

MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY



**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

The impact of Community Share Ownership Trust on rural poverty in Tongogara Rural District

BY

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CONVECTIONAL

**IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES HONORS DEGREE**

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Degree Title : B.A Development Studies Honors Degree.

YEAR GRANTED : 2016

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to my father and mother for the continuous support financially, spiritually and also through social guidance throughout the four year course at Midlands State University. If it was not their support probably this could have not been attained.

ABSTRACT

The research sought to establish the impact of Community Share Ownership Trust on poverty in Tongogara rural district tracing the background of poverty in Tongogara Rural District and how the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust have tried to address the problem. The research fulfilled set objectives which included assessing the knowledge of the Tongogara rural community about the operation of the Trust, the socio-economic benefits of the Trust as well as the sustainability question of the Trust. Relevant literatures were scrutinized linking, rejecting and supporting various views, thoughts and even theoretical analysis by various scholars around the topic under study. The researcher used the qualitative method in research and a total of 30 people participated. The researcher realized that the Trust over emphasized on the provision of social amenities like construction of schools, clinics and roads neglecting other key sectors such economic aspects and community involvement which are also vital to reduce poverty in Tongogara Rural District. The researcher recommends that poverty assessment should be done before implementing any project and these projects should be run by experts in that field not by politicians without relevant knowledge and skills.

Key words: *Community Share Ownership Trust, Poverty, Rural and Tongogara Rural District.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Lord God for the wisdom and protection throughout the four years at Midlands State University. The Department of Development Studies is also well appreciated for imparting me with knowledge and skills to be a well equipped development practitioner. It will be very unjust not to mention the names of the following people for their priceless support, Dr Matunhu my supervisor as well as my Chairperson with many other not mentioned your support was greatly appreciated.

It will be unfair not to express my gratitude to my parents, Chris, my uncle and aunt for the continuous support financially for this to be a success. They helped me through the thick and thin and my financial burden was actually lessened.

Lastly I would like to thank my academic friends for the educational support through ideas and encouragements and these include Tinashe (Muller) Masunungure, Emmanuel (Sodziman) Masodzi, Sithole Joash, Linda Baipai, Kuda Taziwa and Shepherd (madzibaba) Mahlahleni.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CSOT: Community Share Ownership Trust

TCSOT: Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust

IEEA: Indigenization and Economic Empowerment Act

PRFT: Poverty Reduction Forum Trust

AGF: Africa Governance Forum

ZANU PF: Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front

MDC: Movement for Democratic Change

IGA: Income Generating Activities

CCMT: Centre for Conflict Management Transformation

TRDC: Tongogara Rural District Council

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Chapter 1

PROBLEM AND ITS SETTING

1.0 Introduction

The chapter that follows pays much focus on clearly bringing out background to the study on the impacts of Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme on rural poverty in Tongogara, providing an in-depth history of poverty in Tongogara rural district and how the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust (TCSOT) has tried to address this problem. It also looks at the statement of the problem, justification of the study, theoretical framework, conceptual framework, research questions, objectives of the study, significance of the study, assumptions, limitations of the study, delimitations including both theoretical and physical and chapter summary.

1.1 Background to the problem

Zimbabwe is ranked as one of the African countries with highest poverty levels and lagging behind in terms of rural development. It must be understood that poverty in most African states is seen as a rural phenomenon and this is supported by Ravallion et al (2007) as he uncovers that rural poverty is seen as a rural experience as the recent statistics show that around 76% of the world's poor dwell in remote zones, well over the general populace offer living in urban areas which is 58%. Rural communities all over Zimbabwe are sidelined since most development initiatives target the urban areas regardless of mineral wealth in most rural communities. In Zimbabwe the skewed inequalities in terms of development between urban areas and their rural counterparts can be dated back to the era of colonialism. During this time, common mineral resources were separated from rural areas to promote urban development and these sidelined rural communities from rising above from absolute poverty. This has been enormously upheld by The Zimbabwe Mining Indaba (2012) as indicated that African continent has large amounts of poor people and underdevelopment paying little attention to the diverse sorts of mineral riches assets.

Mineral wealth resources in Zimbabwe were discovered and extracted even during colonization of the country by the British settlers in the 1890s. The different type of these mineral wealth resources includes gold, platinum, diamond, asbestos among other resources (Mejia, 2011). However the era of colonialism in most African societies openly disempowered the indigenous majority in most facets of life including political, social and economical and this resulted in absolute poverty and unpleasing living situations for the indigenous Africans especially in communal areas (Tevera and Moyo, 2000). After the struggle for the liberation and attainment of political independence in 1980s, then it emerged the desire to empower the once marginalized groups economically by implementing various economic policies in the country. This motive of transforming political independence to economic empowerment emanated from this backdrop of historical exclusion of indigenous majority in the mainstream economy during the colonial injustices as supported by (Mlambo, 2006).

