unequal land ownership patterns in South Africa, land reform policies can achieve a genuine redress of the racial inequalities that continue to plague the country's democratic project.

Land reform is a critical issue that cannot be overlooked in post-colonial countries, according to Peterson (2012). The capacity of governments to change property rights based on international law is a significant question that needs to be addressed. However, the legal standards for land reform demonstrate that human rights can coexist with the need for land redistribution to address unresolved land ownership imbalances. Pienaar (2015) emphasizes the importance of South Africa's constitution in the land reform program and stresses the need for sound policies that are reduced to effective legislation by competent lawmakers. Furthermore, for land reform to be successful, the constitution and all other components of land reform must work together optimally and effectively. Land reform is the first and most important human rights issue that governments must prioritize, and the constitution should preserve it.

Maake, Manamela, and Meso (2016) highlighted that South African land reform has been widely regarded as a failure, leading other researchers to propose that human capital, particularly education, should be prioritized alongside land reform in the democratic era. The importance of this approach has been demonstrated through the success of land

reform programs in other developing countries. Despite significant resources being invested in land reform by the government since the 1990s, the program has had minimal impact on rural development. Although the policies have been revised to address both equity and developmental objectives, there are challenging trade-offs that have yet to be acknowledged by the government (Dawood, Flanagan & Pilusa, 2016). Given this, it is crucial to recognize the need for additional measures beyond the current and unsuccessful land reform policies. The emphasis on education is a critical aspect that should be considered in addressing the land reform issue.

Musakwa, Makonia, and Kangetheb (2014) notes that the main challenge for the government has been identifying strategically located land for land reform and without a tool to facilitate earmarking land strategically located for land reform, to date most land reform initiative has not been coordinated where at times land allocated was not suitable for agriculture. This challenge is against the National Development Plan thrust of food security, poverty alleviation and a development. In a post-apartheid South Africa, land reform, citizenship, and agrarian transformation to highlight that the land and national questions are inseparable and the answers to these questions lie in a nuanced, calibrated approach that continually tests policies with the lived realities in communities. In the end, policies must affirm and integrate the contested meanings of land that exist in different parts of South Africa (Khwezi Mabasa & Bulelwa Mabasa, 2021). Government must improve its capacity in identifying relevant land for the land reform purposes.

The primary challenge facing the land reform program is the development of effective strategies for targeting groups such as the landless, the unemployed, and farm dwellers, and directing resources to areas of greatest need. Policies that focus primarily on creating commercial black agriculturists are unlikely to have a significant impact on poverty or unemployment, despite potentially achieving the goal of diversifying the commercial farming elite (Lahiff, 2007). Hornby and Hull (2022) highlight the importance of recognizing the diversity of livelihoods and land uses in rural communities, as well as the social dynamics that shape farming prospects, in order to create a land reform process that genuinely meets the social and economic needs of marginalized communities. The

success of the land reform program depends on its ability to effectively target its intended groups and achieve its objectives.

According to Jili (2021), land reform in post-apartheid South Africa has a significant symbolic function as tangible evidence of the nation's efforts to address historical injustices as part of a broader nation-building process. Additionally, land has the potential to serve as the centerpiece of a program for rural restructuring, which has the potential to transform social and economic relations and provide a structural basis for pro-poor development initiatives. It is important to note that both Iyer and Ramaccio Calvino (2021) emphasize the need for a strengthened and transformed land reform framework that does not impede economic development, food security, and improved livelihoods. Expropriation is central to all three pillars of land reform, and the government must use it as the primary means of reversing the social, economic, and cultural effects of the previous property situation. It is essential for lawmakers to recognize that land is a crucial element and symbolizes a critical aspect, particularly for the majority of the black population.

The South African government's land reform program, which includes various policies aimed at improving the economy, lacks a comprehensive law that addresses the needs of the poor and disadvantaged who are most in need of equitable land access. The issue of land reform is highly emotional and sensitive for many South Africans, particularly those who were dispossessed and depend on agriculture for their livelihood (Sabi, 2021). Akinola and Kaseeram (2021) also highlight the complexity of land reform in South Africa, both in policy drafting and implementation, and note concerns about its nature and reality. Decolonizing the policies on land and the perspectives of reform actors is necessary, as the current arrangement reinforces the policy template adopted during colonialism and perpetuates inequality in land relations in the country. It is critical that land reform policies not only exist but are also reinforced and protected from neo-colonialism. The skewed ownership of land that continues to exist reflects colonial and capitalist objectives.

The importance of reviewing and enhancing land reform policies and programs by examining past experiences to meet current needs, such as rural development, has been emphasized by Makhado (2012). Furthermore, new policy frameworks must acknowledge the reality on the ground to accelerate the land reform process. It is essential to recognize that land reform in South Africa is necessary. Land should be returned to the rightful owners who were forcibly removed during the apartheid era. In addition, Akinola and Kaaserem (2021) concur that the policy on land and the perspectives of reform actors need to be decolonized. The current system perpetuates the policy template adopted during colonialism and continues to exacerbate the inequality of land relations in the country. Land reform is necessary to address land ownership patterns that reflect the colonial and apartheid eras.

South Africa needs strong leadership to turn around the foundering ship of state and make it more effective, as well as more responsive to the needs of ordinary citizens in accessing land. Pressures from below on land reform that challenge the elite capture inherent in current policies are likely to grow stronger over time and demands for large-scale investment by both the state and capital in employment-generating sectors, including agriculture, will surely increase, (Cousins, 2016). The land reform programme that moves beyond a singular focus on accumulation and recognizes these social dynamics is more likely to support access to land for a wide range of poor people, whereas providing for strategic management of the inevitable processes of social differentiation within capitalism. Both success and failure in land reform assessment will make sense post-social differentiation (Hornby & Cousins, 2019). Land reform to be successful does not only need the right policies to be in place, but solid leadership has a critical role in ensuring great success.

According to Hall (2004), land reform has been constitutionally mandated and integrated into government policies in South Africa, which represents a significant milestone towards a transformative agenda. However, achieving a wider agrarian restructuring remains a challenge that cannot be addressed in isolation from broader economic and social factors. Njili and Masuku (2021) emphasize that the constitution guarantees the citizens' right to equitable access to land, and the government has taken positive steps to

alleviate food insecurity in the country. These efforts have the potential to significantly reduce food insecurity and improve access to productive land for previously disadvantaged populations. It is crucial for the South African government to formulate and implement policies that enhance the availability and accessibility of land for previously disadvantaged communities, promote their participation in the formal economy, and address barriers to access to productive land and food security. The constitution plays a critical role in safeguarding citizens' rights and ensuring the success of the land reform program. Failure to implement land reform and ensure equitable access to land would be in contravention of the country's constitution.

2.1.4. Land reform and Youth

Current political engagements and demands on land reform do not prioritise young people as landowners for various land activities. There is a sustainable political inability to identify young people as catalysts for economic land activities. Public perceptions and judgments of the various land problems for South Africans turn the land issue highly volatile (Gibson, 2010). In addition, Mayer (2011) warns that South Africa cannot sustain the pattern of youth unemployment that has characterized the democratic period and young people would not continue to leave the formal education system with no hope of attaining an income, dignity, and self-worth through employment. The youth unemployment crisis could not be unsustainable. The government must find ways and design programmes to address the crisis faced by youth.

Evidence indicates that the future stewards of the land are the youth, and it is important that, as in South Africa, in order to unlock the economic and social potential of the largest demographic group in the country, youth should be seen as synonymous with development and deployment (LRAAP, 2019). Moreover, South Africa is experiencing the highest level of youth crisis and there is a radical need for structural transition within the food system failure by the government to engage on the passion and energy of today's youth in this challenge would be a great loss and one which society can ill afford (Metelerkamp, Drimie & Biggs, 2019). South Africa, like the whole continent is relatively youthful population and youth must be seen as long-term catalyst for land reform.

According to Sumba (2018), the need to focus on capacity building and youth empowerment in the agricultural sector is crucial for ensuring that young people can fully participate in this field. It is not merely important, but rather a fundamental necessity if the youth are to be engaged in agriculture. Furthermore, emphasizing capacity building and youth empowerment is essential for achieving full youth participation in agriculture in the future. Yeboah et al. (2019) suggests that policy actions that promote access to land and security of tenure will significantly shape young people's engagement in farming and their livelihood options. To be successful, such policies must recognize and anticipate the impacts of the evolving dynamics in land distribution and ownership trends and develop effective responses that will foster inclusive, competitive, and productive agricultural growth. Policies to promote youth access to land and security of tenure are intended to stimulate dynamic agricultural productivity growth in ways that drive continued economic transformation and diversification, rather than to keep youth permanently engaged in farming. The right time to teach young people the necessary skills to succeed in the competitive global economy is now, as capacity building and youth empowerment must be emphasized.

According to Thebe's research (2018), the politico-social dynamics surrounding land reform and their impact on youth were investigated. The study revealed that traditional economic approaches to land reform were insufficient for promoting youth economic empowerment and providing the necessary security for their livelihoods. Moreover, migrant labor societies' youth had different land needs and aspirations that were at odds with the state's land reform objectives. Agriculture was not a top priority for young people's livelihoods. To prevent instability and violence, it is essential to focus on monitoring economic opportunities for young people, including providing educational opportunities during periods of economic decline and unemployment (Azeng & Yogo, 2015). It is crucial to scrutinize youth opportunities in relation to land needs and ensure that they are accommodated for various land activities that align with their ambitions.

According to Goemans (2014), action is necessary to ensure youth can access land, and the extent and nature of this action will depend on the specific issues faced in each country, both in developed and developing nations. Scoones, Mavedzenge, and

Murimbarimba (2019) argue that land reform has transformed access to land and resources, as well as intergenerational relationships. As a result, some of these tensions are becoming apparent. In African agriculture, young people have a significant role in small-scale, intensive farming, often combined with other projects and off-farm work. This requires skills, improvisation, and entrepreneurship. Nevertheless, for both men and women, such opportunities allow a move away from the uncertainties and anxieties of waiting to access land. Therefore, simplifying access to land for youth should be a priority in land reform, as they cannot wait indefinitely to access this essential resource.

Morales *et al.*, (2009) investigated that the leading cause driving youth involvement in violence is the structural exclusion and absence of opportunities faced by young people, which delay or prolong their transition to adulthood and can lead to disgruntlement, and disillusionment, and, in some cases, their participation in violence. The government's implementing policies targeting youth unemployment and labour market issues can positively impact the South African economy (Maskaeva & Msafiri, 2021). Suggestion indicates that the youth unemployment crisis should not be left unattended, particularly under conditions of poor economic performance. The lack of opportunities for youth is a huge democratic risk since young people could be impatient and a very sensitive sector of the population.

There are marked powerful reasons to attract and include youth into African agriculture: these generation is better educated than their elder folks; they dominate the African population than before, with the under 24 making up 60 percent, and yet the African farming population is aged, with the average farmer 60 years old (FAO 2014). There is a sustainable political inability to identify young people as catalyst for economic land activities. Public perceptions and judgements of the various land problems for South Africans turn the land issue highly volatile (Gibson 2009). Current statistics on the integration of youth into the agricultural space is backed by solid reasons; youth is more skilful to take over the sector and various land activities.

According to Yu (2013), he emphasizes that no single policy can fully address the issue of youth unemployment. Instead, young individuals can benefit from education, training, and work experience to enter the labor market effectively. Obtaining higher education can significantly improve their chances of securing employment. It is crucial for

policymakers to develop policies and initiatives that not only aim to reduce youth unemployment but also prevent the uncertainty that could discourage job creation and hinder youth entrepreneurship in South Africa. Furthermore, the African Development Bank (2015) highlighted that African youth face numerous challenges, and a prolonged period of unemployment after leaving school can lead to social exclusion, political instability, and potential unrest. Additionally, the modern youth are known for their progressive attitudes towards technology and innovation, which can give them an advantage in the labor market, either as employees or entrepreneurs. However, to capitalize on this demographic dividend, governments need to implement active labor market policies that facilitate youth participation in entrepreneurial ventures and provide access to land reform programs. It is imperative for policymakers to introduce policies that accommodate the youth in accessing job opportunities and enable them to participate in the entrepreneurial space.

There are gradually more young people active in the agricultural sector and various factors such as access to proper agricultural and business skills, access to land, access to finances, access to information, and other factors continue to be a hindrance. Furthermore, it is critical to point out that addressing these bureaucratic challenges continually to support the youth requires public-private partnerships as opposed to working in silos as more impact will be achieved in the long run (Gitau, 2016). Young people need to be encouraged to have an interest in farming through putting incentives in place and that would be a way to attract youth into farming. An element of savings needs to be presented properly and strongly through extension so that people can understand its importance and how it to be managed. Furthermore, savings can be done at the project level, and they will have a positive influence on members various level savings (Antwi & Chagwiza, 2019). For land reform to cater youth, particularly in the agricultural space, it needs various stakeholders to factor in innovative ways to attract youth to participate in the farming sector. Government alone will struggle through its programmes only to deal with youth in the farming space and making livelihood out of it.

The lack of opportunities for millions of young people creates social instability and represents lost economic potential for the country, and the unemployment rate has

continued to grow since 2008 in a country where inequality remains high. There is a need for new partnerships with private-sector players and philanthropic funders to amplify government funding and efforts while working with training providers that purposefully link training to job placements that creates tangible impact in area that has long been flagged as a policy priority (Shankar *et al.*, 2015). In count, ILO (2021) recommends that an essential element of policy to overcome the specific challenges of youth on the labour market is to invest more in good quality education, vocational training, higher education, and initial work experience. Moreover, policies and national programmes that provide incentives to enterprises to hire young people, promote youth entrepreneurship, and facilitate access to finance and to other targeted active labour market measures, can also help countries improve upon decent work prospects for their youthful population. Youth unemployment is an important concern and policymakers should priority all innovative means to deal with the unemployment crisis including land reform to assist with the matter.

According to Sait *et al.* (2010), youth in many developing countries are part of various stakeholder groups, including policymakers, professional bodies, and civil society. However, land is often viewed as an adult-only issue, and this has led to policies and programs that are unresponsive to the needs and rights of youth. To address this issue, there is a need to strengthen the knowledge base and broaden the understanding of how youth's land rights and needs are linked to sustainable development in both rural and urban areas. This will help to build on the momentum and move from individual actions to larger-scale changes that are youth-responsive. Thebe (2018) also highlighted the importance of considering the politico-social dynamics and their intersection with land reform and youth. Land reform was not ideal for youth economic empowerment, and it could not provide the livelihood security that young people aspire to. Additionally, in migrant labor societies, youth have land needs and livelihoods that are opposed to state land reform objectives, and farming is not a priority for young people's livelihood aspirations. Therefore, there is a critical need to change the perspective on how the land issue is associated with adults only and to factor in the imperative need of youth through the transition phase for various land activities. In the modern youth-dominated world, a drastic approach is required for land access.

2.1.5. Land reform perspective on Communal Property Association

The promulgation of the Communal Property Associations Act No: 28 of 1996 intended for the establishment of a Communal Property Association (CPA) or similar entity, primarily as a legal land-holding entity. This Act, enable communities to form juristic persons, to be known as Communal Property Associations in order to acquire, hold and manage property on a basis agreed to by members of a community in terms of a written constitution; and to provide for matters connected therewith, South Africa (1996). Kgobe and Makalela (2019) examined that Communal Property Associations seem to be effective in terms of awarding people access to land since it is characterized by concerted efforts of people who are acquiring land collectively. Communal property associations are active land-holding entities and a platform for many people to access land with ease.

According to Pardesi (2017), Communal Property Associations (CPAs) serve as significant entities in facilitating community development, and their office bearers are responsible for driving a development process that leads to sustainable and viable plans. This process involves making decisions about land use and infrastructure, while also considering all aspects of human development and community services. Development planning should take into account economic, social, and environmental factors and require methods of organization that involve community members, enabling them to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to participate in the development process. Supporting this viewpoint, Ngomane and Sebola (2020) highlighted the role of CPAs in uplifting the economic development of rural communities and assisting the government in eradicating poverty and creating jobs. In summary, Communal Property Associations play a crucial role in economic development and addressing poverty within communities.

The South African government should reassess its approach to supporting Certified Property Accountants (CPAs) via its relevant departments, according to Sebola and Mamabolo (2020). Providing financial support and overseeing CPA activities can help build trust in CPA executives as they carry out their duties. The Department of Agriculture should reconsider its part in CPA's farm management, and CPAs must have responsible and accountable leadership to guarantee fair dividend distribution and preserve the advantages gained from reclaimed land, such as cultural wellbeing, livelihood, job opportunities, and skills transfer through implementing direct land use

strategies on their farms (Asha & Ramaloko, 2019). Although Communal Property Associations are essential for reducing poverty and empowering communities, it is crucial for the government to improve its governance to ensure long-term sustainability.

The CPA has not been supported by the government and does not have clear and broadly understood frameworks of benefits and responsibilities rights and duties and a clear accountability for its leadership as a new democratic participatory institution (Sandvik, 2013). Economic development of rural communities and assistance to the government in the eradication of poverty and creation of jobs should be uplifted through Communal Property Associations. However, the developments do not take place as there are those who regard the CPAs as vehicles for self-enrichment (Ngomane & Sebola, 2020). Communal property associations have the potential to address poverty on a short-time basis, but also prone to exploitation. The government needs to strengthen and tighten leadership structures to ensure beneficiaries are not exploited.

2.1.6. Land reform perspective on restitution

Seremane (1996) committed that completing the land restitution process would take twenty years and the implementation process encountered challenges by lack of community participation, leadership structures, and cohesion in the process. Land claims commission capacity constraints, poor management, and administrative issues, the resuscitation of the chieftaincy, and the complex nature of claims. The land restitution administration is lacking implementation. Twenty-one years later, High-Level Panel on The Assessment of Key Legislation and The Acceleration of Fundamentals Change (2017) investigated the remaining 7000 unsettled, and 19 000 unfinalized old land claims. Currently, 560 claims are finalized a year and it appears it will take 35 years to finalize all older claims; newly submitted order claims might take 143 years to settle and if new land claims are reopened and expected 397 000 claims are lodged, it will take more than 709 years to complete land restitution policy is very central in returning the land. In principle, the land restitution policy has not been implemented. Bureaucratic weaknesses and limited budgets contribute to the injustices of land restitution administration.

Amnesty International (2014) investigated that the land restitution process is making some progress, however, at a very slow pace, their report indicates that most victims

might never qualify for restitution, while many who do qualify could wait a decade to see their rights to full reparation realized. Those implementing the restitution process are faced with numerous difficulties and challenges. Land restitution properly implemented should become part of a broader, carefully crafted rural development strategy for it to contribute to change. If not well-employed, land restitution has the potential of enabling indigenous communities to continue with their traditional way of life and in fact, keep them poorer (Dikgang & Muchapondwa, 2016). The land restitution policy implementation needs a critical approach to ensure restituted land becomes effective for claimants and beneficiaries.

Commission on Restitution of Land Rights' persistent failure of implementing land restitution policy is caused by the challenges in operations, lack of capacity to research, competing and overlapping land claims, duplication of communities, restrictions on the development of claimed land, poor utilization of restituted land and insufficient post-settlement state support (South African Human Rights Commission, 2014). In advancing the course Ngcukaitobi (2021) argues that land reform should reconcile three intersecting currents: correcting historical wrongs, confronting the persisting inequalities of the present, and securing an equality-based future. The state's own programme subsequently launched for the restitution of land has been in disarray since 1994. The land reform programme on restitution has failed to fulfil its objectives, particularly historical considerations.

Plessis (2006) states that South Africa's land restitution process is unique in scale, and complexity and it is crucial for sustainable development and democratic change. Furthermore, the government has an obligation and duties in terms of sections 24 and 25 of the constitution to improve the socio-economic conditions of existing and future generations. In observation, Nfune (2020) argues that land restitution and accompanying agrarian transformation plans are still not in sight and this issue goes beyond restorative justice to include basic economic advancement principles for 21st-century South Africa. Land restitution has not addressed the main objective of returning land to the previously dispossessed, although the constitution allows for restitution to be implemented.

Panel and Africa (2016) highlighted the importance of restitution and land reform in enhancing the livelihoods of those intended to benefit from these programs. While these

initiatives can achieve their objectives of transferring land, allocating budgets, and identifying numerous beneficiaries, their success depends on whether these efforts result in improved livelihoods. If not, land reform will not be considered a success. Furthermore, restoring land rights should lead to development, as the injustice of dispossession will not be rectified otherwise. This argument can be made by demonstrating that scaling up land reform and changing the ways in which rural land is utilized constitutes an effective investment by the State and South African society in pro-poor development and transformation. Blinkie (2015) suggested that the South African government should follow the successful model set by its mining industry to effect a smooth transition from a colonial land ownership model to one that provides the possibility of land ownership to black South Africans. The mining industry was able to avoid racial tension and drama stemming from South Africa's history by establishing a mineral reform system that was not based on racial lines. It is crucial for the government to introduce progressive policies on restitution, given that the lives of the dispossessed have not improved.

Restoring land rights is crucial for countries transitioning from a history of injustice to a democratic constitution. The primary objective of this process should be to rectify past wrongs and establish a harmonious, prosperous, and reconciled society. In order to achieve this goal, the nation as a whole should be prepared to make sacrifices, such as paying higher taxes, to fund the necessary measures. Furthermore, allocating sufficient financial resources to land restitution should be a top priority for these governments (Vorster, 2006). In addition, Roux (2009) observed that the critical step in the land restitution programme should be to remove the artificial time limit imposed on the finalisation of the restitution process and these measures seem to be driven by a utilitarian concern that investment in the land will not be possible until all land claims have been resolved. Meanwhile, this concern is real, particularly for a developing economy like South Africa, but it can still be exaggerated. The population should be willing to compromise and understand the financial implications of the process.

Fay (2008) observed that the endorsement of ancestral land claims and the installment of new landholding entities by the land restitution bodies is achieved at the interface between local actors and national policy communities. Through the confirmation of claims, land restitution has become a vehicle for the construction of traditionalist identities around the

shared imaginary of reconciliation and its manifestations of these social constructs can be treated in terms of human agency: claimant representatives reinterpret and project historical events into a socio-political constellation where they derive meaning through association with the grand narrative of restitution and reconciliation. Moreover, Atuahene and College (2014) examined that land restitution programmes are complex and require multiple rounds of information exchange at different points in time to resolve a claim. So the ability of commission officials to sustain a conversation with respondents through these multiple rounds was one variable that deeply affected whether they believed that the restitution process was fair or not. Land restitution must be understood as it implies generational impacts and collective contribution from government and society is vital to achieve the return of land. Land restitution is at the centre of inequality, unemployment, and poverty amongst those waiting for the dispossessed land to be returned.

2.1.7. Land reform and redistribution

Land redistribution has reportedly slowed down significantly, with budgets decreasing and the rate of delivering access to land declining at a faster pace, as funds are diverted towards uses other than acquiring land and securing rights. During the apartheid regime, non-white citizens in South Africa were unjustly treated in terms of land ownership, with the white minority receiving the lion's share of the fertile lands, leaving only 7% for the non-white majority. The ANC government, upon assuming office, promised to address this issue by implementing a land reform policy aimed at redistributing land that was unjustly acquired by the apartheid government to its rightful owners. However, the government has failed to effectively implement the land redistribution program since its inception (Tyekela & Amoah, 2021). Despite the importance of the program to the dispossessed, the post-apartheid era has not seen a significant allocation of resources towards the land redistribution program.

In countries with skewed land redistribution and ownership such as South Africa, agrarian reform can be pivotal in reducing food insecurity and hunger, especially if food security is seen not just as a problem of inadequate income, but more as a result of inadequate or failed livelihoods (Badaru, 2011). Mtero, Gumede and Ramantsima, (2019) agree that

land reform is less emphasised as a mechanism for social transformation by supporting household food security and multiple livelihoods amongst the poor. Moreover, the key challenge in implementing of pro-poor land redistribution is the capture of public resources in land reform by various economically and politically powerful individuals and the economically dominant groups benefit through practices that enable elite capture in land redistribution. Land redistribution is central to food security in South Africa and the landless should be a priority to access the land. Latest food price increases have a huge bearing on food security, particularly for those who do not have access to land and can produce for themselves.

Boshoff, Sihlobo and Ntombela (2018) examined that distributing and increasing access to land without addressing the market access barriers, and input supply constraints coupled with a lack of infrastructure for smallholder and communal farmers, will not yield production growth, but subsequently will exacerbate the food insecurity problem in the country. Furthermore, food insecurity in the country is already at unacceptable levels. It could worsen if the land is distributed to previously disadvantaged individuals without putting proper mechanisms in place to increase access to markets, financing, inputs, and infrastructure. Land redistribution should investigate potential beneficiaries' capabilities and consider each parcel's unique characteristics as not all lands are meant for agriculture. The emergence of sustainable commercial farms can be a major factor in generating sufficient economies of scale to ensure adequate packaging, processing, and transportation infrastructure, as well as marketing channels for output and supply channels for essential farm inputs and surrounding subsistence and community farmers, can then benefit from such supply and marketing facilities and thereby increase their profitability (Nhamo *et al.*, 2021). Land redistribution should not be implemented to meet set targets, but also to factor in food security and commercial benefits attached to the programme. Those in commercial space in the agricultural sector should be allowed the opportunity to access the market without being affected by bureaucratic practices.

It is possible to significantly enhance household food security and support the livelihoods of numerous rural residents by expanding access to high-quality land, equipped with basic infrastructure and extension services (Lahiff *et al.*, 2008). Apart from meeting the

identification criteria alone, additional factors such as land suitability, including land capability factors and the impact of expropriation on foreign investment, vulnerable individuals residing on or occupying the land, and food security, should be taken into account when establishing suitability criteria in South Africa. By using the development process criteria for identifying suitable agricultural land, the South African government will have a valuable tool for selecting land for acquisition and redistribution. The implementation of these criteria will contribute to a transparent, impartial, and procedurally fair selection process, while also assisting landowners in determining the likelihood of their land being targeted for redistribution (Kotzé, 2021). The suitability and quality of the land are crucial for beneficiaries, as they will directly impact the land's productivity.

Rathbone (2015) points out that what South Africa needs in the context of land redistribution is an encompassing ontology of land that is inclusive of the functionalist, cultural, and other ontologies of land that move beyond modernism. Moreover, it must be an ontology that acknowledges that land must be utilised to provide nutrition, and resources for people. It must be an ontology of land as bread and life. Still, at the same time, this ontological perspective of land must include the complex connection of people and land in terms of culture, identity, dignity, and therefore also of life. Land and life are inseparable, and the reduction of this complexity constitutes injustice because our deepest existential roots are anchored in the land. Sibanda (2001) examined the impact of the land redistribution policy on poverty and income distribution, and more emphasis can be achieved through the relaxation of the assumption of linearity and fixed prices. This will allow for the analysis of the long-run and redistributive effects of the land redistribution policy in South Africa and it will then require the application of a dynamic computable general equilibrium microsimulation model. Land redistribution implementation needs an open approach since it affects various sensitive aspects of livelihoods.

Unequal opportunities are caused by unequal access to land which results in a society where people depend on livelihoods on land, this inequality is important to address but its effect on stability is not as evident. Land is an important factor in the peace process since it is a central asset, in conflicts, and through redistributing land, inequalities can

decrease and in the long run stabilize the situation in rural areas (Petersson & Rosen, 2011). In addition, Nkomo (2018) investigated that the land taken away during forced removals of black South Africans half a century ago is citizens' highest priority for land redistribution, followed by agricultural land and vacant land in the cities. Evidence indicates that only one in 20 South Africans assert that there should be no redistribution of land, and surprisingly, more than half of South Africans want to keep the willing seller-willing buyer policy that the government's land redistribution program has used since 1994, and a similar proportion wants farmers to be able to retain ownership of land on which tenants live and work. Housing appears to be the most highly prioritized land issue for South African citizens, who cite the high cost of land, along with its scarcity and racialization, as significant barriers to acquiring land. Many people have different relationships and attitudes towards the land particularly, the ownership part. The land redistribution programme does not seek to afford people a platform to access land only, but to value and develop a relationship with the land.

2.1.8. Land reform and land tenure

A coherent and achievable goals to protect women and enhance the land tenure security system and gender relations as a focus point needs to be developed by the Department of Land Affairs in collaboration the South African governemnt (Moagi, 2008). Security of land tenure can be offered through the publication of the nature and extent of the use rights exercised by the community members on a specific piece of land. In the process of developing a land policy, implementing a comprehensive land administration system, and securing the land tenure rights of all South Africans, it may be profitable to accord attention to research, evidence, and legal precedents in other legal systems that are considerably further down the rocky road than South Africa (Pienaar, 2013). The department and government should be able to identify the type and objectives of the land under occupation by the community to ensure proper tenure rights are aligned to the land. Moreover, land tenure security should factor in gender parity, women are the most vulnerable group under the land rights use space.

Lall *et al.*, (2009) state that tenure security is a key component in the design and implementation of tenure formalisation programmes and projects. Appropriate assessment and evaluation tools must be developed to define an operationally relevant and comparable measure of tenure security, combining qualitative and quantitative information collected at national, urban and settlement levels. Moreover, the security of tenure indicators should enable the identification of trends and dynamics at the city or settlement level over time and establish international comparisons. Consistently, Tenure *et al.*, (2009) observed that given the impacts of both colonial policies and of past and current processes of rapid social change the main challenge facing issues of land in Africa is always how to identify and secure land rights that are clearly distinct from foreign Western legal forms of private property but are not simply customary. Moving away from the colonial and its legal system is at the heart of the struggle of victims of land tenure rights. The South African government should deal with the private property matter which affects land tenure security and its imbalances. The issue of tenure security still lacks modern information systems.

The farming population faced a problem, particularly those who are to a large extent small-scale farmers is the increasing rate of poverty caused by the maladministration of land ownership. It is difficult for farm households to feel an emotional attachment to the land due to insecure property rights that inhibit land productivity and environmental sustainability and the state administration policy and land ownership system followed in each country respectively. However, the land administration departments of countries must ensure good governance and transparency in ensuring proper land tenure and property rights, Shimelles *et al.*, (2009). Furthermore, land tenure security guarantees perceptions of long-term tenure and stimulates farmers' initiatives to sustain their agricultural activities, creating an enabling environment. At the same time, evidence points to the need to keep the cadastre information updated to avoid future misleading of land information-based dealings and to construct belief in the tenure systems (Singirankabo & Ertsen, 2020). Tenure rights can afford landholders a platform to unleash their potential to be innovative on the type of land they occupy. Lack of secure tenure can limit the landholders to being free and productive.

Chagutah (2013) posited that unchecked land tenure insecurity would exacerbate the vulnerability of societies in southern Africa to the impacts of future climate change, due to its intersection with socio-economic, political, and environmental challenges. Societal vulnerability is shaped by a multitude of economic, social, cultural, institutional, political, and psychological factors that influence people's lives and their environment. Land tenure is a crucial component of this complex web of mediating factors, and reforms are needed to realign tenure regimes with existing development challenges, including the urgent need to address the debilitating effects of climate change on socio-economic development in southern Africa. The success of land tenure reform and modernization at the national level depends on political choices regarding the types of property rights that will be enforced, the extent of bureaucratization, secularization, and democratization of state authority. Ultimately, tenure reforms are constitutional-level choices that require consensus-building among citizens on fundamental questions of political order and community. These choices precede policy decisions on land management, rural investment, and local government design (Boone, 2007). Securing land tenure rights is essential for addressing the socio-economic challenges faced by individuals under tenure insecurity, but it also involves rebuilding social relations between the state and its citizens.

Land tenure and tenure security are not, in and of themselves, perfect safeguards for forests and they will enable landholders, whether individuals, households, or communities, to consider future values into current decision-making. This land tenure matters not just for forests, but for any benefit accruing from the land over time (Robinson, Holland and Naughton-Treves, 2011). In addition, Dube and Guveya (2013) agree that land tenure security is an important determinant in influencing farmers' capacity to invest in long-term productive activities and in the sustainable management of their resources. Consequently, tenure security significantly contributes to sustainable agriculture and rural development. Gaining access to land use rights is very important in influencing the landholders to invest in various land activities. Furthermore, secured land use rights will enable citizens to access more funding for various land activities to increase their capacity.

Dlamini and Masuku (2011) argue that land tenure plays a major role in the performance and development of the food sector by influencing land ownership and use patterns as well as the productivity of the land, as an institution. South Africa's former homelands is different from other African countries and that is why the objective land tenure system has to be reformed. The purpose was not to promote the agricultural development of the area or to improve the livelihoods of people living in these areas only, it was to guarantee land rights to people who had been deprived of it in the past (Sato, 2019). The land tenure rights are intended to safeguard the rights of the people who had been deprived of land use rights before. It also serves as an essential platform for people to institute economic empowerment for land-based livelihoods.

2.1.9. Land reform on land administration

Land administration Act (No: 2 of 1995), provides for the delegation of powers and the assignment of the administration of laws regarding land matters to the provinces; provides for the creation of uniform land legislation; and to provide for matters incidental thereto, South Africa (1995). Land administration is basically about people, the relationship between people and places, and the policies, institutions, and regulations that govern this relationship. The focus should be acceptable that meet the needs of society today and can be incrementally improved over time when building administration systems in less developed countries (Enemark, 2016). The land administration process in all its spheres should be deliberately about people and institutions that enable citizens to access land with ease. The land administration act was envisioned to assist in the implementation of land reform policies.

Jan and Seiler (2007) points out that it is not possible to assess the impact of democratic decentralization in rural South Africa due to the basic reason that decentralization in this sector is at best incomplete. Furthermore, in the land administration space, the law that would establish a post-1994 system of land ownership and administration has not been promulgated after almost ten years and its laws exist to establish a developmental local government, but full implementation has yet to happen. However, land administration reform by its very nature is long-term and as such, there is a need for a clear road map to

ensure that all developments and changes contribute to the overall vision for the land administration system for the country. There is a strong argument due to the complexity of land administration systems for projects to compromise petite sub-projects which have a clear focus; but it is essential that they are undertaken as part of an agreed vision and integrated land administration for the country (Williamson, 2001). The administration of land is operating in a very complicated space, affecting many societal processes and practices.

Land administration can go beyond the traditional legal mandate of the organizations as land registries, and custodians of cadastre, and it can be applied to meet broader interests in the spatial development lifecycle with well-structured workflows and with conformity to standardization (Kalogianni *et al.*, 2020). Contemporary land administration contributes to the development of a cadastral system within a state-led land administration reform and the associated changes in the land administration organization operating it might affect the operation and sustainability of a real estate market. Moreover, the organizational merger of land registry and cadastre organizations within the context of an overarching land administration reform (Balla *et al.*, 2022). Land administration features various aspects of the process to ensure it accommodates all systems including cadastral as a land administration tool.

Burns *et al.*, (2006) argue that the ability of the civil service and local authorities to implement land administration policy efficiently and effectively is mainly constrained by the political and social environment within a regime. The solution is noted by McLaren (2011) that the challenge for land professionals is not just to replicate elements of their current services using crowdsourcing, however, is to radically rethink how land administration services are managed and delivered in partnership with citizens. The administration of land by the people can become a markedly 21st-century phenomenon. Land administration has been left out to be a responsibility of leaders and political actors, meanwhile, full participation by the people on the administration processes dealings of the land will show great success since they will be glued up with the systems.

The implementation dictates a lot of innovation and drive as well as flexibility which often mainstream civil service procedures do not allow. Land administration reform processes and objectives are appropriately set within the broader context of promoting economic growth and measures to alleviate poverty (Plural, no date). Furthermore, the gradual evolution of land administration from its cadastral, market focus to the additional facilitative role for multi-purpose spatial information infrastructures that better address the complex demands for sustainable decision-making over the development of land and related resources. Simply put, a new land administration paradigm is required if sustainable development is to rise above the rhetoric (Williamson, Ting & Grant, 1999). The administration of land needs a serious shift to realize the objectives of the system. Land administration should be aligned with the development and trends of global changes to accommodate modern land demands, as is how land is administered particularly the technological aspect.

According to the African Union (2010) state that sustainable growth and development in Africa as well as the continent's contribution to the world economy in the 21st century will continue to depend largely on the way land and land-related resources are secured, used, and managed. Moreover, sustainable growth and development will require that these issues be addressed through comprehensive people-driven land policies and reforms that confer full political, social, economic, and environmental benefits to most of the African people. Van Asperen, (2014) warns that land administration alone cannot address the shortage of land and policy review is required urgently, especially the one giving more attention to the needs of the poor. Additionally, the fundamental problem has risen, and it should be taken more seriously to address the land administration systems. Land administration systems should be people-centred to achieve sustainable development growth and policies be availed to strengthen access to land and be reliant on how land is administered. A combination of conducive policies and land administration systems can assist with simplifying access to land.

Samsudin, Lim and McCluskey (2011) states that in terms of surveying and mapping, the daily operation and management of the four land administration elements involve national agencies ,regional and local authorities, and the private sectors . Consequently, the aspects

of decentralization, collaboration and coordination among stakeholders, formation of a single organization, and public participation should be given full attention in developing a strong and competitive organizational administrative system. Land administration transparency completeness is when transparency is achieved across all land administration processes, and stakeholders simultaneously and a single permissionless public blockchain can help achieve this. However, there is a need for the different land divisions to establish standardization in the land administration processes prior to the blockchain's application in such a compressive approach. Since, where there is no such standardization, there is a high possibility of inconsistencies and irregularities in the processes across the different divisions which can affect the efficient working of the blockchain system across all the divisions (Ameyaw & De Vries,2020). Land administration stakeholders must ensure their contribution has meaningful participation in delivering effective and efficient land administration systems. The background and experience of all spheres of stakeholders are important in designing land administration systems and access to land for the benefit of all societal structures.

2.1.10. Land reform on Communal Land

Wienberg (2015) investigated that people living in the former homelands where communal land tenure exists continue to have insecure land rights and the post-apartheid government has courted commercial farmers and traditional leaders instead of introducing legislation to secure the rights of people living in these areas. Furthermore, he examined that the state has also failed to engage in a transparent and accountable way with the solutions put forward by constituencies and the legislation on its own will not solve the problem of insecurity of land tenure, but it will provide people in rural areas with a much stronger base from which to make claims on the land. Consequently, there is a lot at stake in developing communal tenure legislation that meets the needs of people living in the former homelands. In agreement, Ncapayi (2021) states that the government needs to resolve the issue of tenure in areas under the jurisdiction of traditional authorities and make it clear that the ownership of land in communal areas is vested in the landholders of their tenure. The government has not prioritized communal tenure security in the

former Bantustans due to its political interests. Moreover, laws on communal land are not enough and more actions are needed.

Effective communal land governance is driven by a complex of community dynamics, social relations, and the biophysical characteristics of the landscape it is not just about getting the scale right as no single scale meets all the criteria. Moreover, there is a need for further development and policy interventions to facilitate sustainable communal land rights formalization and it is important to note that all this is taking place in a world of high uncertainties and these need to be taken into consideration when planning and implementing a new land tenure policy. Communal land governance needs an inclusive approach in the planning process instead of basing the arguments about tenure on one theory (Senda *et al.*, (2020). A communal land governance programme represents colonial durability: hegemonic mistranslations and misuse of tropes of land conflict and customary land have distorted engagements on a complex situation of very real problems around how families cope with evolving social change and resource deficiencies (Hopwood, 2021). Societal dynamics affect communal land governance and a comprehensive approach to accommodate its tenure security is imperative.

Adams and Turner (2005) investigated that Africa has changed from a continent of land abundance to one of land scarcity and the unresolved conflicts over land and other natural resources increasingly undermine the capacity of poor people to produce food. Customary land administration arrangements have fallen away but have not been replaced by satisfactory statutory procedure and the poor and vulnerable are unable to defend themselves against the strong arm of powerful land grabbers. The inadequacies of land tenure and administration systems that still reflect the tenure dualism introduced by colonial regimes and ineffectively addressed by independent governments are the main source of the rapidly growing vulnerable urban population. A decade and a half later, Achiba and Lengoiboni (2020) examined communal land tenure in two folds; firstly, there is dominant influence on communal land reform remnant of the reproduction of historical misconceptions of communal land tenure. The second examination indicates that the community land law process has shown strong evidence of the process of elite capture and related dynamics that play important roles in both the nature of communal

tenure reform and the ability of the reform agenda to deliver secure communal rights in the land. Government should do away with colonial policies to ensure communal land security is achieved.

To secure communal land users against appropriation and to include those who inhabit communal land as veritable partners in development, today's tenure reform should be sufficiently transformative and not as mere spectators as their long-held resources are exploited by others through capitalism. Furthermore, communal land should not be excluded from the process of maximizing its potential and the current legal framework is adequate for the task of ensuring that this is done in an inclusive and equitable manner. To strengthen protection and allow for a fairer distribution of benefits from the commercial use of communal land, better regulations should be introduced (Wicaksana, 2016). In agreement, Madwamuzwe (2022) notes that local sustainability use and governance systems are critical factors often incompatible with higher-order political and social interests that shape resource governance in temporary society. There is a need to address political issues on both theoretical and practical grounds if the indigenous resource governance systems are to be sustained. Communal land setup should be ensured it deals with genuine partners and guards against capitalism to unleash its potential to deal with inequality.

Bank of Namibia (2012) point out that recognition and securing land rights are at the centre of tenure reform in Africa while distinct from private property is not simply communally owned, however, represents a complex set of existing rights entailing individual family land use rights, community user rights, overlapping and secondary rights governed by changing local and national land administration structures and procedures in a context ongoing of agrarian, social and political changes. For resource tenure and management, critical evaluation of communal tenure and the search for more enduring forms of resource ownership that coincide with the changing aspirations of rural populations as conditioned by the material conditions of reproduction in post-colonial southern Africa is required, and more detailed investigation of local institutional arrangements. Moreover, there is a demand for proactive engagement with the land and agrarian reform processes, movements, and scholarship (Nelson, 2010). The state must

recognize that communal tenure needs consistent attention aligned with social changes and dynamics.

South Africa's communal areas are predominantly rural, and the development of these areas is largely dependent on progress achieved in enhancing the contribution of agriculture and micro-enterprises to employment and income. It is mainly worrisome for the fact that agriculture and micro-enterprises contribute minimally to rural development in communal areas, and it is an important scale of the impact of the Communal Land and Rights Act on rural development in communal areas should be the contribution it makes the enhancement of the contribution of agriculture and micro-enterprises to employment and income (de Villiers, 2009). In addition, Mendelsohn and Shixwameni, Louise, Nakamhela, (2002) point out that circumstances and living for people living in communal areas are challenging particularly for those who lack access to incomes from other sources and communal tenure security provisions conspire in several ways to add further difficulties which limit the economic value of communal land. Allowing residents to participate fully in the modern economy can reduce the communal land challenges by encouraging changes from the existing customary and subsistence economy. The state must create a way of ensuring that the potential of the agricultural sector benefits communal areas and maintain communal land rights holders to address livelihood development. There is a strong relationship between communal land rights and socio-economic in communal areas, the communal land tenure is a very key deterrent of rural development.

2.2. CONCLUSION

Respective literature reviewed ranging from an international perspective on land reform reveals the importance of adequate implementation of land reform policies globally and in post-apartheid South Africa. The literature studied indicates that land reform is a very important element and is heavily aligned with great potential to eradicate poverty and serve as a source of livelihood development. Studies signify the importance of land reform with its various programmes as a crucial tool to address inequality and secure proper community livelihoods. The following gaps have been identified from the broad

literature studied. Firstly, the land reform programme has been approached on a general basis without a clear definition and sense of set target on what to achieve. There is a failure of a clear target for the population on how they should deal with the land reform programme. Land reform in South Africa is treated as an adult-only matter. Secondly, the land reform programme has not been properly administered. All programmes that fall under land reform have not been under a proper administration system. Land reform administration has not been implemented and it is revealed in the literature reviewed that set targets for all programmes have not been achieved. The absence of administration means that implementation does not take place since the administration systems part guides the implementation process. There is heavy criticism of failed and inadequate policies implementation caused by absence of land administration.

Thirdly, at the centre of all land reform programmes is the matter of a dominant population cohort, the youth. Since the inception of the land reform programmes, youth have never been identified as a crucial part of the society entitled to own land. The revealed studies indicate the failure of land reform institutions and policies in all spheres but there is a gap in identifying that youth are the majority and should access land. Moreover, land reform literature from the international level is also silent in the same way as the domestic studies on the recognition of youth as landowners. There is a gap in the literature in the sense that few studies address the lack of policies and guidelines on land ownership by the youth. Land reform is approached generally without a clear meaning and definition of the targeted group. The struggle for youth to access land is embedded in this poor policy formulation. Current land reform policies and frameworks are unresponsive to young people's needs. Land reform policies demonstrate lack of political will to ensure these policies are implemented. Land, same as leadership roles are occupied by elders. Literature aligned to youth bulges indicate that if youth are left inactive, they pose a threat of politically instability.

Fourth, the literature shows that land reform lacks a clear ideological position. Since the inception of the land reform programme, the government has not demonstrated a strong ideological position in terms of land reform. The complexities range from the inability of the state to compromise on accommodating the traditional authorities against communal

land tenure, the return of the dispossessed land and dealing with the market-led land reform programme which does not suit existing land reform demands. Fifth, the studied work indicates that the government has not dismantled the skewed land ownership patterns. South Africa is under the existence of white domination in terms of land ownership patterns. Land inequality is still a major challenge, and it is still based on racial categories. Finally, the transformation of the land ownership patterns is not featured in the studied literature. This demonstrates the inability of the government to recognize that land reform's various land-related activities should be transformed to accommodate the previously dispossessed. Youth should be integrated into the agricultural space and access land.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY AND RESEARCH DESIGN

3.1. Introduction

The previous chapter reviewed relevant literature on the previously published research on the politics of land reform and youth and critically analyzed how the topic under study fits into the existing body of knowledge by injecting new ideas. In this chapter, the methodological procedures and techniques followed in the current study are discussed and presented. As a start, a concise overview of the qualitative research literature is presented, followed by the evaluation of the utilized research design and the research instrument. Subsequently, aspects concerning data collection and analysis are addressed in relation to this particular study discussed under the data analysis and procedures section. The chapter concludes by outlining suitable ethical standards that were followed to protect the participants in the study during data collection mentioned under the ethical considerations section.