Many sectors of the economy such as agriculture in Zimbabwe has been crippled through land reform program, this resulted in the shift of focus to the vibrant mining sector where the country is said to be endowed with several natural resources. Scholars such as Taylor (2012) believe that mining sector has a huge potential to positively transform the national economy, contribute to poverty reduction and social and economic empowerment if properly managed. Zimbabwe just like many African countries is rich with crucial mineral resources which can improve the state of the majority starving blacks who were once marginalized if properly managed and directed to the proper receiving end.

The pioneer structure which existed before political freedom in 1980 in Zimbabwe was marked by enormous prohibition of the lion's share Africans, dispossession, underestimation, and absence of investment in controlling the mainstream economy and the method for creation in different divisions, for example, agribusiness, mining and assembling, in this manner there was need to enable the locals who were once avoided (Davies 1978 and Moyo 2000). Indigenous Zimbabweans especially those residing in rural areas were sidelined from the benefits from their God given natural wealth and access to social services through various policies and strategies even though the resources were extracted from their areas. Zimbabwe almost inherited the skewed development initiatives between rural and urban areas.

Since independence the Zimbabwean government made tireless efforts to try and correct the colonial legacy of injustices and eradicate rural poverty by passing on several policies such as the 1996 Rural District Council Capacity Building Programme to improve participation of all citizens in the governance of their area by promoting accountability and transparency, Poverty alleviation Action Plan, Land Reform and Resettlement Programme in 2000 in an bid to equitably distribute land between the historically marginalised blacks and the minority rights (Parliament Africa group report, 2009). However since the implementation of such policies the once marginalized are still in the same situation and this has been supported by Matunhu (2012), indicated that Zimbabwe has now 32 years of self determination and independence but rural communities are still suffering from years of poverty and underdevelopment and there are still skewed inequalities in terms of development between rural and urban areas. This means that the efforts by the government have not managed to eradicate extreme poverty and underdevelopment in rural communities in the country.

In order to control mineral wealth of the country, mining just like any other sector of the economy is guided by policies and laws on which the mining companies should adhere to. For Zimbabwe's situation keeping in mind the end goal to control these assets there were vital changes to the shareholding of the majority of these expansive scale mining organizations through the execution of the Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment Act (IEEA-Chapter 14:33) of 2007 which plainly show that no less than 51% of shares of open organizations and some other business should be possessed by indigenous Zimbabweans which is termed the 'majority stake' (Tsvakanyi, 2012).

The idea of indigenization was in the manner to exchange possession, control and administration of organizations from the hands of the foreigners to the local Zimbabweans who were once seized. Indigenization and economic empowerment programme in Zimbabwe should therefore be viewed with two major aims which are political and economic aims. Politically it was designed to correct colonial injustices and economically it seeks to empower the marginalized groups to develop themselves. This was a step towards correcting the legacies of the colonial past so that the custodians of the place will benefit from business activities being undertaken in the area. This was strongly upheld by Acemoglu et al (2007) as he noticed that (IEEP) lies in the spreading the advantages of economic development to the once sidelined indigenous Zimbabweans.

The economic empowerment was to be concerned with the benefits of economic revolution and empowering of the formerly marginalised custodians of the place. Accordingly, the IEEA brought forth different techniques among them is the establishment of the Community Share Ownership Schemes/Trusts in 2011 in order to enable indigenous Zimbabweans as noted by Tshuma, (2011). The primary goal under the Indigenization and Economic Empowerment Act (IEEA) was the mining area (Tsvakanyi, 2012). According to this Act, all mining companies are to pledge at least 10% ownership of their companies' profits to local communities through the Trust. It must be noted that by 2013 the government had established about 50 community share ownership schemes across the country in areas with mineral resources. The motive behind the implementation of the Community ownership schemes was that mining companies have been for long enjoying the benefits from mining without ploughing back to the local communities where the minerals are being extracted from. To worsen the situation, most of the mining companies premised along the rich mineral vein called Great Dyke are foreign owned and they repatriated with the profits to their mother countries without ploughing back to the local communities.

Furthermore, these CSOTs were likewise established after the acknowledgment that Zimbabwe is invested with around 60 distinctive sorts of mineral asset wealth, including gold, precious stones and platinum, yet Zimbabweans have not completely benefitted because of the misuse of these regular mineral resources since independence (The Chamber of Mines of Zimbabwe, 2014). The main objective of these trusts are to see communities fully incorporated and benefiting from the natural resources extracted from their areas through provision of social amenities such as schools, hospitals, health care services, development projects such as building of dams, drilling of boreholes and construction of roads as well as establishment of income generating projects for communities, (Tsvakanyi, 2012).