3.2. Research philosophy

Research Philosophy is defined as a research system on knowledge development dealing with beliefs and assumptions (Saunders, Lewis, and Adrian, 2019). Pranas (2018)) adds that the developed knowledge is intended to help answer a particular question and give answers to problems in a particular organization. In the main, the research philosophy is focused on knowledge pertaining to the topic under study. Various research philosophies relevant to the study are discussed in the following subsections.

3.2.1. Positivism

Saunders, Lewis, and Adrian, (2019) noted that positivism entails working with an observable social reality to produce law-related generalizations concerned with the philosophical stance of the natural scientist. It could be studied using quantitative techniques scientifically and perceive that the realities of the organization have an existing objective (Awa Uduma & Sylva, 2015). Uebel (2021) observed that positivism

is used to describe a societal approach based only on empirical scientific evidence, such as controlled statistics and experiments. Positivism postulates that philosophical phenomena, when approached through models, can be understood and constitute true explanations independent of the observer (Sanchez *et al.*, 2023). Positivism depends on an a priori hypothesis normally stated quantitatively to verify the hypothetic deductive method where functional relationships can be derived between casual and explanatory factors and outcomes (Park, Konge and Artino, 2020). The central focus of positivism is to describe and experiment with a philosophy aligned with the knowledge of certain phenomena.

3.2.2. Interpretivism

According to Ryan (2018) interpretivism advances a position on subjectivity, between truth and knowledge, and culturally and historically based on people's experience and understanding of them. In agreement, Alharahsheh and Pius, (2020) share the same observation that interpretivism is more concerned with in-depth variables and factors related to a context. It considers humans as different from physical phenomena as they create further depth in meanings with the assumption that human beings cannot be explored similarly to physical phenomena. Additionally, it involves the research process of interpreting elements of the study (Capps, 2019). Interpretivism observes that humans create meanings that make them different from physical (Saunders, Lewis,& Adrian,2019). Understanding individuals' beliefs, motivations, and reasoning in a social situation is essential to decoding the meaning of the data that can be collected around a phenomenon to a social science approach (Nickerson & Mcleod, 2023).

3.2.3. Pragmatism

The pragmatism philosophical phenomena research approach begins with a problem and intends to contribute practical solutions that inform forecasted practice (Saunders, Lewis & Adrian, 2019). Pragmatism philosophy is intended to help researchers find the aims of the problem and solutions to the research hindrances to contribute to the practical solution (Pranas, 2018). Pragmatism is mainly concerned with solving practical problems in the real world rather than being rooted in assumptions about the nature of knowledge

(Cresswell, 2014). Pragmatism is a practical approach focused on the matter-of-fact way, assessment of situations, and solving problems (Sharma, Devi, and Kumari, 2018). Andersen and Mitchell, (2023) state that pragmatism is a significant philosophical instrument bordering on the methodological and research questions manifesting from science, on the one hand, underlying ontological or metaphysical commitments that support the methodological discussions on the other side. The pragmatism maxim is focused on advancing practical circumstances.

3.2.4. Realism

Kumar *et al.*, (2016) explain realism as a research philosophy focused on international relations based on how power is used. Under realism, objectivity is more preferred than subjectivity (Nurhidayah & Setiawan, 2022). Galloway (2013) posits that realism “means quite simply that an external world exists independent of ourselves and our languages, thoughts, and beliefs—although it is often also taken to entail the less simple epistemological thesis that we have direct and verifiable access to knowledge about that external world “. Realism is involved with issues about outside influence and exposure.

3.2.5. Relativism

Relativism asserts that procedures of justification are products of differing conventions and frameworks of assessment and that their authority is confined to the context giving rise to them in the nexus of truth and falsity, right and wrong, and standards of reasoning (Baghramian & Colovia, 2019). Kolbel (2004) recently observed relativism focuses most of its work on the debate between opponents and defenders of some of the relativist thesis.

3.2.6. Justification of the chosen philosophy

Pragmatism is the chosen research philosophy for this study mainly because it provides the researcher with an opportunity to explore more deeply the research phenomena which is to explore the politics of youth and land reform in post-apartheid South Africa. Moreover, the research is packaged to explore the insights and lived experiences of the participants through follow-up interactions. The topic under study suits this philosophy

because it is guided by practical considerations on challenges faced by youth in the land reform space. Morgan (2014) postulates that between pragmatism and advocacy for social justice, exists a powerful connection.

3.3. Research methodology

In the main, research methodologies are divided into three categories, namely: quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods (Ikram & Kenayathulla, 2022).

3.3.1. Quantitative research

Quantitative research tests the hypothesis by the theory the research has already researched, and it is associated with deductive research (Chapin, 2017). In addition, Mehrad, A., and Tahriri Zangeneh, (2019) state that in the quantitative research design, the central aim is to ensure that the connotation between an independent variable and a dependent variable or consequence in a population is regulated. The research approach focuses on quantity measured, mainly the question is answered in numbers, researchers normally conduct surveys and experiments.

3.3.2. Mixed method research

The mixed method research approach applies the combination of both quantitative and qualitative methods into one study in order to provide a broader and more proper understanding of the research problem under study (Almeida, 2018). A mixed-method approach to research is a stand-alone methodology in its own right. Moreover, researchers integrate methods of either collecting or analyzing data from both qualitative and quantitative research approaches into a single study (Chapin, 2020). There are generally five types of mixed methods designs envisioned for research possibilities (Creswell, 2014). Mixed methods design types are discussed in the following subsections.

3.3.3. Convergent design

In a convergent design, with respect to the same general research problem, the researcher collects both quantitative and qualitative data in parallel and normally at the same (Leedy, Paul D & Ormrod, 2015). Both qualitative and quantitative processes of methods and data collection have the nexus of the two occurring in the results as a means of (Garcia & Mayorga, 2018). In convergent mixed method design exists both qualitative and quantitative methods.

3.3.4. Embedded design

Leedy, Paul D and Ormrod, (2015) observed that both quantitative and qualitative data are collected within the same general time frame. One set of data plays a secondary role in a larger study dominated by the other research method when applying an embedded design (Cresswell, 2013). In embedded design, the researcher and readers are exposed to one method of inquiry being used in supporting a secondary role to make sense of the whole study (Almalki, 2016).

3.3.5. Exploratory design

The researcher infuses twofold phases when implementing the exploratory design mixed methods, he observed the characteristics, and phenomena from observations, interviews, or both regarding the topic while the second phase focuses on qualitative observation phenomena in a real-world setting which is normally helpful in developing a hypothesis or aligned questionnaire (Leedy, Paul D & Ormrod, 2015). In exploratory design, the researcher is allowed to first collect qualitative data, and then use the information to develop a follow-up quantitative phase of data collected post analyses (Guetterman, Fetter & Creswell, 2015).

3.3.6. Explanatory design

Explanatory design is also a two-phase process with the first phase focusing on collecting substantial quantitative data while phase two deals with collected data from phase one exploring participants' descriptions and experiences (Leedy, Paul D & Ormrod, 2015). Garcia and Mayorga (2018) add that an exploratory sequential design begins with the qualitative methods and data collection, which informs the building of a second quantitative method and data collection. Explanatory design involves first collecting quantitative data and using the results to inform the follow-up qualitative data collected post-analyses (Guetterman, Fetters & Creswell, 2015).

3.3.7. Multiphase iterative design

According to Leedy, Paul D and Ormrod (2015) a multiphase iterative design covers the above three phases with the first ones serving as foundational data on which the following can sequentially build. Multiphase design is mainly the potential application of various designs over several studies. Multiphase design normally is conducted when the researcher examines a research problem iteratively, both quantitative and qualitative, sequentially with each approach built on the results of previous research to answer the main objectives of the study (Arini, 2019). It involves multiple phases of conducting the research study.

3.4. Qualitative research

A qualitative approach was used in the study because it was relevant in assisting to address the study objective by exploring the research topic while the other two methods were irrelevant due to the nature of the study undertaken. Yin (2016) argues that qualitative studies are important because they can consider the contextual richness of these settings and allow the researchers to investigate the daily lives and philosophical perspectives of a variety of people in various contexts. Qualitative research is more focused and involved in non-numerical data intended to understand various concepts,

opinions, and personal experiences. Qualitative research assists in creating a better conclusion of the theories underlying theories the data collected (Dawson, 2019).

The study is exploratory in nature because it attempts to investigate the perspectives of young people and the politics of land reform in post-apartheid South Africa and further assists in investigating situations where the evaluated intervention does not produce predictable results. The exploratory aspect of the study originates from its attempt to examine South Africa's post-apartheid land reform politics and youth experiences. Their subjective perceptions and experiences were intended to form the study's primary data since they will lead to accurate data.

3.4.1. Justification for choosing qualitative research method.

The qualitative researcher naturally functions as part of the measurement instrument itself and has a great say in generating findings from the data (L. Haven & Van Grootel, 2019). A qualitative approach was the best option because the goal of this study was to explore the politics of youth and land reform in South Africa after apartheid, moreover, with providing an opportunity of making a follow up with respondents which led to a fruitful discussion on the topic under study.

Yin (2016) describes a qualitative research process whereby in-depth studies are conducted about a broad array of topics, including your favourites, in plain and everyday terms. Yin (2016) provides the following features that distinguish qualitative research and its specialized types from other forms of social science research:

- Studying the meaning of people's lives, in their real-world roles.
- Representing the views and perspectives of the people in the study.
- Explicitly attending to and accounting for real-world contextual conditions.
- Contributing insights from existing or new concepts that may help to explain social behaviour and thinking, and
- Acknowledging the potential relevance of multiple sources of evidence rather than relying on a single source alone.

3.5. Research design

According to Creswell, (2014) research designs are specific types of inquiry that provide direction for procedures in a research plan, including qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches. The purpose of a research design was to create an overall address the research problem. For this study, a qualitative research approach was selected because the researcher sought to understand the lived experience of participants related to the implementation of the redistributive justice theory. Plano Clark and Ivankova, (2018) state that research design is the gathering, interpreting, analysing, and reporting of data in research studies. The various types of research design in qualitative research are as follows:

3.5.1. Correlational research

Correlational research is a quantitative methodology focused on determining whether, and to what extent a relationship exists between two or more variables within a research study sample (Apuke, 2017). This type of research design analyses correlations between two or more variables without allowing the researcher to control or manipulate any (Wollman, 2018). Devi *et al.*, (2022) state that a correlational design is a study design intended to examine the relationship between or among two or more variables in a single group which can occur at several levels of research. Correlational in the main, is more concerned with variables. Correlational research applies typically quantitative methods to assess the relationship between variables (Hou *et al.*, 2021). This design will not be applied in the study mainly because the research chose a qualitative approach that matches the research aims.

3.5.2. Descriptive research

Descriptive research provides an accurate image of the characteristics of a specific individual, scenario, or group. It provides researchers with a method to uncover new meanings or characterise an existing occurrence (Wollman, 2018). The descriptive research design involves a large sample, describes events, and helps define attitudes, opinions, and behaviours observed or measured at a given time and environment

(Biereenu-nnabugwu, 2022). Descriptive research does not necessarily describe data, it uses data to describe the world identify and improve our understanding of socially important phenomena (Loeb *et al.*, 2017). Descriptive research aims to delineate associations among personality-relevant phenomena and their link with other variables as comprehensively as possible, while also doing this in ways that allow flexibly summarizing and organizing this information; predictive research aims to maximize generalizable out-of-sample predictive power without much regard to the descriptive or explanatory elegance of the statistical models and approaches aiming to explain personality phenomena need to be clear about their levels of analysis and set targets that are appropriate and realistic for the type of variability or processes that are being explained (Möttus *et al.*, 2020). This design was not preferred mainly because of its limitations on regarding the study and was not going to provide the right analysis to answer the research objectives.

3.5.3. Explanatory research

Explanatory research mainly looks for explanations of the nature of certain relationships (Pandey & Sharma, 2020). Atmowardoyo (2018) adds that it explains the cause-and-effect relationship and delves into why patterns and trends exist that have not been investigated. The explanatory qualitative data collection method appears to be particularly relevant for studies investigating various social structures impacting people's dispositions and behaviour (Næss, 2018). Explanatory research can also be applied in a case study. Explanatory study research generally compares a set of various variables to reach a specific outcome (Chong, Wong & Wang, 2014). Explanatory design is not aligned with the study approach and its objectives since the study is exploratory not explanatory which was not going to deliver the high-quality data required.

3.5.4. Experimental research design

Rogers and Révész,(2019) observed that one or more variables are altered and the effects of this change on another variable are examined in experimental research. The experimental research designs cover a completely randomized design, a randomized complete block design, a Latin squares design, factorial designs, orthogonal designs,

split-plot designs, augmented designs, uniform designs, and mixture designs (Tang & Zhang, 2013). The main basic objective of experimental research is to determine the casual relationship between independent and dependent variables Podsakoff and Podsakoff experimental design (no date). Experimental design is misaligned with the research aims and for this study, it was irrelevant to be applied.

3.5.5. Exploratory research design

An exploratory study is undertaken when the research objective is either to explore an area where little is known or to investigate the possibilities of undertaking a particular research study (Swaraj, 2019). Qiu *et al.*, (2015) defines exploratory study as the soul of good research. Exploratory research intends to learn as much as possible about two variables, the dependent variable, and the independent variable (Singh, 2021). For the purpose and relevance of this study, exploratory research design is chosen and the justification for its preference is explained in the following subsection. The exploratory study approach allowed for a thorough examination of the research issue, allowing for the emergence of new themes and insights through qualitative data analysis.

3.5.6. The justification of exploratory research

Exploratory research designs are associated with research designs used primarily for gaining insights and ideas about research problems as well as variables and issues associated with those problems. Often employed in studies as a first step in a multipart or extensive research project, exploratory research design helps the researcher to gain a greater understanding and to identify variables and how related they are.

Exploratory research is particularly useful when there is considerable uncertainty surrounding the topic being investigated as it can provide guidance for developing a larger study. Reiter (2017) adds that exploratory research seeks to provide new explanations that have been previously overlooked and it does so through the active involvement of the researcher in the process of amplifying his or her conceptual tools to allow him or her to raise new questions and provide new explanations of a given reality, from a new angle. Moreover, the selected qualitative methodology is well applied in exploratory design. The

space of land reform politics and youth remain largely unexplored in post-apartheid South Africa. Therefore, following the exploratory approach assisted in gaining insight and understanding of the struggle of youth to gain access to land. The following reasons were deemed salient in explorative study, particularly on the topic under study:

- To explore the dynamics of gaining access to land by youth
- To explore the socio-economic correlation between land reform and youth
- To explore the failures of existing land reform policies and its implementation
- To have a better understanding of phenomena
- To explore potential transformation opportunities on land reform and youth
- To develop methods to be employed in the subsequent research.

3.6. Population and sampling criterion

3.6.1. Population

The appropriate research population and sampling will be discussed in this section. The target population is the specific, conceptually bounded group of potential participants representing the nature of the people of interest (Casteel & Bridier, 2021). The identified study population will assist in defining the eligibility of individuals for the study. The study population is focused on youth and adults in the North-West province participating in various land activities. The study population targeted an initial population of thirty (30) from various sectors related to land. The final target audience consisted of ten participants including both males and females. The study considered the identified population's multiple ages and educational and socio-economic status. Respondents were selected through the application of the purposive sampling approach which will assist with achieving a manageable amount of data. Identification and sampling of every person were implemented.

Mentioned participants are relevant to the study based on their broad and general knowledge. When designing high-quality research protocols, establishing inclusion and exclusion criteria for study participants is a required standard (Patino & Ferreira, 2018). Inclusion criteria are concerned with various requirements participants must meet in order to participate in the study (Rangu, 2020). Exclusion criteria involve the disadvantage of the role of external factors that might interfere or personal qualities that will go against

the goal of the (Rangu, 2020). All relevant participants included had to possess knowledge and exposure to land-related matters.

The target population is determined using selection criteria to select individuals of the general population who can, at best, share experiences and thoughts under the most convenient conditions (Asiamah, Mensah & Oteng-Abayie, 2017). Previous researchers such as Ruth Hall, Ben Cousins, James Gibson, Michael Aliber and Cheryl Walker focused on land reform and post-settlement, however, to my knowledge and observation youth have not adequately been involved in land reform and land ownership elements. I sought to fill a gap in the research literature through this study. The targeted population was considered considering knowledge about the research objectives, assumptions, contexts, and various conditions. Youth and land reform are very sensitive political aspects currently affecting the South African political dispensation. Therefore, sampling for knowledgeable participants was important in the study.

3.6.2. Sampling criterion

Sampling is the process of selecting a portion of the population to represent entire population under study. Sampling is defined as a process of selecting a sample from a population with a sample representing certain characteristics (Argerich & Cruz-Cázares, 2017).

In a qualitative study, sampling is done in a deliberate manner called purposive sampling. According to Yin (2016) the goal or purpose for selecting the specific instances is to have those that will yield the most relevant and plentiful data- in essence, information rich, given your topic of study. Purposive sampling considers the researchers applying their expertise to select a sample that will be most useful and relevant of the research. According to Sharma (2017) describes purposive sampling as a reflection of a group of sampling techniques that rely on the judgement of the researcher when it comes to selecting the units that are to be studied. The following are advantages of purposive sampling:

- To assist various qualitative research methods have been designed.
- There is still time to begin making a judgement based on evidence.

- Purposive sampling could be broken up into several stages.
- It saves a lot of time facilitating data collection.
- The purposive sample with the highest level of variance will still be possible to achieve.
- The researcher can ensure representativeness on a specific dimension.

In this study, the participants' description of their experience and exposure to gaining access to land and land reform progress for a quarter of a century was the main source of information, therefore obtaining an insider's view of youth and land reform politics in the post-apartheid South Africa.

In this study, participants were selected according to the following criteria.

- They were involved in farming and struggling to gain access land.
- They were employed at government departments responsible for spatial planning and land use management.
- They were employed at government responsible for policy and planning.
- They were employed at local a municipality responsible for local economic development.
- They were involved in providing mentorship and training for emerging farmers.
- They were involved in land activities as commercial farmers.
- They were employed by government departments as agricultural extension officers.

Approximately other studies, the population was small enough to warrant the inclusion of all of them, however this study entails a large population which cannot all be studied and warranted the exclusion of theirs. In this study, all participants understood land matters, exposed to the program in one way or the other.

3.6.3. The sample size.

Singh and Micah, (2011) define sample size as a technique used to elect the number of observations to include in a sample. Sample size focuses on the number of responses reflected, not necessarily the number of questionnaires distributed (Hameed: Taherdoost, 2016). Additionally, sample size calculations require that the assumptions about expected means and standard deviations, anticipated event risks, in different groups or upon expected effect sizes (Gowda *et al.*, 2019). Sampling is the process of deciding which group you will use to gather data (Remiro-Azócar, 2022).

3.6.4. The sample size and frame selected for this study.

A sample size enables the researcher to make an appropriate unequivocal judgement that a statistical result is correct to a chosen degree of error and has sufficient power to detect a specified meaningful effect (Malone, Nicholl & Coyne, 2016). Sample size also factors in the frame of the study. The sample frame is focused on individuals who stand a chance to be included among those selected in a sample selection process ((Adwok J, 2015). From the target population of thirty (30) respondents involved in various land-related activities, only ten (10) participants were chosen as the appropriate sample size to obtain the necessary data to address research objectives and theoretical saturation. The excluded twenty (20) participants did not possess the required experiences, knowledge, and exposure relevant to the study objectives. Some of the participants were selected based on their official exposure to the relevant institution they are attached. Their ideas and knowledge shared during interviews represent their institutions aligned with the study objectives. Young people are normally left out in the land reform discussions, and they had to be central in the interviews. The topic under study also played a role in the final number of participants and how informed they were on the topic. The ten selected were obtained through the sampling technique, purposive sampling discussed in the following subsection 3.2.2.3. Lakens (2022) notes that a sample should be justified by considering how informative the data will be given an inferential goal, forecasting size effect, and also testing the hypothesis.

3.7. Sampling techniques

According to Oriani *et al.*, (2014) observed that a pattern-similarity rule is used as the main principle of the technique to resample a given data set. The sampling technique mainly focuses on two approaches of sampling, probability, and non-probability. The sampling technique is a sample from a population used statistically for selecting a representative sample (Gulzar,2023). In general, non-probability sampling is a sampling strategy that only includes a subset of the population being studied rather than the entire population (Burger,2018). Probability sampling is different from non-probability sampling, it is more difficult, time-consuming, and expensive. Non-probability sampling

comprises various sampling types: quota, convenience, purposive and snowballing, which are discussed in the next section.

3.7.1. Quota sampling

Iliyasu and Etikan (2021) define quota sampling as a process that starts with the universe description, then creates a certain quota about the unit structures that will be sampled and selects individuals to fit in with these quotas. Moreover, quota sampling involves selecting participants based on specified qualities so that the sample will have the same distribution of characteristics as the larger population (Burger, 2018).

3.7.2. Convenience sampling

Convenience sampling is the process of sampling and selecting participants because they are often readily and easily available (Hameed: Taherdoost, 2016). Parker (2019) states that convenience sampling technique selects participants from a target demographic who are simple to reach and who are included in a sample it is frequently preferred by students.

3.7.3. Purposive sampling

According to Isaac (2023) defines a purposive sampling as a non-probability sampling technique whereby the researchers select only those subjects that satisfy the objectives of the study based on the researcher's conviction. In addition Klar (2019) asserts a sampling as an approach in which the researcher consciously and judiciously chooses or recruits individuals who have the potential to offer rich information regarding the study. It is the only viable option when some units are crucial in sampling (Thomas, 2022).

3.7.4. Snowballing sampling

Snowball sampling is observed a special non-probability method used when there are difficulties in identifying members of the population or if the desired sample characteristic is rare (Tyrer & Heyman, 2016). In agreement, Anieting and Mosugu (2017) states that snowball sampling as a special non-probability method for developing

a research sample where existing study subjects recruit future subjects from among their acquaintances. Snowball sampling strategy is one in which the researcher chooses a small number of participants and asks them to recommend who might be open to or interested in the study (TenHouten, 2017).

3.7.5. The justification of the purposive technique

The non-probability of the chosen sampling method was used in this study to purposively collect data from ten (10) participants involved in various land-related activities to fulfil the study's goals and research questions. Purposive sampling is selected because it offers the advantage of time and cost efficiency. It can also be applied across qualitative research designs. Moreover, potential respondents are thoughtfully selected based on the targeted audience.

3.8. Data collection and procedures

3.8.1. Data collection

Data collection is compulsory when conducting research study. Data collection is defined as a research process of gathering, evaluating, and analysing detailed understanding for research using typical authenticated approaches (Mazhar, 2021). Flick (2018) adds that a clear method is required for good data collection to ensure that the data you collect is untainted, consistent, and dependable. Below I have provided subsections of various forms of qualitative data collection research methods. Each interview session took a maximum of an hour, and the entire process took a month, caused by postponement due to loadshedding and personal reasons from respondents.

3.8.2. Research instrument

Two principal tools were used to collect comprehensive data from the research population: in-depth interviews and document analysis. These instruments were chosen expressly to probe into the participants' experience, viewpoints, and insights regarding various land operations in the North-West province.

Based on the nature of the research questions the researcher was able to define what type of sample would be the most relevant for the study. In-depth interviews were conducted with a carefully selected set of study participants. The interviews were aimed to elicit participants' land-related experiences, opinions, views, and perceptions. To encourage extensive responses, open-ended questions were employed. Allowing participants to share their own histories and generate rich qualitative data.

The participants were chosen based on their involvement and knowledge in various land activities in the North-West province. This includes youth and adults who are actively involved in various land-related economic activities, as well as significant stakeholders such as North-West province legislature members, local municipalities, and farmer's association leaders. The interviews were performed face-to-face and remotely, this was based on the preferences of the participants and logistical factors. Audio recordings were used with consent to ensure accurate information collection and detailed notes were recorded during the interviews for later analysis.

This qualitative research project used in-depth interviews and document analysis to explore and get a complete understanding of the experiences, perspectives, and insights of youth engaged in diverse land activities in the North-West province. At this phase the researcher infused a multiple research method. Multimethod research uses multiple forms of qualitative data in the form of interviews and observations or multiple forms of quantitative data such as survey data and experimental data when conducting a research study (Guetterman, Fetters & Creswell, 2015). The participation of key stakeholders such as members of the North-West provincial assembly, local municipalities and the farmer's association ensured a wide representation of opinions and expertise on land issues in the region.

3.8.3. Interviewing

According to Jentoft and Olsen, (2019) interviews are largely used as a data collection method in the social sciences, where the purpose is to reveal other people's views, descriptions and perspectives on the themes that are addressed in the research. Interviews allows opportunity to be conducted through human interaction or online. Interviews provide the most direct and straightforward method of gathering detailed and rich data

regarding a particular research phenomenon (Barrett & Twycross, 2018). Interviews in research is useful when the topic under study requires complex questioning and a need for a follow-up probing. Post covid-19 research encouraged less human interaction and online interviews became popular to ensure data is collected properly. The interviews will assist in assessing the effects of inadequate land reform policies, particularly on youth. The frame of questions seeks to accommodate all sectors with land reform policy implementation roles and recipients.

3.8.4. Observation

An observation research method is a scientific tool and a means of data collection for the researcher, when it serves a formulated research purpose, is systematically planned, and recorded and is subjected to checks and controls on validity and reliability (Mazhar, 2021). The observation data collection approach may include watching, listening, reading, touching, and recording phenomenal behaviour and attributes (Cypress, 2018).

3.8.5. Collecting and Examining data

According to Yin (2016), collecting means compiling or accumulating objects related to your study topic. The process includes analysing policy documents, progress documents, public reports, mission statements, annual reports, and policy manuals. Data collection on various documents was conducted through document analysis to address the research questions stated for post-apartheid South Africa. In this study, document analysis was used as an additional data collection tool. A wide range of relevant materials were evaluated, including policy studies, official publications, land-related reports, and community-based activities. These documents were chosen to provide context and to back up the findings from the interviews. The investigation entailed gathering relevant data, finding trends, and gaining new insights into the larger landscape of land management and operations in the North-West area.

3.8.6. Focus group discussion.

The focus group is a qualitative research method of data collection in which a researcher speaks with a group of between six to twelve (6–12) participants about issues related to the research question (Barrett and Twycross, 2018). A focus group focuses on issues and questions of importance on a topic of common concern and its purpose of the discussion is to understand concepts and issues, to increase participation in the data collection session, and to draw on the experience and expertise of participants, discussion involves two-way communication between participants in research study (Yayeh, 2021). The main aim of a focus group is to ensure common issues are thoroughly discussed.

3.9. Type of data

Data collection can be categorised into two levels namely: primary and secondary data. Primary data is the type of research data that is collected for the first time by a researcher from main sources (Mwita, 2022). In addition, he defines secondary data as a type of research data which has already been collected by other people and it is already available for researchers to use in their research studies. Secondary data mainly applies to document analysis.

3.10. Structured interview

Structured interviews are normally designed to draw out specific answers from respondents in order to address the research objectives (Akademia Baru *et al.*, 2014). Structured interviews depend extremely on human-to-human interactions. In addition, structured interviews mainly script the interaction between the researcher and participant (Yin, 2016). Structured interviews involve structuring questions whereby the interviewer's management of the experience and the use of key questions to complete one part of the interview and open up another is applied (Qu & Dumay, 2011). Using this data collection technique, the researcher was able to gather structured data and investigate the opinions of various respondents involved in different land related activities regarding the phenomena under study. The other types of interviews are: unstructured and semi-structured. Unstructured interviews focus on personal experiences and perspectives

mainly concerned with in-depth interviews due to the tendency of engaging with the units of analysis to the real generation of crucial information (Bihu, 2020). Semi-structured interviews occurs when the researcher's goal is to better understand the participant's unique perspective rather than a generalized understanding of a phenomenon as a data collection method (Adeoye-Olatunde & Olenik, 2021). In the end, the data from the research phase of the study generated a series of ten regular open-ended interviews. The research objectives which were central to the open-ended- questions were based on the following themes and the research interview schedule factored the following structure:

- **QUESTION 1:** Land reform legislative interpretation.
- **QUESTION 2:** Land reform policy correlation with youth socio-economic emancipation.
- **QUESTION 3:** Land ownership patterns in South Africa.
- **QUESTION 4:** Communal Property Association model and youth.
- **QUESTION 5:** Youth and collaterals.
- **QUESTION 6:** Post-apartheid land reform appraisal.
- **QUESTION 7:** Youth as a political factor in the post-apartheid South Africa.

3.11. Data transcription

According to Widodo (2014) data transcription is defined as “a powerful act of data representation, analysis, and interpretation in such a way that it exerts considerable influence on how data are conceptualized”. Generally, the process is intended to uncover a vast amount of material which is iteratively scrutinise and waded through when analysing data (McGrath, Palmgren & Liljedahl, 2019). Data transcription is the process of converting recorded audio or interview into text.

3.12. Data collection challenges

The set date and time for most respondents kept on changing due to their personal responsibilities. Secondly, loadshedding also affected the scheduled time for the interview and respondents struggled to connect on the Microsoft Teams. Moreover, loadshedding also affected the quality of the recorded session due to poor network coverage. These challenges made the targeted schedule for completing the data collection longer due to continuous postponement. All the above challenges were overcome by

extending the set site for interviews, agreeing on tentative dates and time to accommodate loadshedding and personal engagements.

3.13. Data analysis

According to Joanna Minkiewicz, Jody Evans, Kerrie Bridson (2007) examined that data analysis focuses on the drawing of inferences from the raw data in research. The raw data that interpret them and provide the underlying meaning is transformed through data by searching ,evaluating, recognising ,coding, mapping ,exploring ,and describing patterns, themes and categories (Patton, 2002). In light of the research objectives, the study applied thematic data analysis because it helped with identifying patterns from important data and use it to address the problem under study. Thematic data analysis is a qualitative research technique used to look through data collection to uncover, examine, and document recurring patterns (Šula, 2018). There are three types of thematic analyses, namely: Reflexive thematic analysis, codebook thematic analysis and Coding Reliability thematic analysis. The reflexive thematic analysis involves the possible choices made available to the researcher within the approach not only originating from its applicability to a range of theory and epistemology (Drisko & Maschi, 2016). Rashid and Al-Zaman (2023) assert that codebook thematic analysis is concerned with the creation and application of a predefined coding framework rotated with codebook to analyse data. Meanwhile Coding Reliability thematic analysis deals with reliability and consistency during the process of coding the data (Rashid & Al-Zaman, 2023).

The data collected, will be analysed through Atlas.ti qualitative data analysis. Atlas.ti helps researchers uncover and systematically analyse complex phenomena hidden in unstructured data. Brigitte Smit (2002) states that Atlas.ti provides code-and-retrieve function and support for theory building through facilitating connections between codes to develop well-ordered groups and categories which in turn formulate propositions that suggest a conceptual structure that fits the data. Moreover, under Atlas.ti multiple and overlapping codes are handled without losing the context. Analysis will be trying to assist with modelling data with the goal of discovering useful information, informing conclusions, and supporting decision-making. The analysis will be done through coding

in a computer-assisted analysis by assigning a label to a data segment. Thematic analysis comprises of the following six steps:

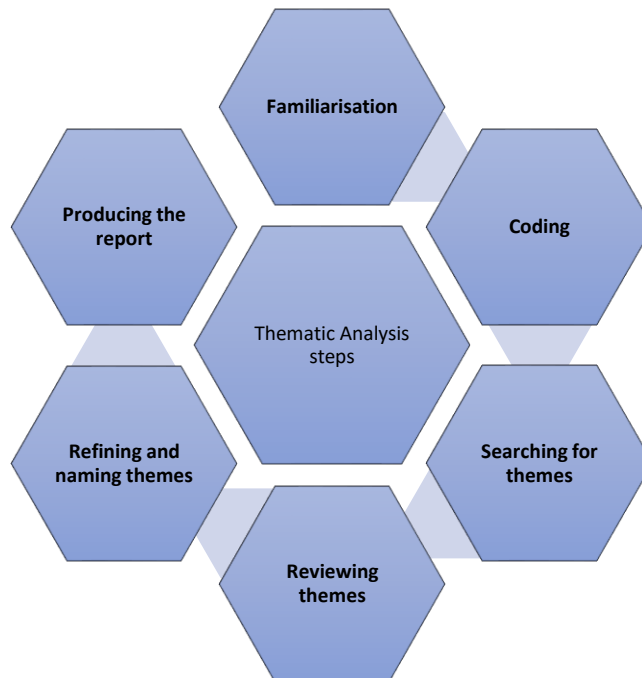


Figure 2 Thematic analysis steps

3.13.1. Familiarisation

Familiarisation is a thematic step that provides the researcher with an entry point into analysis through engaging with, and gaining insight into, what can sometimes appear to be an overwhelming mass of data (Maguire & Delahunt, 2017). It is the first important step of knowing the data in the research and what is being analysed. It involves the researchers process of reading the entire dataset repeatedly in order to become intimately familiar with the data (Byrne, 2022).

3.13.2. Coding

The main objective of coding is to reduce a big data into small chunks of meaning (Maguire & Delahunt, 2017). It serves to create a building blocks of data analysis. It further creates codes from the data by identifying relevant data that needs to be coded in the study. It is the process of identifying relevant data within each data item, tag with words which at the end captures the meaning of the data segment to the researcher (Terry et al., 2017).

3.13.3. Searching for themes

According to Maguire and Delahunt (2017) a theme is a pattern in a research study that captures something fascinating about the data and study question. The main purpose of searching for themes was to find out data patterns and relationships between and across the entire data set (Chamberlain, 2015). The process is intended to discover main research themes to ensure the research objectives are achieved.

3.13.4. Reviewing themes

The central part of reviewing themes is to ensure that themes are coherent and are different from other themes (Maguire & Delahunt, 2017). The reviewing of data is intended to ensure that the researcher is satisfied with the themes discovered and whether to combine, refine, separate, or remove initial themes. The process involves a data quality assurance to ensure that there is integration between themes and coded data.

3.13.5. Refining and naming themes

Refining and naming of themes in a research study is the process of documenting the analysis and provide an analytic narrative that encases the presented data extracts (Maguire & Delahunt, 2017). This process involves revisiting and auditing all themes with a potential of refining and renaming initial themes. On this phase, the researcher narrates about the data that makes sense according to the study topic and covers everything on all identified themes, its weaknesses, and strengths.

3.13.6. Producing the report

After a long and time-consuming phase, the researcher transformed the analysis into understandable piece of writing by applying intense and compelling data extract examples that are aligned to the themes, document analysis, research question, literature, and study objectives. The process was done using the Atlas.ti software which assisted in facilitating to model analysed data and generate reports. The produced report narrated the results of the analysis to persuade the audience on the merit and validity on the analysed study. The process goes further than description of the themes and document analysis, it went on to depict an analysis supported by empirical evidence that addressed the research question and objectives of the study. The produced report presented in the form of a chapter will be found in chapter five of this study.

3.14. Relational and conceptual data analysis

Relational and conceptual data analysis were infused in the study to assist shape the research outcome. It addresses both relationships and concepts existing in the research to discover how data analysis approach was shaped. Each of the analyses type at the end can lead to different research outcome, conclusions, data interpretation and meanings.

3.14.1. Relational data analysis

VanBaren (2017) defines relational analysis as a research method applied to explore the relationships of identified concepts in a text. Its main focus is to discover correlations between research concepts. In this study the relational approach uncovered how youth socio-economic challenges are related to land reform policies. Relational analysis it is intended to link all formulated concepts under study.

3.14.2. Conceptual data analysis

Conceptual analysis is a consistent understanding of analysis and representing the various aspects to which the examined concept into smaller elements will promote clarification (Pamplona, 2022). It is concerned with providing conceptual coherence and clarification in the study. Analysing concepts also assist in exposing and addressing data inconsistency

in the research. The conceptual role is to serve as key ideas in the study. In the main, it creates categories representing an idea relevant to the research question.

3.15. Themes development

Due to the nature of the research questions and objectives, the study had predetermined seven themes covering the study topic. Themes are concerned with shared meaning underpinned by a research central concept, in the main they should not be analytic inputs but outputs (Braun & Clarke, 2021). Predetermined themes begin with a predefined set of codes which are then assigned to the qualitative data set (Jones, 2022). Predetermined themes are guided by existing theory which informs the study approach.

3.16. Limitations and delimitation of the study.

3.16.1. Limitations of the study.

ORTSIN (2020) examined that limitations of the research study are usually concerned with potential weaknesses that are out of the researcher's control; and are closely associated with the chosen research design, statistical model constraints, funding constraints, or other factors. Imrey.P, (2020) adds that there are shortcomings that could manifest from a lack of research resources, limited sample size or a flawed study methodological approach. The following are limitations discovered in the study:

- Qualitative research demands lots of researcher's time.
- Due to its nature of conducting open-ended questions, participants are in charge in terms of the information intended for data collection.
- Workload on dealing with processing data is extremely intensive.
- In qualitative research the theory may preclude the researcher from coming up with a new theory

3.16.2. Delimitation of the study

Huang (2020) state that research delimitations are mainly concerned with making the study more manageable and pertinent to the point the researcher is making. Delimitations

are mainly the limitations consciously set by the researchers themselves and they are focused on the definitions that the researchers decide to set as the boundaries or limits of their work so that the study's aims and objectives do not become impossible to achieve (ORTSIN, 2020). The study was investigating the politics of land reform policies and youth socio-economic challenges faced by youth in post-apartheid South Africa, specifically focusing on the youth cohort from the North-West province. The study had covered the period from 2012 to 2022 and was intended to define the topic and the boundaries of the research problem to be investigated. Moreover, delimitations are intended to make the study manageable on what areas of research to cover and exclude. The delimitations of the study were to serve as a boundary that the researcher sets in terms of the study, duration, targeted population size, and the characteristics of the participants.

The study could not cover every province and everyone because the study was going to be too big and unmanageable. Moreover, delimitations were also to assist with narrowing down the study and make it more manageable and relevant to research objections. Research budget and time management are the core elements of delimitations. The research delimitation parameters were established to examine and explore the last decade of the first democratic quarter in a post-apartheid South Africa demarcated to investigate the attitude of youth in their struggle to gain access to land. The rejection of alternative options was based on their failure to address the challenges facing youth in accessing land and promoting socio-economic emancipation. The delimitation was to help focus on achieving its objectives by narrowing it down to a specific time frame and population.

3.17. Validity and reliability

3.17.1. Validity of the study

According to Yin (2016) a valid study is one that has properly interpreted data and the conclusions accurately reflect and represent the real world that was studied. Data stores can be verified through its features of recording and were tested to be valid even after certain time. To ensure validity of the research, questionnaires included the variety of land related scope. Questionnaires were responded in the presence of the researcher

through Microsoft Teams, the platform ensures the participants are seen and that there is no one responding on their behalf to guarantee valid data provided. Moreover, validity included the whole research experimental concept and establish whether the produced results obtained meet all the requirements of the scientific study method (Mohajan, 2017).

3.17.2. Reliability of the study

The reliability of the study refers to the research instrument used to measure stability and consistency over time (Heale & Twycross, 2015). Reliability is more focused on two ratings of the same measurement and its consistency (Flower, McKenna & Upreti, 2016). Reliability states how honest and truthful the informant is, while competency involves how qualified the person is to answer questions about the cultural domain the researcher is studying. Validity and Reliability of the study encompasses of quality assurance segments discussed in the following subsections, namely: Credibility, Dependability, Conformability and Transferability.

3.17.3. Credibility

Alrubaian *et al.*, (2019) defines credibility as a belief system stemming from evaluating the attributes of an attitude object, resulting in perceptive knowledge that guides feelings and actions during data collection sessions. Sikdar *et al.*, (2013) adds that credibility is usually about the believability of the collected data. It focused more on genuine participation of respondents without being pushed to a certain direction during the data collection session. Credibility is a method used for the establishment in a study including long engagements with the participants, observing the study of a regular basis, member checking, examining facts, exculpating the evidence, carefully studying journals (Clifton, 2020). To guarantee credibility in this study, the researcher ensured more time is allocated for the session and participants are comfortable regarding the research setup particularly the context of the study.

3.17.4. Dependability

Dependability is one of the qualitative research methods rigor criteria and trustworthiness (Janis, 2022). It refers to stability and existence of data over the period of research study (Clifton, 2020). Dependability asserts that research findings are mainly different from time to time based on specific circumstances and the present consistency of explanations across the data conformability (Lemon and Hayes 2020,no date). Its central factor is that when the research data cannot be trusted then a proper conclusion on the study question and objectives cannot be made. Consistency is at the centre of this concept to ensure that is maintained. Dependability in this study was ensured through integrating the research findings to the study literature review. Where gaps existed, areas for future research more research were identified and recommended. Data dependability was ensured through the nexus of the reviewed literature and where gaps existed, areas for future research. The detailed explanation is found in chapter five (5).

3.17.5. Conformability

Conformability concept asserts the objectivity of the research phenomenon under investigation whether it includes the researcher's biases or addresses the interpretation and findings are from the participants lived experiences conformability,(Lemon and Hayes 2020). Barusman (2019) observed that there is an examination of a detailed audit trail by an observer of the research process which complements the conformability and dependability. This phase of the study normally ensures that there is a practice of confirming aspects of the data under investigation. The researcher ensured where participants stand in terms of the phenomenon under study to avoid biasness.

3.17.6. Transferability

Transferability is the process of transferring research information through safety assessment models overtime or space in the study (Arun *et al.*, 2022). Transferability of information it is the extent to which a particular study finding can be applied to another setting or context in research (Kim, Bacon and Neumann, 2019). It involves the research segment of data application in the study (Barusman,2019). Transferability asserts the facilitation by providing the audience with evidence that the research findings could still be applicable to other demographics. Transferability of qualitative data in the research

also applies to big data. The interpretation of results and the emerging theories are included in the thick description of the entire research, the participants, and the research methodology (Knygas, 2020). Transferability was definite to ensure that it provides translation of data collected since the collected information should end up meaningful. All processes for transferability were implemented in the study.

3.18. Ethical considerations

Ethical principles must guide every step of the research process (Connelly, 2014). Suitable ethical standards should be followed to protect participants who are human when engaged in an in-depth qualitative study (Coffelt, 2017). In the main, when conducting face to face interview with vulnerable group of participants ethical issues becomes more concerning and salient (Arifini, 2018). Ethical matters in research study are focused about; protection from harm, voluntary and informed participation, right for confidentiality, and trustworthiness with professional associates (Leedy, Paul D & Ormrod, 2015). The aim of ethical considerations is to protect research participants dignity, rights, and welfare. Research ethical norms and standards oblige researchers to conduct research with integrity, transparency, and adherence to accepted ethical standards and consideration of a genuine research study.

3.18.1. Protection from harm

Data collected from respondents will be only used for the purposes of the research study and to achieve the study objectives. The data collected from respondents will not be used to cause harm to respondents, moreover, the approach used will not pose any harm to respondents. The researcher ensured that the instrument used for data collection is not a harmful to respondents. Personal details of all respondents will be used exclusively to reach the respondents.

3.18.2. Confidentiality and anonymity

Eungoo and Hwang (2023) observed that confidentiality and anonymity in ethical practices serve mainly as an important purpose in research since they contribute to

producing high quality while also being aligned with the research objectives. All information about the respondent's participation in the study is kept confidential. The aim is to ensure that confidentiality and privacy is maintained in the study. Confidentiality and privacy will be guaranteed through data collection and storage methods. Anonymity and confidentiality are vital because they preserve the privacy of persons who agree to participate in research on their own choice (Coffelt, 2017).

3.18.3. Trustworthiness with organisations and professional

The research outcome should be properly reported in an honest manner. Ethical clearance for beneficiaries and stakeholders of the National Youth Development Agency enlisted as respondents was officially obtained prior to the process of data collection was undertaken. Moreover, technical process of referencing all materials were followed in the research.

3.18.4. Voluntary and informed participation.

Research advantage provides an important capacity aspect for participants to withdraw from an ongoing study (Marshall *et al.*, 2014). All research respondents were informed about the purpose and objectives of the research topic. They were also informed through their completion of the research consent form that their participation in the study is voluntary and they are entitled to withdraw at any time from the study if they do not feel comfortable with it. Furthermore, the respondents they were told that they will not be compensated for their participation in the study.

3.18.5. Informed consent

According to Sindhuri and Dongre (2023) defines informed consent as research process involving human participants that needs legal and ethical requirements. Informed consent is described as a research voluntary choice rooted in compelling information and adequate understanding of both the proposed research and the repercussions of participating in the research study (Xu *et al.*, 2020). The main objective of the informed consent is to ensure that the people participating in the study have a clear understanding of the research project

and its risks, including what the researcher is doing in the field including their role ((Klykken, 2022).