Therefore to reduce poverty in mining communities there must not be social amenities only but also access to them and participation in key decision making processes. According to Matunhu (2012), the failure by the government of Zimbabwe to empower the blacks out of poverty could be translated as failure to deliver on the expectations of the very people who had, directly or indirectly, participated in the liberation war. With the establishment of these Community Share

Ownership Schemes many scholars are of the view that they are simply a replacement of white imperialism by black imperialism as nothing of great significance has been realized on the part of the impoverished rural mining communities. Pedro (2005) agrees with the above raised issue by uncovering that Zimbabwe has realized the emergence of elite-driven and opportunists seeking to acquire personal wealth as opposed to individuals looking for sustainable development and community transformation.

➤ **Study Area (Tongogara Rural District)**

According to Poverty Reduction Forum Trust (PRFT) (2013), poverty is an emerging reality in mining towns such as Shurugwi, which is located in the mineral rich Great Dyke belt known as Chironde Mountain range, 33km outside Gweru and 20km from the Shurugwi town centre making Shurugwi rural a rich mineral area in the country. The district is dominated by the Karanga ethnic group and the minority who are Ndebele. The large part of the land in Tongogara rural is covered by poor sandy soil which supports subsistence agriculture and maize is the main crop grown in the area. Most people or communities in Shurugwi and the Great Dyke are largely dependent on the operations of the mining companies. This dependency relates to the provision of social amenities such as health and education facilities, local incomes, infrastructure development, jobs and a ready market for trade in various goods including selling of agricultural products and second hand clothes to mine workers. There are a number of both primary and secondary schools that are found in Tongogara rural; the primary schools include Vungwi primary school, Banga, Bokai, Chekenyu, Chitako, Mhangami and Nhema among other primary schools. The secondary schools include Batanai, Rusununguko, Dombotombo, and Bokai among other secondary schools. Zvamavande Rural Hospital is the only hospital and is the referral centre for all other clinics which include Hanke clinic and Saint Francis clinic.

The Nhema area is one of the rural communities populated by needy individuals who cultivate on poor and depleted soils yet underneath those soils are rich minerals. It must be noticed that heaps of difficulties confronting the Nhema territory other than poor farming is the issue of clean water supply. This has been supported by the Poverty Reduction Forum Trust (2013) as it articulated that, in Shurugwi it has emerged that the water crisis has brought untold suffering and

hardship in the mining community. Most people had to rely on the boreholes constructed by Zimasco but however, since the boreholes are meant to serve mainly the Zimasco workers, they are located in the mining compounds thus access to water has been compromised. It is also important to understand that most areas in the Nhema area are hardly accessible due to poor roads.

In the area under study, Tongogara service centre is an almost failing and deteriorating growth point, without any significant development. Zimasco suspended its operations at the peak mine due to deteriorating deposits of chrome yet nothing of significant importance was left by the company to benefit the local community. Thus it must be realized that mining companies are largely capitalist, often comes to represent a concentration of wealth while the surrounding communities are characterized by poverty. Therefore the lives of the local communities are heavily affected.

In trying to address poverty situation in Tongogara, the government launched the Unki Mine's Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust on the 24th of November 2011 (Tsvakanyi, 2012). Thus one of the biggest loopholes is lack of cooperation by mining companies to fulfill their Community Share Ownership Trust pledges. Of the 13 companies only Unki paid the full pledge of \$10 million and is premised in Shurugwi; Zimplats, \$6 million; Blanket Mine, \$5 million; Mimosa, \$4 million; Freda \$1 million; Rio Tinto owned Murowa Diamonds, \$300 000; Mbada, \$200 000 and Marange Resources \$200 000 (Implats Factsheet, 2011). In as far as Unki paid its full pledge for the Community Share Ownership Scheme, there is now need to trace the major problems hindering poverty reduction efforts in Tongogara.

According to the Poverty Reduction Forum Trust (2013), Poverty has remained a major issue of concern in rural communities in Zimbabwe with many people struggling to access basic services such as food, health care, clean water and education due to the deterioration in their socio and economic status. Despite mining being a fast growing sector in Zimbabwe and a key driver of the economy, the mining communities have remained underdeveloped. However, since the establishment of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme there is need to find out if communities within which these minerals are exploited have benefited anything as yet and

if they have not benefited anything, are there any chances that they will benefit from the share ownership programme someday?

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The research was triggered by high poverty levels in Tongogara rural district as communities' lack of participation in matters that affect them, lack basic needs and access to services for a decent living and yet Tongogara is endowed with rich minerals. This was greatly supported by Poverty Reduction Forum Trust (PRFT) (2013), that poverty is an emerging reality in mining communities such as Shurugwi, which is located in the mineral rich Great Dyke belt, 33km outside Gweru. The Tongogara rural communities rely on mining activities for their livelihoods yet there is no significant transformation on part of their welfare. The Zimbabwe Poverty Atlas (2015) also reflects poverty situation in Tongogara rural district by indicating that poverty prevalence was 66, 5% with the highest poverty prevalence in ward 7 whilst ward 3 had lowest poverty prevalence of 57, 8%. It is important that there are tireless efforts made by Unki as a foreign owned mining company to plough back to the local communities through pledges to the trust, but the question will remain whether the funds are being channeled towards eradicating rural poverty in Tongogara rural district.