Informed consent is regarded as the tool in research to support people when they have to decide whether they should agree to a special treatment or participate in a research project ((Schrems, 2014). Each participant was sent a consent form to agree to participate in the study. Moreover, it seeks to assure the researcher that the participant understands the research objectives and their role in the study. All the participants informed consent form are also attached as an annexure A. Through informed consent forms, the interviews were scheduled for the convenient date and time that suites respondent's schedule. All respondents were informed earlier by the researcher that the interview could last for a maximum of an hour, and it will be recorded through the Microsoft team's platform which has tool for recording and transcribing. The interview protocol and research questionnaire were shared with all respondents at least a week and some more than a week before the day of the interviews so that they could make proper preparation and thoughtful insights. The strength of this approach of online interviews is that it allows flexibility and responsiveness available to the interviewer. Research questions were rearranged and modified, when necessary, before each interview begins according to the participants role and responsibilities regarding the research topic.

3.19. Conclusion

This chapter provided an outline of the research methodology implemented for the study, and justification for the chosen approach. It also reflected on the research design, population and sampling, data collection, data analysis, validity and reliability, and the research ethical considerations affecting the study. This included an overview of the data collection technical challenges and the revelation of the researcher's philosophical position on pragmatism regarding the topic under study. Reviewed literature was integrated into the findings of the qualitative research too. Data analysis and interpretation obtained through interviews, narrative descriptions, and interview recordings will be discussed in the following chapter that concludes this research and it will identify recommendations and limitations relevant to the study.

All methodological segments were applied in the study properly. Exploratory study was applied through the data collection technique used to study people's views and perspectives. Purposive sampling was also applied by focusing on and prioritising relevant participants who are knowledgeable and exposed to the land reform sector. Another methodology segment applied was structured interviews through gathering structured data and investigate the opinions of various respondents.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS, DISCUSSION, AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

4.1. INTRODUCTION

The focal point of this study was to explore and provide solutions to the research phenomena. The previous chapter was concerned with the presentation of the study methodology that was used in data collection, analysis, and the presentation of research findings. The current chapter is a continuation of the previous chapter since its central focus is the presentation of the research findings regarding to the research phenomena under study which is the exploration of youth and land reform politics in post-apartheid South Africa, located in North West Province. This was done in three phases. The first phase presents the participant's response rate. The second phase presents the participant's demographic details, experience, personal exposure, study relevance, and representativeness to the target population. The third phase deals with the presentation of discussion and analysis of the findings from the study through thematic and content analysis.

The study intended to answer the following research questions:

- RQ 1: To analyse South Africa's land reform policy and assess its implementation.
- RQ 2: To critique the impact of the policy on youth socio-economic emancipation processes(development/hindrance).
- RQ 3: To explore potential transformation opportunities on land reform and youth.

4.2. Data analysis approach

The study analysed data through two data analysis approaches namely: Critical discourse and content analysis. The study infused critical discourse analysis to cover most of the collected thematic data, while the minimal part of the data was analysed through content analysis. Van Dijk, (2016) defines critical discourse analysis as studies of social power abuse and inequality are enacted, reproduced, legitimated, and resisted by the text and talk in the social context in a discourse analytical research. In addition, Fan, (2019) also

states that critical discourse analysis is more concerned with exploring of the relationship between ideology and power in discourse. The analysis is more focused on social change and justice, gaining access to land by youth as a principal factor.

Data analysis, like other components of qualitative methods, can span radically different versions, from a surface-level gleaning of ‘answers’ to ‘questions’ to a profound excavation of semi-conscious meaning (Pugh, 2013). Data analysis is a critical phase of research and forms a key part of the research mainly because its objective is to assist in reducing collected raw data to an interpretable and understandable level. The data analysed here is data collected guided by the research question and objectives, data analysis process will be aligned and assist in answering the research question.

Data collection was conducted for both primary and secondary levels. Primary data was collected through a virtual data collection approach. All interviews were conducted through the Microsoft Teams platform, and they were recorded. All interview sessions were guided by the agreed schedule. The data collection interview session lasted between sixty minutes and an hour. All participants' signed consent was sought and obtained before the interviews commenced. Secondary data collection was available from books, departmental annual reports, archives, and other departments' collections.

Qualitative data research collection allows for gathering information from multiple sources aimed at understanding the meaning of the problems of the respondents or involved audience (Akinyode & Khan, 2018). The study applied two qualitative categories namely: interviews and focus groups and written documents.

Interviews and focus groups mainly talk about data collected which pose open-ended questions to participants to glean information about people's experiences, perceptions, opinions, feelings, and knowledge. However, data collection through written documents consists of organisational records of the Department including rural development and land reform, Agriculture, policies, memoranda, official publications and reports, personal diaries, or photographs. For further analysis, these documents are generally digitized. Thematic analysis is defined as a qualitative approach used for identifying, analysing, and reporting patterns within a data corpus (Scharp & Sanders, 2019). The analysis will help articulate the relationship between discourses of youth and land reform politics in post-

apartheid South Africa and the social relations in which it is embedded. In the main, critical discourse analysis comprises eight phases, discussed in the following subsection.

4.2.1. Critical discourse analysis addresses social problems.

Ownership of and access to land by youth in post-apartheid South Africa is a huge social problem. Land reform should serve as a fulcrum for socio-economic emancipation in post-apartheid South Africa. Youth are marginalised in almost all economic sectors. Moreover, youth are the population-dominating age cohort, and their low presence in land ownership is a major societal problem.

4.2.2. Power relations are discursive.

Land is a well-known political tool. The approach to land reform in post-apartheid has been dragged from various approaches such as Willing Buyer-Willing Seller to expropriation without compensation. A new government has not fully exercised its power fully in terms of addressing the land reform question.

4.2.3. Critical discourse analysis constitutes society and culture.

Critical discourse advocates for land not to be perceived in economic terms only. Land should be linked to being and identity which should serve as a nexus for youth to understand their sense of belonging. Post-apartheid administration should emphasise the cultural aspect that land belongs to the living, the dead, and the unborn. For youth, it is central to the transition to adulthood.

4.2.4. Critical discourse analysis does ideological work.

The land discourse for youth should explore the socialism ideology which is in support of equality. Youth should have equal access and rights to gain access to land like adults in order to advance their socio-economic aspirations.

4.2.5. Critical discourse analysis is historical.

Access and ownership of land is a historically sensitive matter in South Africa and post-apartheid South Africa should ensure the discourse integrates youth. Youth is the future stewards of the land. Critical discourse supports the land restitution policy which seeks to facilitate the return of land lost due to the Native Land Act no: 27 of 1913.

4.2.6. A sociocognitive approach is needed to understand how relations between texts and society are mediated.

Discourse relationship between texts and society in the policy form for youth land ownership policy is required. Youth land ownership policy and the society of youth should be mediated under the land reform programme.

4.2.7. Critical discourse analysis is interpretive and explanatory and uses a systematic methodology.

The interpretive paradigm deals with human experiences of youth and their desire for land ownership. It emphasises that social reality is not singular, the land is not required by adults only, and youth deserve access to land. The explanatory method deals with the causes and effects of investigating land reform policy patterns and why it never integrated youth from inception.

4.2.8. Critical discourse analysis is a socially committed scientific paradigm.

The demand for youth land ownership discourse is a socially committed scientific paradigm. The identified need for a youth land ownership policy in land reform serves as a scientific paradigm from a normal belief that land only belongs to adults. The socially committed scientific paradigm is premised on statistics that youth is a dominating age cohort in South Africa and that deserves a paradigm shift in debating the land ownership patterns. The fundamental question concerns how social reality can be understood and explained by investigating discourses about certain situations and processes.

4.3. Participants response rate

Cresswell, (2013) asserts that the response rate of between eight (8) and fifteen (15) participants for findings can be deemed representative of the target population in qualitative studies. In qualitative research, a higher response rate helps with translating data into huge numbers of responses that can be applied to statistical analysis and its strength. Response rate is important for raw and available measures to judge data quality in both the initial response and attrition rates in longitudinal studies. Moreover, the response rate of the research specifies the participants who consented to participate in the study. The study population targeted an initial population of thirty (30) from various sectors related to land. The final target audience consisted of ten participants including both males and females. The study considered the identified population's multiple ages and educational and socio-economic status. The table below illustrates the response rate that was achieved for this study.

The table below indicates the respondent's participation rate.

Targeted population and sample	Amount and percentage of responses
Population	30
Sample	10
Total responses	10
Total response rate	90%

Table: 1 Participation rate (Source: Mashego,2023).

4.4. Demographic details

According to Vaughn and Jacquez, (2020)demographic details are concerned with capturing the trails and characteristics of research participants which are important in structuring their relevance to the research. Demographic details are intended to provide a description of populations and their characteristics such as economic circumstances and profile features. Moreover, the principal focus of demographic details is mainly: age, gender, academic background, work experience, religion, race and ethnicity, family size,

and health. All these were well captured in this study under participants' profiles. The following is a map of the North West Province showing all four districts.

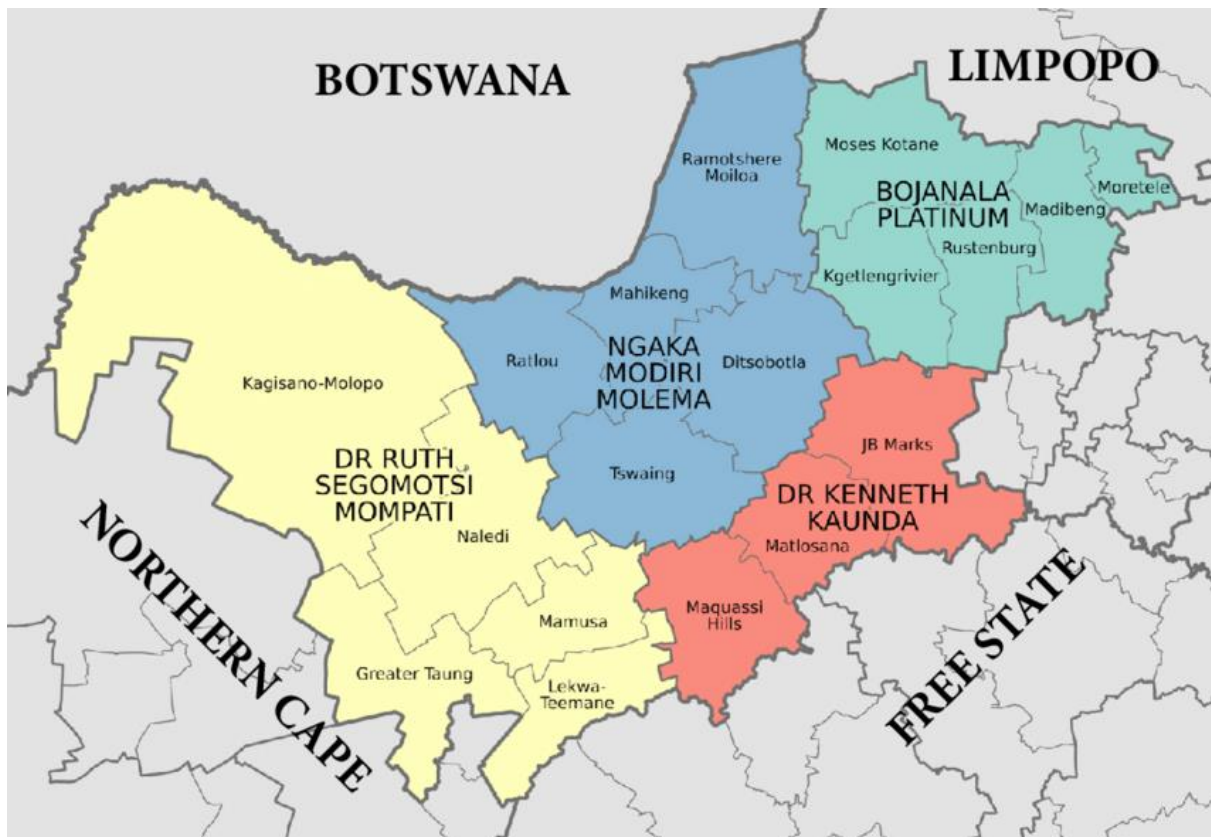


Figure 3 Northwest Map (Wikipedia: 2016)

4.4.1. Gender

The data analysis shows that the gender distribution of the respondents revealed that males were 60% and females at 40% in participation. The study nearly achieved a 50/50 gender parity status in terms of gender participation. Although the findings indicate that men are the majority, the sampling was intended to accommodate all willing participants regardless of their gender orientation. Kryshyanovych et al., (2021)) define gender parity as “gender-balanced participation in the processes of social development management, presupposes not only the presence of the same number of women and men but also their conscious activity based on mutual respect for different views and positions and understanding of the differences in experience and needs of each sex”. World Economic Forum (2023) observed that progress has been made in Namibia, Rwanda, and South

Africa which has closed more than 70% of the overall gender gap along with thirteen other countries. Gender information on the study is provided below.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	6	60 %
Female	4	40 %
Total	10	100 %

Table:2 Gender distribution (Source: Mashego 2023)

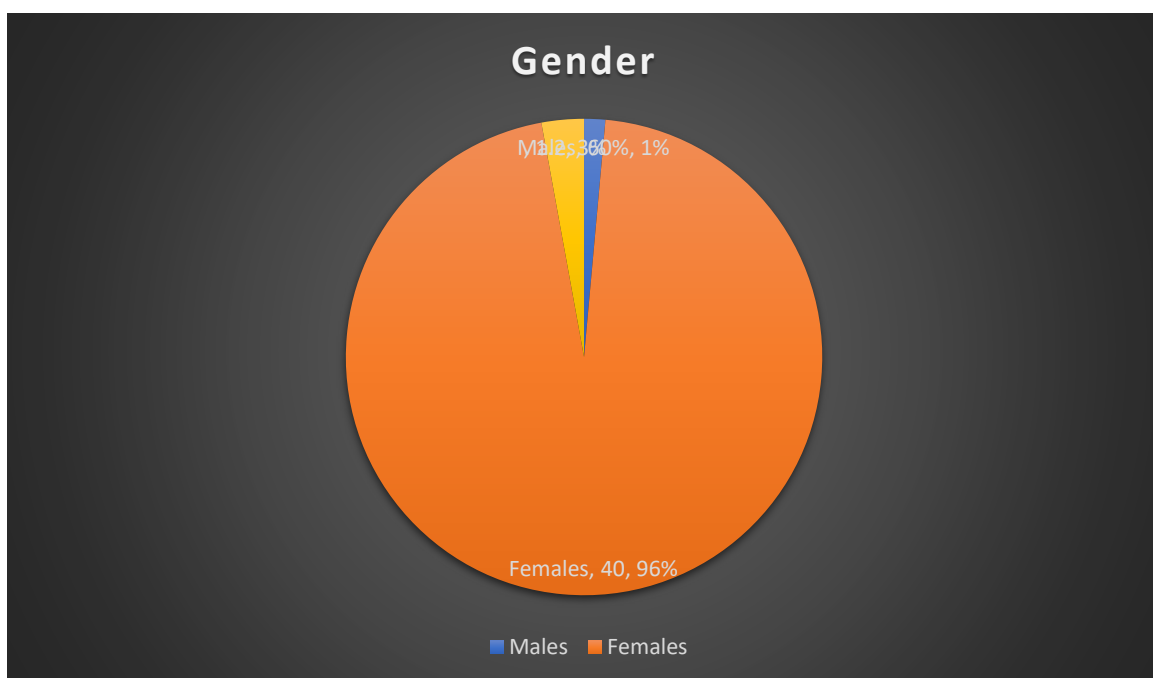


Figure 4 : Gender distribution (Source : Mashego,2023)

4.4.2. Participants' age

The participant's age is more focused on determining the respondent's age ranges which helps with understanding the target audience and, in turn, allows an opportunity to analyse similarities and differences between various age groups. It also assists with knowing the participants age and establishing whether they qualify for the audience. In demographic setup age is a standard that should be included in the research study. Age is an important category in demographic and scientific disciplines, indicating several research topics between different age groups. The data collected indicates that all age groups were

factored into the research study. The age distribution demonstrates that the land reform question involves all age groups, and most adults are in decision-making positions regarding the land matter. The following table indicates the response rate demographic details.

Table: 3 Participants age (Source: Mashego,2023)

Participants Age	Frequency	Percentage
Below 30	3	30%
Between 30 and 40 years	4	40%
Above 40 years	3	30%
Total	10	100%

Figure: 4.3.2.2. Age distribution of participants.

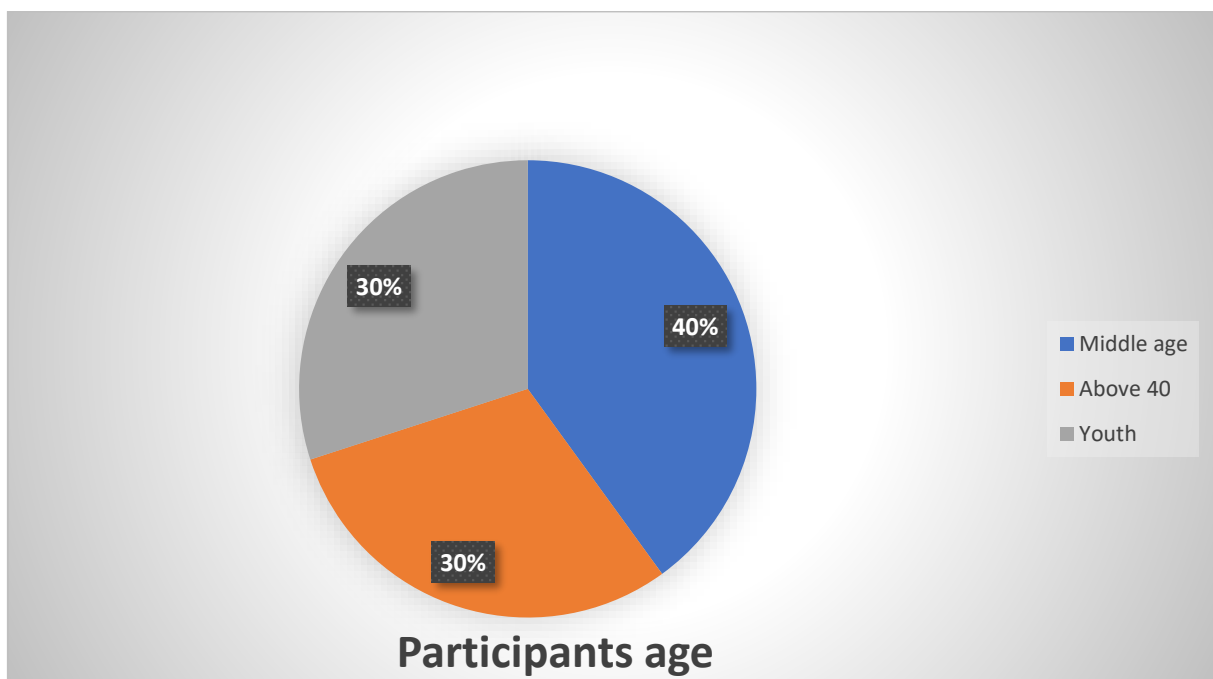


Figure 5: Participants Age (Researcher: Mashego,2023)

4.4. Presentation and discussion of research findings

This part is assigned to the presentation and the discussion of the research findings emanating from the data analysis procedure and methodology approaches as explained in

the previous chapter. The main aim of the study was to explore the politics of land reform and youth in post-apartheid South Africa. The following figure portrays the themes discussed in chapter three.

1. Land reform legislative interpretation
2. Land reform policy correlation with youth socio-economic emancipation
3. Land ownership patterns in South Africa
4. Communal Property Association model and youth
5. Youth and collaterals
6. Post-apartheid land reform appraisals
7. Youth as a political factor in a post-apartheid South Africa

The table below illustrates all key research objectives and questions with their aligned themes and sub-themes. The research themes and sub-themes were developed from the study respondents' transcripts, which were analysed through Atlas.ti data analysis software. The methodology process guided data collected analysis and was followed by the interpretation and discussion of the findings phase as presented in the next subsection.

Table 4. Themes (Researcher:Mashego,2023)

Research objective	Coded themes	Sub-themes
1. To analyse South Africa's land reform policy and assess its implementation	Land reform legislative interpretation	Poor policy implementation
	- Communal land and land tenure. - Fast-tracking administration effects to assist youth in gaining access to land	
2. To critique the impact of the policy on youth socio-economic emancipation processes	Land reform policy correlation with youth socio-economic emancipation	- Lack of sense of belonging by youth - Importance of youth gaining access to land - Youth land ownership policy

3. To explore potential transformation opportunities on land reform and youth	Land ownership patterns in South Africa	- Inequality
	Communal Property Association model and youth	- Multigenerational - Knowledge transfer and retention
	Youth and collaterals	Hindrance of transformation
	- Political will as a solution to ensure gain access to land. - Youth as a political factor in a post-apartheid South Africa	- Poor land administration - Unresponsive policies - Skewed land ownership patterns
		A significant and inevitable population

4.5. Research objective ONE: To analyse South Africa's land reform policy and assess its implementation.

The first research objective of the study was to analyse South Africa's land reform policy and assess its implementation. It was to analyse how the new government has managed to deal with the three key pillars of the land reform programme. The objective sought to evaluate the post-apartheid government and if it adequately implemented the land reform programme. In addressing this research objective, three sub-themes, namely land reform legislation mandate interpretation, Communal land and land tenure, Fast-tracking and administration effects to assist youth gain access to land and transforming and integrating youth in land-related economy from the analysis as shown in the table and findings from the analysis are discussed below.

4.5.1. Land reform policy implementation

The second sub-theme assessed if the post-apartheid government had adequately implemented the land reform policies. Below are the verbatim statements from the research participants, after which they are analysed and discussed in relation to this objective.

Research participant # F said:

My answer would be no, in a sense that I think that, the land audit report that we have been exposed to or we have knowledge of it still indicates that about I think it's about 70 plus, minus 70% of the land, it's still in white people's hands and only about 13% is on black people's ownership. So I don't think that the government has adequately implemented the land reform policies because there has been issues of administration, especially when you remember the issue of willing buyer-willing seller.

Research participant # A said:

I don't think they've been adequately implemented, and maybe we are also being unfair in the sense that it's been such a short period, right? So when you're coming into something new, you guys have never done this before. Yes, you implement a certain act. You legislate things and this is what we're going to do. But the reality may be very different, right? The landscape may be very different so you may have, it may have looked good on paper that this is what you're going to do but effecting it maybe a whole different thing in the sense that it's actually not easy to be able to.

Research participant# H said:

Not necessarily. The more productive land, according to me they take productive land from those that they are buying from and later they allocate it to our people at some stage most of the time you find that the land is dilapidated that was productive when they give it to our people later on the land is dilapidated, or the properties are dilapidated. So my thinking is that there is no proper strategy or preparation by the government to make sure that when they give land to these people they're giving to them or the beneficiaries they knew. Beneficiaries that at least they are prepared psychologically, financially, and

socially to do that. So, what I feel is that most of the time they are just ticking the boxes for transformation purposes.

Research participant # B said:

Land reform implementation progress has been slow, showing issues with demarcation boards and a lack of proper consultation with traditional leaders.

Research participant # G said:

Not to limit my answer based on, OK, I'm not going to be subjected under one decision because there's a two-way side to so at some point the government has played its role. Based on my observation I see those who want the opportunity to access the land and managed to sustain the fertility of the land. So that they can keep on reproducing. So it means that I agree and disagree. Yet again on the side of the government in terms of the education that is being provided, we are not well-trained on how to sustain the land. If we are able to receive it because of for us to eradicate poverty, we need to be more creative and become critical thinkers on how we can use our natural resources, specifically the land on how to sustain the economic growth and development.

Research participant# D said:

Has not been adequately implemented and for me, there are two key reasons for this. One, the overall target that the governance set itself has not yet been achieved. Number 2, the intended objectives of the land reform program have not fully materialized among South Africans. Particularly the black people and the Africans who were going to be the beneficiaries of this. So that is first the general observation that one is making well, in terms of now the broad understanding and the experience that land reform has had in terms of the three programs of restitution, land distribution, and land tenure. I think it is, it just goes to support the earlier comments that one has made, one with restitution. Yes, land has been restituted to those people from whom it was taken in the past by the previous regime. However, there have been quite a lot of challenges in terms of the actual distribution of the restoration of that land to the people, but in terms of the achievement of the objectives under this program of land reform, there is restitution. You know of situations where those people who have gotten back their land, have not fully utilized it

in terms of what it was set out for some people have even sold their land back, but other people are still having that land and they are not optimally utilizing it for a variety of reasons could be social, economic, financial and all that with regard to land redistribution, almost a similar pattern has emerged that mirrors the one under restitution, the restituted and redistribution program has happened. There are some people who were the intended beneficiaries who have indeed benefited, and it has also brought in other people who were not the intended beneficiaries, but beyond that also in terms of the actual utilization of that land, particularly within the agricultural sector, because you know land was redistributed primarily within that particular sector, there are also quite a myriad of challenges in terms of, you know, food security issues. Productive utilization of that land, the challenges across you know the acquisition of production inputs, infrastructure market, facilitation of entry into logistical issues has had its own challenges.

Discussion of the theme

The above respondents have provided mixed feelings and observations on the implementation of the land reform policies by the post-apartheid South African government. Three aspects emerged from their responses. There is an overwhelming agreement that the government has not adequately implemented the policies properly although some respondents indicate that the government has provided the platform for people to access and manage the land, although not sufficiently. The last aspect indicates that the government took over a difficult task and the people should be patient with the processes. In the following sub-theme participants are asked about their observation and experience about communal land and land tenure systems as a platform to facilitate development opportunities for youth. Ngcukaitobi (2022) posits that land reform should reconcile three intersecting currents: correcting historical wrongs, confronting the persisting inequities of the present, and securing an equality-based future.

4.5.2. Communal land and land tenure for youth

This theme quests to establish how communal land and land tenure can facilitate development opportunities for youth in those systems.

Research participant# J said:

Yeah, it's quite a great vehicle because you know obviously, if you are targeting the communal lands the structure will be that probably you're utilizing our tribal authorities, and if you have communal land, it will mean that there would be awareness now and then about the communal land. youth would have the knowledge to say these are the processes in place or who is the chief that and it is easy to access. First, they know where to go in order to access land easier and communal land they will see it becoming easy for young people even those who are needy, who may not even have issues of collateral.

Research participant # G said:

Teach those people how to manage their finances. Introduce youth to property education on how they can I mean, they can start their properties and give them a chance to go and to give them or scholarship or anything they can go to colleges and be able to learn about landscaping everything. Give them a chance to develop that area instead of moving people away because either way, we still going to need land for staying as well as land for economic use. So, in terms of economic use, you can I mean for staying you can also implement it for economic use, introducing the youth into education.

Research participant# B said:

Most of my answers will come from one area, education, education, education. Our education system is very bad in such a way that we are taught to communicate in English, and we are not taught how to produce food, so it starts with education. There must be a proper education system that assists our people effectively so that they can be accustomed to how best land can be utilized as an economic tool once again it goes to the education system that we must all follow in order to find ourselves profitable that in order to find ourselves, especially young people, as active participants, not as spectators in that particular space.

Research participant# E said:

There is a need for young people to be involved in the day-to-day planning of communities and young people should be included in meetings and decision-making processes. Involving young people in communal land issues leads to development opportunities for them.

Research participant # I said:

The education system should teach young people how to effectively utilize land for economic purposes. A proper education system is crucial for young people and become active participants in land-related activities. Young people, they should exploit those opportunities where they are.

Research participant # F said:

There is a big role of authorities in facilitating development opportunities for youth in communal land. Between the tribal leaders and government, there seems to be a problem between who manages land in communal and communal areas. So, I think we are seeing a great use or misuse of land in communal areas where tribal leaders are very stubborn to infect changes in communal land. Tribal leaders not planning communal land attended in terms of where should we develop halls, and where should we develop schools? But tribal leaders are not, for that is not for what they want to. To plan those communal lands themselves and exclude youth who can do those things and then when we look at the issue of land system in communal areas, we don't see much joy in terms of rights or yes, in terms of rights of even community members or youth in those areas there, the powers lies with tribal leaders so youth are excluded in such programs, in communal areas.

Research participant # D said:

There is a need for young people to be involved in decision-making and planning within the communal land system. Look, look, they have an opportunity but like I have indicated, you still have those constraints that exist from the cultural and traditional point of view I think we can make deliberate efforts to make sure that we address those constraints by saying youth in this particular area would actually be provided a certain percentage of land that has been used for whatever purpose in that locality. So, it must be a deliberate policy decision that must be taken. But without rehashing the other issues, you've got to isolate them, identify them, assist them, and then give them the necessary support measures as I have indicated in the past. I'm not of the view that there's any problem with the communal land and the land tenure system that exists in our area. My view in our communities is that as a country we have failed to develop proper systems, policies, and support measures that respond to the land tenure system, the communal, the tribal, land

tenure system. Now our banks should have had products and services that are developed to meet and respond to this land tenure system because it's so ingrained in our people, instead, we want to change it and impose another one that is Western in orientation which is foreign to them which is going to disrupt a lot of structures, beliefs, systems that have been embedded over years and years, generation and generations.

Research participant# H said:

My experience is that most young people are staying in those communal lands, they believe that it's their inheritance and you know the excitement they've got an inheritance. You know, you even hear them saying, Ke lefatshe la bo rrarona. But the question is, what plans do we have about the land? what are you doing to develop or maybe to generate an income? And if you look at the same communal land and the tenure or maybe the land that has been allocated through tenure, the CPA, and whatever young people have got the wrong mentality about that. They just look at it as an inheritance because we are not preparing them. I think it takes us back to that thing we did not orientate them about why they should utilize the land. Why do they have land, the land is one thing that is very valuable for them like when you indicated earlier on, land is not only about agriculture, we can still do the factories on the land. We can still do eco-tourism on the land and stuff. So the orientation that young people have about the land most of the time it's only because they think it's their inheritance, so they are not most of them cannot generalize anyway, but most of them that are thinking that land is only for them to inherit because it's their forefathers properties and whatever, then it would be, it would be a wrong mentality that they are having about. But if we can prepare them with the policies that you indicated earlier on when you spoke, if we could prepare them, if we could train them, if we could support them financially, with mentorship, with coaching and staff with exit strategies, I think it would be a better program for young people to develop themselves and create more opportunities for them to develop themselves, other than complaining about unemployment and poverty.

Research participant# A said:

Are young people taken seriously? Do they even have entry to be able to say I would like to own a piece of land? I guess it would be engagements with those particular authorities because in that space honestly, the government does not have any say right because like

we say the nice thing about our country is that if they are an authority for that space right if then they can bring themselves together right to be able to drive, advocate for that and actually bring that to the fore that guys, yes we understand you are in these positions and as our elders right, we would like to you hear us out in the sense that these are some of the things that we are seeing a gap and we want to be maybe working with you to able to remedy these deficiencies that we are seeing and these would be benefits like moving forward because I am sure everybody knows the youth unemployment is quite high and yeah I think there is that disconnect that when things are done maybe they are thinking about young people and they are discussing things for young people but they don't actually bring the young people into the conversation.

Discussion of the themes

The above respondents have expressed various opinions, experiences, and observations regarding the communal land and land tenure systems as a platform to facilitate development opportunities for youth.

- The education system should teach youth about the utilization of the land,
- youth taking responsibility for initiatives to gain access to land,
- traditional authorities integrating youth into their leadership structures,
- the entitlement of youth on communal land as their inheritance,
- failure to develop proper systems, policies, and support measures and also banks failing to factor in traditional systems in their offering.
- Lastly, there is confusion between the government and tribal authorities on who owns which part of the land.

The above responses emerged from the participant's experience, observation, and opinions on the communal land and land tenure systems.

4.5.3. Fast-tracking administration effects to assist youth gain access to land.

The theme seeks to establish what can be done to fast-track administration processes to effectively assist youth in gaining access to land.

Research participant# J said:

I am tired of saying the government should establish policies when we talk about empowerment and that we hardly see you get what I am saying if you know there's a certain, every time there budget year by year there is some finance from grant whatever

that I give in to institution this is for empowerment and there should be a form of monitoring to say that ok so much and so much business really did go to young people. I think policies yes have to be established the only way to get young people hands-on is to support them and to support them is to give attention to them, that is the only way to redirect the focus because the adults are slowly but surely fading away. So, you know the only way that we need to channel how finances are distributed there has to be a form of accountability. Finances need to be channelled and there has to be a form of accountability to take this much percent of the total funding it should be insured, and you can't spend it unless it is for the youth.

Research participant# G said:

The Fourth Industrial Revolution idea by introducing new machinery because we must accept like it or not the terms of the technology we are living under technology so as it improves it really makes our elders tired, so since well they use the energetic one they can be able to utilize the introduction of new technology and by which the elders I believe they will surrender by giving them to youth even though they might even not allow the type of technologies full ownership to youth. The new machinery so far struggling in terms of operating the new tractors that have been provided in terms of the agricultural development and the watering system that they use lately it requires one to be able to maintain it through even programming using the PC. Remember that our elders who are mostly responsible for sustaining the land most them are illiterate so I think technology is being introduced to sustainability or reproduction of other things on the land it will actually allow elders to give the youth opportunities because they will believe that this one is for the coming generation, their duty will only be to guide but not to control, but to guide so that one will also allow youth to maintain their discipline because is very vital in terms of protecting our natural resources so the technologies is based on the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Research participant# B said:

The establishment of institutions like the Youth Land Trust and nonprofit making organisations which are youth-based or which are youth-driven will assist those processes because there are no controlling mechanisms that can, so establishing the Youth Land Trust and nonprofit-making companies that are youth-related will assist these

processes in establishing community youth land structures so they will have AGMs they have elections and this democracy is well controlled in collaboration with traditional leaders

Research participant# E

So, what the administration or the government can do is meet young people where they are. So, you find young people on the internet, you find them on social media and that's where a lot of young people learn these days. That's where youth is. So the government can go meet the youth there and then discuss them, discuss the land question in a way youth can understand, and by that, I feel that in order for the government to move to that platform they have to have a young person within, like the administration, so that you know they have a better understanding of how youth the youth of South Africa think and all that. They should have like a young person on their side to help navigate everything. That's where the government should go and forcefully advertise or amplify the land issue.

Research participant# I said:

Succession plans right of how the takeover can be, you know, and also make it mandatory for the transfer of skills. You know where the land is owned by old, old, old, people yeah, but how do we ensure longevity? Operations are changing, technology is coming into play, and how do we bring in this youth? A succession plan that is not family orientated like skills should be mandatory. Succession plan skills transfer, like mentorship and coaching, should be compulsory and be made by the government.

Research participant# H said:

I think if we could start, as I have indicated earlier on if we could start by introducing our young people into land management when they are still young. If we have subjects at school that are talking to usage of land that just like we learn from white people. Just like white people, our young people must start to have an interest in their land utilization or management at an early age.

Research participant# A said:

Promote what can be done with the land rights and the opportunities that can be effected on land. So if then like I said when people think of land a lot of the time we are thinking

about agriculture but even with agriculture we are seeing what kind of opportunities there are in agriculture that would be enticing, right?. if we are talking about new economies, let's say with the marijuana industry picking up I mean like those are new and exciting things that young people could be taking right can run with and here is the land then I think certainly those will be initiatives which could encourage young people to take up those who does not want the opportunity to sustain themselves.

Discussion of the theme

The following are expressions of participants regarding a fast-tracking administration effect to expose young people to gain access to land even if the land is in the hands of adults. They expressed various approaches the government can use to ensure youth easily gain access to land.

- Specific budget for all institutions for helping youth,
- The Fourth Industrial Revolution will enable youth to access land since the land space is dominated by elders who are not tech-savvy.
- Establishment of Youth Land Trust and nonprofit organizations for youth.
- The government should be more focused on internet space where youth are spending a lot of time.
- Introduction of young people into land management while they are still young and school curriculum should cover land management.
- Make land-related economies enticing for youth.

4.5.4. Transforming and integrating youth into land-related activities.

This theme seeks to establish the transformation and integration of youth into various land-related economic activities.

Research participant# J said:

Firstly, the government needs to be decisive as to what they want youth to do. Integrating youth means obviously there have to be policies as to how they are going to distribute a particular support to young people, and how are they going to prioritize young people. Well, one should actually say no we have the criteria in place to say these young people who have so much background should be given the OR they should have ways to check capacity to say in these young people what is their capacity to utilize the land. Young

people in their nature, expect easy things, or rather the microwave type of situation. Mentorship programs need to be established to bridge the knowledge gap.

Research participant# G said:

The government must minimize the restrictions that are being followed up by the policies for accessibility to the land because if you need land, there are some processes that you have to follow all the patterns and I wish are mostly being protected by the policies. So, if you're going against the policies, it means that you're going against the law, and being against the legislature is very bad for the future. It can deal with the practical factors by giving us a piece of land and giving you a period by this you must be able to produce a certain thing, whether you're going to plant the crops or you are going to keep livestock or are going to come with another business idea, they must give you a certain period. By this time, if you are failing to do what you promise that I'm going to deliver, I'm going to give another one a chance because we might all need the land, but the skills and the ability, to maintain and sustain the durability of the land and might differ based on how thoughtful we are based, on our land. So, by removing the policies implementing practical factors by giving youth a chance to maintain and sustain land for a certain period based on different business ideas, not just planting or keeping a stock. OK, not just agriculture, but other business ventures.

Research participant# B said:

The government needs to be committed and the implementation of rigorous training programs on land ownership. The government should send young people to successful agricultural countries within Africa to learn skills and techniques that can be applied in the land-related economy.

Research participant# E said:

So the government can start implementing programs that are going to teach the young people, starting from primary school about land and all that, so that they can get familiar with the land questions. They can get familiar with their rights when it comes to land and all that, and they can get to like, they can familiarize themselves with the land so that they can be prepared for working on the land and have ideas and plans on how they're going to utilize their land that that that belongs to them. So yeah, introducing the land question

to primary school children or even high school from primary to high school so that they would know that we have the land problem in South Africa and yeah, they can come up with solutions because you know, young minds are really creative. The young ones can come up with solutions and plans on how to use the land. the youth can be taught from a young age and once they know about the land, they are interested in the land then they can broaden their interest even further and participate in the industries that use the land like agriculture, property development, and many other things you know. So yeah, I feel that the government can do that, involve the young people from a young age.

Research participant# I said:

We would, and this is the note I made here as well that looking at the entire value chain, right? And also what the country needs so there are a lot of industries that have also closed down. Besides from an agricultural perspective like the factories, you know those occupy large, vast amounts of land, and the industries are somewhat also connected, so I think have a look back at like the value chain of the stuff that can benefit South Africans and then bring in the youth with the understanding of like merging of Artificial Intelligence and you know, with the 4th industrial revolution like stuff like that have the youth take on a land related issues from that perspective. I think they're the right people to do that because like I said, moving forward into the future, we're looking at drones fertilizing crops, we're looking at people being replaced or assisted by machinery that older people wouldn't necessarily have. You know an idea or an open mind to bring into these spaces. So I think that's how the youth can be brought in. But I think looking at the entire value chain because there's more to working the land than just planting spinach in the ground.

Research participant # F said:

I think the most important thing that should be the priority is allowing youth to take charge of critical portfolios in government, where we have youths heading initiatives where we have youth as leading in opinions or ideas about how this country should be in essence, to involve youth in government, to involve youth in decision making. When we come to issues of transformation, especially the issue of gender to also include young women in the issues of funding. we are seeing in Kenya where mostly it's women who are

involved in agriculture for home sustainability. So, transformation should start with the issues of gender, where we see young women being involved in the issues of land.

Research participant# A said:

The commitment also from the government through also private sector because I think the government has not leveraged that private sector component. But if they can bring us together, right? Yes. As a government, we will stand as surety. Right?

Discussion of the theme

The following seven points have emerged from participants' responses regarding what should be done to transform and integrate youth into a land-related economy.

- The government should ensure the private sector recognises youth in market linkage opportunities.
- The youth should be in critical decision-making and leadership positions and advance the interests of the youth.
- Value chain systems and the role of Artificial Intelligence can be used as sources to integrate the youth into the land-related economy.
- The government should introduce a curriculum on the land question to young people.
- The government should introduce exchange programs with progressive countries on the land space in the African continent.
- The government should minimize the requirements for youth in terms of accessing policies.
- The government should be decisive on what the youth should do. Policies should be responsive and deliberate to youth.

4.6. Objective TWO: To critique the impact of the policy on youth socio-economic emancipation process (development/hindrance).

The second research objective sought to critique how land reform policies have failed the youth in the socio-economic emancipation process. Three sub-themes emerged from the research objective, namely: Land reform policy correlation with youth socio-economic emancipation, the importance of youth gaining access to land, and land ownership policy.

4.6.1. Land reform policy correlation with youth socio-economic emancipation.

Research participant # J said:

You know, I think there has to be a relationship because the land is and when we're talking about land, you need to inculcate the way of doing business. land is about what is it that you can create. And then the factors of production, look what is it that you can create? It does correlate in a way, so if you want to have an economic, we cannot have an economic emancipation outside the issue of land. It's quite impossible so yes, that's for me.

Research participant # E said:

I think there's a correlation between emancipation and the land reform policy in a way that there's unemployment and the youth lack access to land and they lack access to resources. If we had as the youth of South Africa, if we had access to land and access to other resources, important resources like land, we would have been creative in a way of participating in the economy. You know, being direct participants in the economy and instead of like a lot of people just being unemployed, they would use the land if they had it, to participate in the economy and we wouldn't have less young people participating in the economy.

Research participant# B said:

Little is being said to young people on land issues. There is no proper education and talks to the young people on land ownership. The examples are very glaring where young people would like to be paid, they love a pay slip and medical aid they don't love go to roll up their sleeves and get their hands dirty by tilting their land to produce anything serious.

Discussion of the theme

Two different observations emerged from the above theme.

- There is an overwhelming agreement that land reform policies correlate with the socio-economic impact on youth.
- While there is a different view on the youth, the observation is that the youth is very fond of working and getting a salary. They are too lazy to start their own businesses and be productive, meaning accessing the land to them is not important.

4.6.2. The importance of youth gaining access to land

The second sub-theme deals with the importance of youth gaining access to land as a form of socio-economic emancipation process.

Research participant# H said:

Yes, very important one right? Remember, agriculture is a very intensive business or maybe an income generating process. So physically it demands a person that still have energy A person that has got passion, a person that knows what to do, especially now because agriculture has been, what you call technology there. There's a lot of technology that is involved in agriculture and stuff without us forgetting that indigenous knowledge learning is important. But there is a lot of research that has been put there. So for older people, it might be physically draining because they don't have that energy anymore, and then they don't have the time to implement new strategies because of technology. But young people can do that. My take is that if we can prepare the young people by either training them before we allocate land to them and also make sure that they understand the purpose of farming or your product. Yeah. Yeah. Farm production. They would do wonders, Currently, the country is facing a serious problem of unemployment and then I think agriculture is one of those sectors that are creating opportunities for employment more than any other sector. So, if we can involve young people into this, this would be at the same time addressing issue of unemployment especially for young people.

Research participant# F said:

Absolutely, absolutely. I think the youth in this country is eager to get involved in running of this country, more especially in the issues of land where they will be able to work the land themselves to build their own their own companies. So I think it's important for youth to gain access to land, especially for ownership and for dignity.

Research participant #G said:

I think is minimal. I think it is vital it is. It is very important. It's very crucial so that we cannot predict tomorrow if we don't have something that will be able to live under that tomorrow. So if we are being denied access to the land as the youth that you and then will be provided to the elder one believing that maybe they might have, they might be having a better knowledge. But based on the fourth revolutionary system. I believe that if it is being redistributed to the youth or the youth being able to have access to the land, remember that land cannot only be used for crops there are a lot of things that can be used on land. We can invest in property; we can invest even the mobile businesses. We still need land we can invest in natural reserves and game reserves.

Research participant# D said:

Yes, yes, I think it is important for youth to go and access land because you know we live in a very diverse economic system, and with many sectors of the economy now, one such sector is agriculture, which requires land as a critical resource. taking advantage of the fact that land can also be used you know for human settlement as well As for industrial development depending on the type of land that the youth will be in possession of so they can actually utilize that land. Number one from the economic point of view, to facilitate economic development on their part, because they will be owning this resource, so as a financial asset they can actually begin to generate income using land and improve their economic situation. We know that we've got around 20 million youth or so and they form 34% of our population and one of the critical problems they are facing is unemployment. So you can actually use land across those 3 sectors, agriculture, human settlement, and as well as industrial development land for purposes of creating employment opportunities, whoever owns that land within any one of those 3 sectors could actually utilize it for that particular purpose to unlock economic development as well as employment opportunities.

Discussion on the theme

The above respondents have demonstrated an overwhelming expression of why they think it is important for youth to gain access to land. The following are responses to why it is important for youth to gain access to land.

- To enable youth to participate in our diverse economy.
- To safeguard youth and their future.
- To ensure youth have a sense of ownership and their dignity.

4.6.3. Youth land ownership policy

The sub-theme of the second research objective and this theme quest to assess if there is a consensus on the need for youth land ownership policy. The following are detailed verbatim responses from the research participants and their analysis.

Research participant# J said:

I think it is going the impact should definitely be positive because if there is no such a thing then it's very needful. It's very needful because I actually have thought that there is that kind of a thing in place. I do think that it is very critical because it would mean that for these people the policy is now binding that we need for this funding to be distributed. We need so many and so many young people, so compared to what is happening now the department says in my industry there is no form of recognition. To say that so much percentage of funding to prioritize youth. There's nothing binding. They just say it as a word, but the implementation to say for it the policy that's binding means that if they don't do it, there will be consequences or rather if they do it. This is what they would gain it would mean that young people will definitely receive the attention and the resources that are due to them. So I think implementation will be will be forced and in a way that's when we can see that young people will definitely get involved.

Research participant# G said:

I think it will bring a positive impact based on economic growth and economic development because, for example, there are provinces that are mostly dominated by rural areas, for example, Limpopo and Mpumalanga and others, and it happens that people who are held in higher positions and the urban areas, they are mostly from the rural

areas. So it means that we have a lot of brains from the rural areas. So this thing will bring a positive impact on economic growth and development whereby it will start empowering youth from the ground level. From the primary level and the areas in terms of how we can sustain and be able to keep on reusing our land, not losing the quality of the fertility on our land as the youth. So as you have given that authority it will be actually a great pleasure in terms of how we can be able to come up with ideas on redistributing the wealth amongst the previously disadvantaged group.

Research participant# B said:

Well, let us not promulgate let us and not only make announcements. Let us announce with clear hand holding programs. And here I am referring to know any economy that can emerge need a whole lot of training today we see China and Turkey emerging as wealthy new market that has been but after the Second World War these economies had collapsed and they invested a lot in training and training, so let us not promulgate without coming up with plans to train people in agrarian reforms to train youth in all of these things we need to come up with programs. That can ensure that young people much as you'd want them to focus on land they are adequately trained. They can work and tilt the land. The promulgation can happen on youth land ownership. It must be coupled with training and the tools of trade so that a proper investment can happen.

Research participant# E said:

I think the impact will be very positive at the moment. I have, I've noticed that a lot of young people don't have a sense of belonging in the country. We don't feel that this is our country because we don't have access to land we. So when we talk about the land redistribution. It's all about our grandparents, our grandparents, our parents, and our great-grandparents. But it does not really involve us. But if the department considers involving the youth in land ownership issues, then the youth would have a sense of belonging and sense of ownership and they would take responsibility for the country. They would be leaders of the country and act accordingly, you know, take care of the land and develop it accordingly and make it their home because they feel that OK, we have our land now. This is our land. This is also part of our legacy. Then in a way, they would participate and I feel that the livelihood of the youth of South Africa would be way better

than it is right now and you know it will open doors of creativity and business opportunities.

Research participant# I said:

I think there's It would be great. You know. But again there are certain things that would need to be looked into because we have a high unemployment rate right now. We have this land that the youth is able to gain access to. But now what are they going work the land with, you know what resources are they going use? And like working the land is very capital intensive. So if you don't have a credit history. You know, there's no way you're going gain support. The policy might be there, but it needs to be accompanied by resources to enable those young people who access the land to succeed in all their projects. I don't think the policy alone will be enough. But I think it will go a long way in helping yes. But I think the other thing we need to be careful of creating a space where we become reliant on these resources, right? And we don't have a way of using it and being dependent on it. So like a dependency thing needs to be in the policy when it's created and have a way of mitigating that

Research participant# F said:

The promulgation of a youth land ownership policy would have a positive impact on the lives of young people. It is important for youth to gain access to land and be involved in land ownership in South Africa. The issue of youth exclusion from land ownership and the need for a policy that specifically addresses youth involvement in land issues. The policy would add great value, especially if it includes age categorization and opportunities for youth to own and work the land. The promulgation of a youth land ownership policy as a means to empower young people, promote their interest in land, and contribute to their socioeconomic development.

Research participant# H said:

The promulgation of a youth land ownership policy would be significant. It is important for youth involvement in land reform and the need for their access to land. The policy should focus on transforming and integrating youth into the land-related economy. The promulgation of a youth land ownership policy accompanied by effective implementation

and support, can provide development opportunities for the youth and contribute to their socio-economic emancipation.

Research participant# A said:

The promulgation of a youth land ownership policy would have a positive impact on the lives of youth in South Africa. There is a need for youth engagement and involvement in land ownership and highlights the potential benefits of the policy. It is important for youth to own land closer to where they can deliver their products or services would be advantageous for young entrepreneurs. Youth land ownership policy could provide opportunities for youth to access land and resources, promote economic growth, and address issues of unemployment and poverty.

Discussion of the theme

- The policy would be binding, and youth would get attention and resources due to them.
- Youth land ownership policy would have a positive impact on economic growth and development by starting to empower youth from the ground level.
- Promulgation for youth land ownership should happen and it must be coupled with training and tools of trade so that proper investment can happen.
- Involving the youth in land ownership issues is important because the youth would have a sense of belonging and sense of ownership and they would take responsibility for the country.
- Youth land ownership policy would assist with addressing unemployment amongst youth.
- It would promote the various interests of youth.
- It would contribute to youth socio-economic emancipation.
- It would provide youth with opportunities to work, produce, and deliver closer to where they stay. It will reduce youth migration to urban areas.

4.7. Objective THREE: To explore the potential transformation opportunities on land reform and youth.

The third sub-theme of the research objective deals with the exploration of potential transformation opportunities for land reform and youth. What opportunities are available for youth in the land reform space that can provide socio-economic emancipation. The theme revealed following sub-themes, namely: Land ownership patterns in South Africa,

the Communal Property Association model and youth, youth and collaterals, and youth as a political factor in post-apartheid South Africa.

4.7.1. Land ownership patterns in South Africa

This sub-theme seeks to establish an understanding of land ownership patterns in South Africa, who owns the majority of the land that youth should gain access to. Respondents have made an observation on this trend and the following are their verbatim responses.

Research participant# B said:

Well firstly let's start from the past. The past land ownership item, the past land ownership pattern was highly insane. You had white people only 87% and we have 13 % of our people owning the balance. I mean you had 13% of the land being owned by the indigenous people, but the current thing I see is that yes we have done only giving that title deeds and so on, but these title deeds were just given without an aftercare program. The education system that we went through they taught us good English, very good English. They taught us religious education. They taught us all sorts of things, but they never taught us to tilt the land which our forefathers did very successfully so the current land ownership pattern good as it may be it does not have a proper support system. To ensure that it is sustainable because you end up with the same people whose land was retained selling it back to the previous owners. I don't think there's enough time. I don't think there are enough efforts to ensure that land ownership is not just a political tool that brings people closer to the ruling party. It must become a tool that creates sustainable livelihoods amongst people so my assertion is that the current land ownership could be even worse than what we had before because the land is now being retained by the owners, the previous unlawful owner, the land is now lying fallow.

Research participant# C said:

Most land is owned by white people. Almost 72% of the South African land is owned by white people and the remaining 13 percent of it is owned by the coloured. So yeah I think we as black people we are only being left with the land that is used only for settlement.

Research participant# E said:

So my understanding is that the majority of land is actually owned by the minority group so it's mostly white Afrikaans, male, that own the land and the other groups are, let me say the black people, particularly the black women, are the ones that do not have access to land. So it's mostly white Afrikaans and males that own the land. So yeah, that's the pattern. And they own a large amount of land. And in terms of the previously known as the Bantustans or something like that they use the tribal authority. The chief has more access to the land than the actual community.

Research participant #D said:

I thought about this and went to try to understand what exactly. Well, your private land, state land as well as your say communal land. And with regard to private land, I mean you've got in terms of ownership, you've got a very skewed pattern where one racial group owns quite a huge percentage over. It looks like this figure changes depending on who writes about it. but, but it doesn't matter. What matters is that a disproportionate amount of this land is in the hands of one racial grouping. OK. That is the private land and of course. OK, state land is state land. But the question that can actually be posed also in terms of state land is why some of the lands are still in the hands of the state where it can actually be released within the land reform program to facilitate, you know, social economic development of South Africans, particularly the youth. Then the ownership patterns in terms of your communal land and you know well that one is clear because you would have well again the state owns part of the communal land and you've got then the tribal land. There is also a very small percentage owned by a few tribes across the country who are one of the only tribes that own a considerable amount of that land will is the Ingonyama Trust. You have those patterns that are also skewed toward certain categories of owners and you don't have that equity in terms of the distribution of ownership patterns across the country.

Discussion of the themes

The above participants expressed their observations in terms of land ownership patterns in South Africa. The following points emerged regarding the land ownership patterns.

- The majority of the land is the private hands while there is state land and tribal land. In terms of tribal land ownership, the Ingonyama Trust dominates the land ownership patterns.
- The minority race, particularly white males still dominate land ownership patterns of the country.
- Black people are only accessing the settlement portion of the land patterns.
- Mixed patterns of land ownership in South Africa, those who received their land find their lands back in the hands of the minority again.

4.7.2. The communal property association model and youth

This theme was intended to establish the role of the Communal Property Association land-holding entity model and how it can facilitate access to land by youth. The following are verbatim responses from participants on their observations and experiences in relation to the Communal Property Associations in post-apartheid South Africa.

Research participant# J said:

Communal Property Associations I believe that they should in a way have policies even within themselves that prioritize youth to gain access to land. CPAs are the best vehicle for youth to access land.

Research participant# B said:

It should involve youth with clear roles and responsibilities. So young people must be given the responsibilities of what they have to follow effectively. The CPA model should have a component of youth development.

Research participant# E said:

There is something that I have noticed within the CPA communities there is tribalism. So if that can be dealt with that would be great because there are people who like they were not originally were not in that place but as time went by, they ended up settling in those places. There are surnames that are more prominent, so if you are not of the prominent surname you are not going to get anything. So tribalism, promoting agriculture, and sharing indigenous knowledge, those are my points.

Research participant# C said:

Young people can benefit from the CPAs by renting out the land and engaging in agricultural activities. It is also important for youth to participate in the decision-making platforms of the CPAs.

Research participant# D said:

The beneficiaries of the restitution process that led to the CPA establishment are in two groups, is the tribes or a section of a tribe or a community in some instances, there are families now within these two subgroups, you would always have. In this context, my view would be that having the youth incorporated in the structures that would be a CPA, in this instance, there must be the participation of the youth there. But #2, if we say that we would now be having that policy to transform and integrate youth into the economy you must then have also a dedicated piece of land that can actually be not exclusively, but predominantly utilized by the youth within this structure called the CPA to access funding and actually blend that funding from the specific youth policy that will be in place and the specific strategies and support measures for youth. They can blend that now, with what the overall CPA could actually leverage itself. You have a CPA on its own it can go and get money because it's composed of various people everyone ages and all that. But within the CPA the component called youth can also access its own specific funding or support measures and then blend the two and then we're actually now broadening the base in terms of the amount of money you could actually access because of this element of youth. So, that can be an advantage both for the youth as well as the CPA.

Research participant# H said:

Also working with stakeholders like NYDA or any other stakeholders that have youth that is interested in generating an income or maybe running some. If we integrate those stakeholders and implement the skills that those youth have at CPA, yes, we will have good results, it will work.

Discussion of the theme

The following points were experiences and observations of participants regarding the role of the Communal Property Association as a model to benefit youth. The following points serve to cover what can be done for the CPA model to benefit youth.

- CPA structures should integrate youth as part of decision-makers.
- CPA should introduce a youth component in their structures.
- CPA is a great platform for youth to easily lease land.
- CPA can benefit from youth through funding designed for youth, and it can also broaden their financials by blending their finances and the youth on the CPA.
- CPA should work with stakeholders mandated to empower youth.

4.7.3. Youth and collaterals

The sub-theme seeks to establish the role the government can play in assisting youth in need of assistance to cover for collaterals.

Research participant # J said:

A qualifying criteria, for instance if somebody has got an academic background you get what I am saying it should be in a way recognized at the same level of collateral you know in other words what I am trying to say is that there has to be a mandate between our government and our financial institution to say that some of the policies must be done away with you get what I am saying. If somebody has this and this academic background but without a collateral of some sort there has to be a continuation or rather it is coming to collateral. There should be some form of communication to say if I apply to my government to say I am going to be applying to FNB can you be my security to say that if I say because the department has empowered me with knowledge it means they can trust my skills, so if you trust my skills means that you are saying that the chances of me losing are less therefore I can go to a financial institution and the government introduces for funds set aside you know to set aside you know in form of collateral because collateral is something that if you lose what is going pay that debt.

Research participant # E said:

So I have noticed with CIPC that when you register a company or a business they brought everything together they incorporate everything you don't go elsewhere to find extra information so they created a body that has like let me say the website has links to everything that you are going to need. And hospitals as well when someone gives birth to a baby, they don't have to go to home affairs anymore to get a birth certificate for the baby. So I think it will be helpful for the government and the administration of land reform to actually bring everything that young people are going to need for example if a young person does not have a credit record and they need it then there should be someone who can help them they like if there is a website they should be like, let us help you build your credit record so that you can qualify for this thing. So, you are going to have like 3 months to pay off a certain small debt and then from there on you can apply for this. So, they would link to educational institutions that are related to the land reform and they can have links to them on the website. They can have links to banking or financial institutions that can help with applying for funding and they can also have links to other funding institutions that can help arm young people build their credit record. You know like they incorporate it into everything together so that when the youth come to claim for the land or apply for access they don't have to go everywhere. The information is already there is readily available, and it is user-friendly.

Research participant # I said:

Is having access to start-up capital in the form of grants and I think also like resources like you need seedling or do you need an interior decorator or help for your guesthouse for example. That's how the government can help but also have support systems that see the processes through because you are going to give me money and I am going to spend it maybe things I said I am going to spend it because I don't have for example like financial background to make money. Giving some seed capital but also helping me in the first year and a half, two to three years to say, ok, this is how you know and see the progression.

Research participant # D said:

The youth should be identified as a specific group with specific needs that are different from the adults and then once you have identified that out of the diagnostic study, then you will be able to develop a responsive policy and support measures which could then

assist them to get production, credit access there too. Issues like information on financial management issues like training and support, we have actually talked about the issue of the mentoring and all that to ensure that you close that gap of the lack of finance, but the government can also come in. Look, we have been having discussions in the country about Eskom about South African Airways, OK and they have been borrowing billions and billions of rands from the international market and who has been the backer in terms of their shoot, they fail to repay. Who guarantees that? it is the government. So that becomes collateral that the government is offering the institutions. So the same principle can actually be applied here, that the government should actually assist and support these youth by becoming the collateral to the state institutions and saying that for youth A we will actually give up this money and then we can be able then to support them, but you need the deliberate intervention of that developmental state to ensure that access of financial support is actually facilitated.

Research participant # H said:

Linking young people with some mentors that have those resources or those collaterals could help. Because like, honestly, I'm trying to imagine if you take a young person that is 20 or 25, they just finish at school and then they have interest in running a business and then you want collateral from them, I mean we are Africans as we don't have anything to give to our kids, unlike the white people. But their kids have got things already when they are still young. But if we allocate mentors that have financial resources and skills and they impart as collateral to the young people, so that the young people could qualify for whatever the financial support. It would help. I'm trying to imagine when we say a young person who is 22 years old and then they have a very brilliant idea business but they don't have land. And then they approach the government to ask for land so that they can implement their idea. But because they don't have collateral, they can't get and when an old person somewhere owns only a lot of money or owner, lays some resources financially or a certain institution, the bank. You got money, but they can't give it to this person because they don't have experience. That's why we are going to miss that child. But if we take this child and link that child with somebody that has got experience, they don't have finances and then we've got an institution that has got finances as a mentor. So, we link two mentors to this child with the concept then they work together.

Discussion of the theme on youth with collaterals.

- Academic background in specific sectors could be useful to cover as collaterals.
- Make the land reform institution a one-stop shop. Ensure relevant institutions are easily accessible to youth to help them financially.
- Start-up capital in the form of grants and seedlings by the Department of Agriculture.
- Youth should be identified as a specific group with specific needs that are different from adults.
- The government should assist and support these youth by becoming the collateral for the youth.
- Linking youth with mentors who have financial resources to implement their brilliant ideas.

4.7.4. Youth as a political factor in post-apartheid South Africa

This sub-theme is intended for the influence of youth in the post-apartheid government. What is the role of youth in the politics of the new government and how do they affect the political space. The following are verbatim responses on the role of youth as a political factor.

Research participant # F said:

To answer that one. The involvement of youth in any growing economy I think is the backbone of any economy especially developing countries like developed countries like ours. so my observation is that youth are not interested in politics whereas policies come from politicians. I think one other thing that I can mention is that youth have lost hope. When you ask them why they don't vote, they will respond by saying why they should vote if they don't have jobs. If can make an example about the political party of the Economic Freedom Fighters there was time in universities they managed to recruit or get excitement or get the involvement of youth in those institutions where we saw a high number of institutions having SRC being won by the EFF and actually that's when we realized that youth has been out of politics and they add value. During the fees must fall we have seen rise in youth taking a stand in politics even though we see the lack thereof in national or provincial or local government elections.

Research participant # D said:

The youth have got and have played a very critical role in the politics of South Africa, but you can actually divide this into two, you know, pre-democracy. There was a huge involvement of the youth in the liberation of the country and huge sacrifices were made by this cohort during that period. then post-apartheid you have seen the involvement and participation of youth in the politics of the country, but it was less deliberate and unintentional and influenced by other factors rather than by a will and a desire or a role to see a role that we can play within the political arena in the country. And the reason why I'm saying this, go back to the issue that we talked about of the high unemployment rate, go back to our electoral system and how we elect leaders in the country, OK? We have ruling party had one of the policies, called Eye of the Needle. So that for you to become a leader. You've got to have met certain basic principles, certain measures, practically how we identify leaders at a low level, even at the higher rank, has got nothing to do with those particular measures that we put in place. Now they have taken advantage of the fact that there is high unemployment and the barriers to entry into the political arena are very low. You don't have to come and you run and you jump very high. Now you just have to lift your foot just a centimeter, you skip this hurdle and you are a leader. So as much as they're we've got a youth playing their role in politics in. It wasn't something that naturally evolved. It is something that was circumstantial and that circumstance that is driving them to become involved in that are the economic opportunities that are seen by being a leader, are the issue of lack of employment opportunities. In the country which then dissolves the critical role that youth can actually play, because now you've got opportunists coming in there as leaders when the real leaders are taking the back burner and it starts at the youth level, these opportunistic intentions.

Research participant # H said:

On paper, look at the example that we can talk about right now is look at our Parliament. OK. Our Parliament right now is an old age home we've got all of them are aged. All of them are pensioners. How many youths do we have in Parliament? maybe that's why we

don't even have fresh ideas. We have old strategies because of those old men and old women.

Research participant# A said:

We're very much seen and not heard, but the opportunity is there for like I said the future, right? We can't anymore honestly have people who won't be in the future telling us about the future, you know, we need to kind of bring it back and say, ok, these are the people that will be, you know, running the future. We aren't saying make the president a 20-year-old person but we are saying have them and their opinions be taken into account. Youth is an important political group in our country I am not sure on my stats but it is the largest growing voter group in the country. I think they are very important but they don't think they have a voice that's strong enough to make to bring about change. You know, cause they don't realize their power.

Research participant# G said:

Youth are becoming more engaged and knowledgeable in politics compared to before. Their increased participation is contributing to the political transformation of the country. More youth are becoming ward councilors and actively involved in political activities at the ground level. Youth have an important role to play in solving real-life problems and bringing about economic growth and development. Empowering youth and giving them access to political engagement is crucial for the overall progress of South African politics.

Research participant # E said:

The role of youth in South African politics is significant. The older generation who are mostly in positions of power, may not relate well to the younger generation due to the differences in experiences and perspectives. Politicians should consider the youth and their interests in decision-making processes to ensure a more inclusive and representative political landscape.

Discussion of the theme on the role of youth as a political in a post-apartheid South Africa.

- Youth and their interests as decision-making processes to ensure a more inclusive and representative.
- More youth are becoming ward councilors and actively involved in political activities.
- Youth is an important political and voting group in the country.
- Youth do not have a voice strong enough to make to bring about change.
- Lack of youth in Parliament and it affects innovation of new ideas.
- Youth are becoming opportunists in the political space, becoming career politicians.

4.7.5. Political will as a solution to ensure youth gain access to land.

The theme is intended to establish the level of political commitment and support by key decision-makers for youth policy solutions to youth challenges. Jonas (2023) postulates that “like so much else in our country, political will is the missing ingredient”. The following are verbatim opinions about the role of political will in ensuring youth gain access to land.

Research participant # G said:

I don't believe so because for us to win our freedom we did not have political parties were fighting for us. So I don't think we need any political party for us. To win this battle of land ownership, especially for youth, so no political party can guarantee us the access to the land but as the youth would going back to the society that can produce this and that and be able to create this as an individual whereby it will also liberate us to use our critical thinking in terms of land sustainability and reuse. No political party can work for us at this point because we have given them a chance but nothing has happened.

Research participant # E said:

With our status of politics, I don't think the political parties are interested in actually like helping the youth gain access to land with corruption and of service delivery. I think the picture of land access is quite far-fetched.

Research participant# F said:

Yes, absolutely. Absolutely. I think we are in a democratic country where politics is the order of the day where politicians are making decisions about how to run the country. How to control and also the issue of land lies directly with political will as I have

mentioned before the issue of expropriation without compensation. These are initiatives of politicians, so the will, will always be from politicians with pressure from youth.

Research participant # B said:

No, no it won't, except when we do things and we do not care. No there was a quotation that was used at some point, if you become a leader in a country of your own birth do not think of the next elections but think of the next generation. So people are thinking of the next election, they are not thinking of the next generation. I never knew that when we were told education shall be free and you all people today who unemployed graduates are. It means we were fed poison. It means we were fed the wrong education. Now clearly as far as I am concerned much more needs to be done to drill down and find the DNA of our society because we don't have it clearly we don't know who we are. Now the political will to give young people power, people will say oh these guys will topple us from power. We need to go back to the basics and address pertinent issues amongst us.

Research participant# D said:

Yes, if there is political will. Indeed, land ownership can be facilitated to the youth and like I have indicated in what I just said earlier on. The will is demonstrated on what you practically do. Move you from the rhetoric to the practical way of doing things. We have just talked about it earlier when we don't have a policy that is promulgated, that is dedicated to this group. We tend to think that there is homogeneity among South Africans in terms of their needs, and we do not identify that within that group, there's called somebody called the youth, and we need to address their specific needs. We have not done them because we take them to be everybody, to be homogeneous. So that demonstrates the lack of will, the financial and institutional, including other support measures. Demonstrate that the will did not really come out at a time when we needed it most.

Discussion of the theme of whether political will can ensure youth gain access to the land.

The following points emanate from respondents' opinions and observations on whether political will can ensure the youth gain access to the land or not.

- Political intervention won't give youth access to the land, even for freedom people had to fight for themselves.

- The state of politics does not inspire confidence, so the land issue is far-fetched.
- Political will can help since it is politicians that make decisions.
- Politicians will never empower youth; they are scared to be removed from power.
- Political will, will move us from rhetoric to practical way of doing things.

4.8. Content analysis

Qualitative content analysis is defined as a research method for the subjective interpretation of the content of text data through the systematic classification process of coding and identifying themes or patterns. Content analysis in the main is rooted in meanings, contexts, and intentions contained in messages. At the centre of the analysis, it is the contents of messages intended to form a basis for drawing inferences and conclusions from the content. In the context of this study, youth and land reform politics in post-apartheid South Africa will give direction to data analysis. Land reform patterns are to be evaluated and the relationship between youth and land is to be explored.

Leedy, Paul D and Ormrod, (2015) argue that content analysis aims to identify patterns, themes, or biases in a detailed and systematic examination of a particular body of material. It is a data analysis research technique used from texts to the contexts of their use for making replicable and valid inferences ((Krippendorff, 2019).In agreement, (Kleinheksel j, 2020) assert that content analysis is mainly concerned with the premise that texts are rich data sources with great potential to reveal valuable information about certain phenomena. Content analysis is characterised by two analyses, namely: Enumerative and Ethnographic content analysis. Enumerative content analysis is mainly focused on the frequency of words and categories which includes concordance and concurrence (Grbich,2013). In contrast, ethnographic content analysis deals with analysing documents for significance and meaning (Wilbur.D S, 2019)

Morreti F, (2011) describe content analysis as an approach used to classify written or verbal materials into identified categories of similar meanings. In addition, Drisko and Maschi, (2016) argue that content analysis is a family of research techniques for making systematically credible, or valid and replicable inferences from texts and various forms of communication. Furthermore, content analysis should not be perceived to be examining existing or secondary texts and materials. It has the potential to provide

evidence-grounded methods for the evaluation of youth gaining access to land. In turn, the evidence will be used for advocating to shape and influence policy and practice. In the main, even data that was not created specifically for research purposes can be drawn through applying content analysis since most of it is naturalistic in origin.

The analysis was chosen based on its potential features intended to discover the purposes, messages, and effects of communication content that suits the research needs. The tool has features that can infer on the relationship of words and concepts used to inform the study's theoretical claim and basis. Moreover, it ensures that it provides improvement on the phenomena patterns under study. Document analysis in the form of recorded communication such as newspapers, policy documents, written documents interviews, and books was conducted and they all factor in youth as part of statistics that are in the agricultural sector. Only the Presidential Advisory Panel on Land Reform observed and stated that “there are no active policies that are aimed at engaging South Africa’s youth into ownership of land”. The expert Advisory Panel on Land Reform and Agriculture is the only report in agreement with what the majority of respondents envisaged during the data collection interviews.

4.9. CONCLUSION

The chapter focused on the presentation and discussion of the findings from the collected data by analysing recorded transcripts through the Atlas.ti as the data analysis software. The key findings were that the land reform's programme three key policies have not been adequately implemented, the government has not done enough and the administration is extremely poor in terms of land reform policy implementation. When it comes to the second research objective, it was revealed that land reform policies do not accommodate youth, and that hinders their socio-economic emancipation. From the last research objective, there was an overwhelming recommendation for youth land ownership policy and a huge emphasis on the importance of youth gaining access to land transformation and opportunities in land reform space. The next chapter as the last one for the study focuses on the conclusion of the study and provides recommendations for future study.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. INTRODUCTION

The previous four chapters respectively presented on (1) introduction and background of the study, (2) literature review (3) research methodology, and (4) data analysis and interpretation of the findings. Building on previous chapters, the current chapter focuses on the conclusions of the study and recommendations for future research. The main objective of the study is to explore youth and land reform politics of post-apartheid South Africa. The aim to explore solutions on how youth gain can effectively be integrated to land reform as part of government redress program. This then translates into socio-economic emancipation of the youths, more so that these populations group is the hardest hit in terms of triple challenges of unemployment, inequity, and poverty. The associated research questions of the study are as follows, moreover, the conclusion and recommendations will be structured in alignment with these research questions.

- RQ1: To analyse South Africa's land reform policy and assess its implementation.
- RQ3: To critique the impact of the policy implementation on youth socio-economic emancipation processes for development and hindrance.
- RQ3: To explore potential transformation opportunities on land reform and youth.

The rest of the chapter five is structured as follows: Section; 5.2 discusses findings from the analysis. This is followed by findings from the literature review in, 5.3. Findings from the primary research are in 5.4. Section 5.5 discusses the limitations of the study while section 5.6. discusses areas of further research. The last section, 5.7. discussed the overall research conclusion.

5.2. Findings from the analysis

Findings from the study culminate and are deduced from the review of the literature and data analysis procedures explained in chapter three, which were guided by the above-stated research questions. In the main, the last research question underpins the purpose of this study as it particularly addresses the recommendation of the study.

5.3. Findings from the literature review

5.3.1. Land reform has been approached on a general basis

The literature review on the land reform approach points to a general basis method of ensuring accessibility to land. The land reform has been approached on a general basis without clear definitions and a sense of set target on what to achieve. The programme in South Africa is treated as an adult-matter only, those general approaches have blinded other age cohorts like youth to be factored into the land matter. Studies signify the importance of land reform with its various programmes as a crucial tool to address inequality and general basis can't help in improving livelihoods. Ngcukaitobi (2021) postulates that the land should underpin the economic growth and improves household welfare and food security.

5.3.2. South Africa's land reform implementation and administration.

The land reform programme has not been properly administered. All programmes that fall under land reform have not been under a proper land administration system. Land reform has not been implemented and it is revealed in the literature reviewed that set targets for all programs have not been achieved. The absence of administration means that implementation does not take place since the administration systems part guides the implementation process. There is heavy criticism of failed and inadequate policy implementation caused by the absence of land administration. A sense of directionlessness prevails within bureaucracy amid the public dissatisfaction about the failure of land reform (ibid, p.220).

5.3.3. The absence of youth on land matters.

At the centre of all land reform programmes is the matter of the dominant population cohort, the youth. Since the inception of the land reform programmes, youth have never been identified as a crucial part of the society entitled to own the land. The revealed studies indicate the failure of land reform institutions and policies in all spheres but there

is a gap in identifying that youth are the majority and should gain access to the land. Land reform literature from the international level is also silent in the same way as the domestic studies on the recognition of youth as landowners. Few studies such as the presidential advisory panel address the lack of policies and guidelines on land ownership by the youth. The struggle for youth to gain access to land is embedded in this poor formulation and implementation. Current land reform policies and frameworks are unresponsive to young people's needs. Land reform policies demonstrate a lack of political will to ensure these policies are properly implemented. Land, the same as leadership roles is occupied by elders. Literature aligned to youth bulges indicates that if youth are left inactive, they pose a threat of political instability.

5.3.4. Absence of clear ideological position on land reform in South Africa.

The land reform lacks a clear ideological position. Since the inception of the land reform programme, the government has not demonstrated a strong ideological position in terms of land reform. The complexities range from the inability of the state to compromise on accommodating the traditional authorities against communal land tenure, the return of the dispossessed land and dealing with the market-led land reform programme which does not suit existing land reform demands. The ideological position is crucial in the land reform process, mainly because the land reform programme is premised on the return of the land lost through the facilitation of a racist ideology intended to starve black people of access and ownership to land. The ideology should facilitate and advance the aspirations of the landless. The constitution's section 25(10) states that "no one should be deprived of property except in terms of law of general application, and no law may permit arbitrary deprivation of property" (RSA,1994). Restriction on land ownership on racial basis shall be ended, and all the land re-divided amongst those who work it, to banish famine and land hunger (The Freedom Charter,1955). The gaps between expectations and reality emerged from poor land administration and lack of political will.

5.3.5. Transformation of the land ownership patterns in South Africa.

The transformation of the land ownership patterns is not featured in the studied literature. This demonstrates the inability of the government to recognize that land reform's various land-related activities should be transformed to accommodate the previously dispossessed. Youth should be integrated into the agricultural space and access land.

5.4. FINDINGS FROM THE PRIMARY RESEARCH

The findings provided in the previous chapter, as well as their subsequent discussions, and research conclusions based on findings, have been developed for each of the established objectives and are presented below to assess whether the research questions were met. The main themes were to analyse South Africa's land reform policy and its implementation, the impact of the policy on the youth socio-economic emancipation processes and potential transformation opportunities for land reform and youth. The conclusions are summarised as follows:

5.4.1. CONCLUSIONS FOR OBJECTIVE 1

The research question and objective concluded under this section are as follows:

RO: To analyse South Africa's land reform policy and assess its implementation.

RQ: What is the state of South African land reform policies and their implementation?

The findings revealed that there is an overwhelming agreement that the government has not adequately implemented the land reform policies properly although some respondents indicate that the government has provided the platform for people to access and manage the land, although not sufficiently. There is also a significant confusion that needs to be cleared in terms of land reform implementation and administration, agricultural land, and residential land, regarding who owns land between the government and traditional authorities in certain areas. The other aspect indicates that the government took over a difficult task and the people should be patient with the processes undoing the work that took place centuries ago.

The findings also reveal a great failure in South Africa's land reform policy implementation caused by the failure to develop proper land administration systems, policies, and support measures. Also, banks have failed to recognise and integrate traditional land ownership in their systems. Lastly, the findings indicate that there is an entitlement of youth in communal land setup, whereby they feel entitled to land as their inheritance as opposed to see their communal land as an asset for socio-economic emancipation.

5.4.2. CONCLUSIONS FOR OBJECTIVE 2

The research objective and questions concluded in this subsection are as follows:

RO: To critique the impact of the policy on youth socio-economic emancipation processes on its development and hindrance.

RQ: How is the land reform and youth socio-economic emancipation process enhancing and translating into development culmination and manifestation?

According to the literature engaged it reveals that there are no policies on land intended to accommodate the youth and there is an overwhelming agreement that land reform policies correlate with the socio-economic impact on youth. The policies on land reform should enable the youth to participate in various land-related diverse economies, it is imperative to safeguard youth and their future. The findings reveal the correlation between land reform and youth socio-economic emancipation in terms of the cruciality of youth in gaining access to land by providing youth with opportunities to work, reducing migration to urban areas, promoting various interests of youth, ensuring youth have a sense of belonging and their dignity is protected. Although, there is an overwhelming agreement on the role of land policies and youth socio-economic emancipation that the government should promulgate a youth land ownership policy to foster youth socio-economic emancipation in South Africa. The youth land ownership policy will be binding to all government institutions mandated to develop youth and it will ensure that they get the attention and resources due to them.

While there is a different view on the youth, the observation is that the youth is very fond of working and getting a salary. They are too lazy to start their own businesses and be

productive, meaning accessing the land to them is not important. Involving youth in land ownership space would boost their sense of belonging and ownership and they will take responsibility for their country. It is further concluded that the impact of land reform policies on youth socio-economic emancipation deepens marginalization and relative deprivation. Moreover, it hinders and blocks the youth from transitioning to adulthood. The transition from youth to adulthood is culturally premised and affects the youth since it depends on accessibility to land. It is concluded that land reform policies ignore youth participation is deepen future lack of progress since technology is affecting all sectors. The youth will be able to manage the Fourth Industrial Revolution in the land related to diverse economic activities as opposed to elders who are tech-savvy but have land at their disposal.

5.4.3. CONCLUSIONS FOR OBJECTIVE 3

The research objective and question concluded under this subsection are as follows:

RO: To explore potential transformation opportunities on land reform and youth.

RQ: What are the potential opportunities for transformation on land reform and youth?

The findings of the objective on the potential transformation opportunities on land reform and youth reveal that the youth should be identified as a specific group with specific needs that are different from adults to achieve their socio-economic emancipation goal. To facilitate development and transformation opportunities, the government should assist youth by becoming the collateral for the youth. Youth and their interests as decision-making processes to ensure a more inclusive and representative can serve as a great platform for potential transformation opportunities on the land reform matter.

Most of the responses share the sentiment on the potential transformation opportunities for land reform and youth. There is an agreement that most of the land in South Africa is still in the private hands of white people, particularly white males. This pattern needs serious attention and transformation to integrate youth into land-related space. The other area that needs transformation for youth is the state and tribal land, they have potential opportunities to facilitate development for youth.

The findings reveal there is a need to ensure land reform institutions are a one-stop shop with relevant in-house services to help youth transform the land reform space. Communal Property Association is noticed as a great platform for youth to easily gain land or various ownership arrangements, boosting youth with potential transformation opportunities. There is also an opportunity on land through the participation of youth in the sense that they should not access residential land only, there lies a transformation gap in gaining access to various types of land except residential. It is concluded that youth dominate the population, however, they do not have a united and strong voice to bring change regarding their various struggle including gaining access to land. Their absence in critical decision-making roles such as Parliament and executive positions affects the innovation of new ideas. They should impose their voice and presence since they are an important and big voting group in the country, however, the other dark side of their involvement is that they are becoming career opportunists instead of adding value and becoming experienced leaders of their group.

The role of political will has been identified as a significant aspect, it will help since politicians are the ones making decisions and it will further assist by moving from rhetoric to a practical way of doing things. Youth should extensively explore opportunities on land returned by the government that is about to be returned to previous minority owners. There is a great investment and potential transformation for youth in gaining access to the land space, the country will reap long-term rewards since the youth will become well-experienced adults in land ownership and management.

5.4.4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OBJECTIVE 1

The education system should factor in land management curricula to teach youth about land at an early age. It is recommended that the youth should take responsibility for initiatives to gain access to land as opposed to waiting for elders to give them land. The traditional authorities should integrate youth into their leadership structures to ensure future land administration improves. The government should make the land-related economies enticing for youth to make it more attractive to them. It is recommended that the government ensure more youth are employed in the land reform institutions to fast-

track land administration. Youth employment in land reform institutions would advance and prioritize youth interests regarding gaining access to land.

5.4.5. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OBJECTIVE 2

It is recommended that the government promulgate a youth land ownership policy coupled with training and tools of trade so that proper investment and socio-economic emancipation can happen. The various land-related diverse economies should be enticing to attract the youth into their space. It is also recommended that young people should be introduced to the land reform and management space at an early stage, and the school curriculum should cover the land topic. There should be a specific budget from all government institutions intended to help the youth. The government should be present on platforms where young people spend their time and energy, such as the internet, which helps in finding out the interests of youth on land-related issues. Youth should start developing relationships with land at an early age, the recommendation is to ensure youth gain access to land at the teenage stage.

5.4.6. RECOMMENDATION FOR OBJECTIVE 3

The government should provide start-up capital in the form of grants and seedlings to assist youth participating in diverse land-related economic activities. The establishment of Youth Land Trust and a non-profit organisation for youth to advocate for the transformation interest of youth. It is recommended that Communal Property Association structures should integrate youth as part of decision-makers to boost potential transformation opportunities in land reform space. CPA should work with stakeholders mandated to empower youth and introduce a youth component in their structures. CPAs have an opportunity to transform the lives of youth by exploiting funding opportunities designed for youth in various land-holding entities.

Youth should be linked with mentors who have financial resources to implement their brilliant ideas. Academic background in specific sectors should be recognised as useful to cover for collaterals.

5.5. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The following are study limitations that emerged during the research period.

- The study's limited sample size was one of its limitations. Based on the result of the small sample size, the outcome of this research can therefore not be generalised to the entire population of the youth in the North West Province engaged in diverse land-related economic activities. This limitation was mitigated through selecting appropriate and manageable population aligned with the study objectives.
- The scheduled time and session kept changing based on personal and work-related engagements. The challenges were managed through re-scheduling the session to accommodate both researcher and participant to ensure the engagement is properly conducted.
- Loadshedding also affected the study, because time had to change and network coverage was extremely bad for a quality interview session. The limitation was accomplished through proper planning and arranged the session after confirming the loadshedding schedule for both researcher and participant to ensure network coverage is proper and quality session produced.

5.6. AREAS OF FURTHER RESEARCH

There are few studies existing that have investigated the absence of land reform policies intended to engage youth and accommodate them into gaining access to land. Therefore, there is a gap in the literature on this topic of youth and land reform and such studies are required especially in the land reform institutions, legislature, and traditional authorities to better understand this research phenomenon. Secondly, the lack of ideological position is a significant and missing element in the land reform space. Its absence held back the aspirations that should be advanced and financed through an ideology intended for the majority age cohort in South Africa. The source a powerless dominating age cohort and largest voting group is a concern for future research. The youth are not united and powerful enough to make big changes affecting their diverse aspirations should be investigated as to what divides them. In addition, there are diverse sector-related factors

that affect the youth that can be researched through case studies

5.7. CONCLUSION

In South Africa, the youth are a very important population dominating the age cohort and the largest voting group. It is crucial for youth to gain access to the land to engage in diverse economic activities. The goal of this research study is solution-orientated, to find answers to the struggles of youth in gaining access to land using qualitative study methodology. The findings of the study were then utilized to make recommendations to the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, the National Assembly's Agriculture and Land Reform Committee and the Congress of South African Traditional Leaders on how to improve the facilitation of land administration in order for the youth to gain access to the land for various land-related economic activities. The youth do not have active policies engaging them to gain access to land. They are economically marginalised and relatively deprived of a fair platform, the land, to unleash their full potential and add value to the country. These factors deprive the youth of a fair opportunity to transition from youth to adulthood without properly emancipating themselves economically, culturally, and psychologically. All these factors were critically examined in this research study so that recommendations and findings could be made to reach the best solution to the research question and objectives. The study revealed that proper and effective land administration in the land reform department and traditional authorities, the promulgation of youth land ownership policy, the establishment of Youth Land Trust, the government becoming a collateral for youth and curriculum development on land matters will be some of the long-term solutions to the youth-driven crisis South Africa. Moreover, South Africa will have long-term economic rewards and benefit from having youth and future adults knowledgeable in land matters. The conclusion of the study demonstrates originality and logic by seeking to propose new legislation to accommodate the youth in the land reform space and various authorities dealing with land administration which advance new solutions to old problems. The study will contribute to the body of knowledge through its produced new findings intended to fill policy gaps existing in the land reform space. Moreover, the historical wider implications of land reform policies on the youth and their socio-economic challenges.

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APPENDIX A: Interview Schedule

Researcher:

Supervisors:

University of Venda, MA Political Sciences:

Student number:

Research Title:

Date of interview:

Name of organization:

Time:

Age:

Gender:

Tenure:

Research questionnaire:

1. Since 1994, the administrative role of implementing land reform policies: land restitution, land redistribution, and land tenure has been through the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform. (a) Is this the correct interpretation of the legislative mandate? (b) In your own observation, understanding, and experience, please explain if the government has adequately implemented the land reform policy in South Africa.
2. How does land reform policy correlate with youth socio-economic emancipation? (a) Do you think it is important for youth to gain access to land? (b) What would be the impact of the promulgation of youth land ownership policy by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform in South

Africa? Please explain.

3. What is your understanding of land reform ownership patterns in South Africa?
(a) In your own words, what do you think the government can do about transforming and integrating youth into a land-related economy? (b) Youth exists in various land reform programmes such as communal land and land tenure systems. Please share your opinion on how these systems can facilitate development opportunities for youth.
4. Communal Property Associations serve as a mechanism for land reform implementation and most land returned by the government is administered by CPAs as land-holding entities in South Africa. How can the CPA land ownership model benefit the youth? Kindly share your assessment and remark.
5. Land reform programme implementation is tipped to be an administrative process. (a) Can there be an adequate and fast-tracking administration effect to expose young people to gaining access to land even if the land is in the hands of adults? (b) What can be the responsive effects of the administrative aspect of the land reform for youth since they do not have the credible and steady financial background to cover collateral to access financial support for financing various land-related activities?
6. Give a thought to how the post-apartheid South African political dispensation has handled the land question. (b) Do you think the political will can ensure young people gain access to land?
7. Please share your observation of youth as a political factor in the post-apartheid politics of South Africa. (b) Describe the important features of the involvement of youth and land reform in post-apartheid South Africa

RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

UNIVEN Informed Consent

Appendix B

LETTER OF INFORMATION

Title of the Research Study:

Principal Investigator/s/ researcher:

Supervisor/s:

Brief Introduction and Purpose of the Study:

Outline of the Procedures:

Risks or Discomforts to the Participant:

Benefits:

Reason/s why the Participant May Be Withdrawn from the Study:

Remuneration:

Costs of the Study:

Confidentiality:

Research-related Injury:

Persons to Contact in the Event of Any Problems or Queries:

Supervisor and details:..... Please contact the researcher: Tel no..... or the University Research Ethics Committee Secretariat on 015 962 9058. Complaints can be reported to the Director: Research and Innovation, Prof J. Makhubele on 015 962 8313 or Jabulani.Makhubele@univen.ac.za

General:

Potential participants must be assured that participation is voluntary and the approximate number of participants to be included should be disclosed. A copy of the information letter should be issued to participants. The information letter and consent form must be translated and provided in the primary spoken language of the research population.

CONSENT

Statement of Agreement to Participate in the Research Study:

- I hereby confirm that I have been informed by the researcher, Mr....., about the nature, conduct, benefits, and risks of this study - Research Ethics Clearance Number: __,
- I have also received, read, and understood the above-written information (*Participant Letter of Information*) regarding the study.
- I am aware that the results of the study, including personal details regarding my sex, age, date of birth, initials, and diagnosis, will be anonymously processed into a study report.
- In view of the requirements of research, I agree that the data collected during this study can be processed in a computerized system by the researcher.
- I may, at any stage, without prejudice, withdraw my consent and participation in the study.
- I have had sufficient opportunity to ask questions and (of my own free will) declare myself prepared to participate in the study.
- I understand that significant new findings developed during the course of this research that may relate to my participation will be made available to me.

Full Name of Participant Date Time Signature

I,

herewith confirms that the above participant has fully informed me about the nature, conduct, and risks of the above study.

Full Name of Researcher

..... Date..... Signature.....

Full Name of Witness (If applicable)

..... Date Signature.....

Full Name of Legal Guardian (If applicable)

..... Date..... Signature.....

Please note the following:

Research details must be provided in a clear, simple, and culturally appropriate manner and prospective participants should be helped to arrive at an informed decision by use of appropriate language (grade 10 level- use Flesch Reading Ease Scores on Microsoft Word), selecting a non-threatening environment for interaction and the availability of peer counseling (Department of Health, 2004)

If the potential participant is unable to read/illiterate, then a right thumb print is required and an impartial witness, who is literate and knows the participant e.g. parent, sibling, friend, pastor, etc. should verify in writing, duly signed that informed verbal consent was obtained (Department of Health, 2004).

If anyone makes a mistake completing this document e.g. a wrong date or spelling mistake, a new document has to be completed. The incomplete original document has to be kept in the participant's file and not thrown away, and copies thereof must be issued to the participant.

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APPENDIX C: Permission to conduct study.



21 April 2023

Dear Simon Mokwena,

RE: Permission to Conduct Research

This letter serves as authorization for the University of Venda), S. Mokwena to conduct research on “Youth and Land Reform Politics: A Post-apartheid South African Perspective” at National Youth Development Agency (NYDA).

The NYDA acknowledges that it has reviewed the protocol presented by the researcher, as well as the associated risks to the organisation. The NYDA therefore accepts the protocol and the associated risks to the organisation and authorizes the research project to proceed with understanding that the researcher will adhere to company policy norms and standards. If we have any concerns or require additional information, we will contact the researcher and/or the UNIVENDA Office of Research Integrity.

Sincerely

Waseem Carrim
NYDA CEO (CA)