1.3 Research Objectives

1. To find out the knowledge level of the Tongogara community on the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme and its aims.
2. To assess how Community Share Ownership Scheme has improved the social and economic way of life of the Tongogara rural community.
3. To assess on the sustainability of Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme.

1.4 Research Questions

1. What are the aims of the community share ownership scheme?
2. How has the community share ownership scheme improved the social and economic way of life?
3. In what way is the Community Share Ownership Scheme a sustainable strategy?

1.5 Significance of the study

➤ To policy makers

The research is of paramount importance to policy makers as they can implement ideas gathered from the research on Community Share Ownership Trust and its impact on rural poverty. Since we look at things with a different lens thus the researcher's perspective through recommendations on Community Share Ownership Trust might give a unique dimension to policy makers and can fill in the existing gaps with the researcher's information. Of great importance, Board members and the ministry at large can use the ideas from this research to revise their policies.

➤ To researchers

The researcher's information will be useful to different researchers as the basis of their studies and research in development discourses. Thus the study might also benefit the academia on knowing the impact of the Community Share Ownership Trust on rural poverty. Researchers can also benefit through ideas, data collected, and statistics to support their own research studies.

➤ To the community

The local communities will benefit through information and ideas that the researcher will share with them since the research will give a clear picture on the viability of the program. The recommendations that the researcher gave can also help on the effective operation of the Trust and probably better community participation can be realized. The community now knows that they are supposed to be heavily engaged and to those who had little knowledge about the Trust are eager to get more information about the operation of the Scheme.

1.6 Conceptual framework

- **Community Share Ownership Scheme:** CSOTs in this context should be viewed as an offshoot from the indigenization and economic empowerment program implemented by the government of Zimbabwe aimed at empowering rural communities within which minerals are being extracted from. The Trust state that all mining companies should pledge 10% to the trust to address the needs of the local communities. Thus it is a way of empowering local communities in mining regions enabling them to participate in key

decision making processes, push for their own development and meeting their own basic needs.

- **Rural Poverty:** Poverty in its most general sense is the lack of basic necessities. Basic needs include food, shelter, medical care, and safety are generally thought necessary based on shared values of human dignity. The research follows Ngirande (2010) view on rural poverty that is more than just a physiological phenomena denoting lack of basic needs like food, health, shelter, and clothing but also a state of deprivation and powerlessness where the poor are exploited and denied participation in decision making in matters that intimately affect them. Tongogara rural district is one of mining communities in Zimbabwe with abundant natural resources but nothing significantly has improved on the part of the impoverished community as they lack the basic needs and also lack power in decision making processes.
- **Indigenization:** it was a government initiative to make sure that the custodians of the nation should benefit from businesses taking place in the country. Thus it was a way deliberate act to empower the once dispossessed Zimbabweans. In this regard the local people should have portion of benefits being enjoyed by foreign owned businesses in the country. Indigenization and Economic Empowerment Act [Chapter14:33] “indigenization” means a purposeful involvement of indigenous Zimbabweans in the economic activities of the country, to which hitherto they had no access, so as to ensure the impartial ownership of the nation’s resources. The indigenization and Economic Empowerment Program is the one that gave birth to the community share ownership schemes.
- **Economic Empowerment:** refers to increasing the economic strength of individuals, communities and the nation at large. Indigenization and Economic Empowerment Act [Chapter14:33] “empowerment” means the creation of an environment which enhances the performance of the economic activities of indigenous Zimbabweans into which they would have been introduced or involved through indigenization.
- **A livelihood:** the researcher followed the International Federation of Red Cross’s definition of livelihood that is a means of making a living. It reflects a person’s way of obtaining basic amenities such as food, clothes and shelter. It encompasses people’s capabilities, assets, income and activities required to secure the necessities of life. The

Tongogara community share ownership scheme should enable the local people through various projects to boost their assets, improve their incomes and enhance their capabilities.

- **Community Participation:** it reflects meaningful inclusion of the local people in the development processes in their area. The researcher followed Paul (1987) view that community participation is an active process to which beneficiaries determine the direction and execution of development projects rather than merely receive a portion of benefits. This means that the community will have a say in key decision making processes and heavily consulted. By involving them it means that they are given time to express their felt needs.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

- The researcher was hindered by a number of limitations which included physical, economic, and socio-cultural and some political circumstances.
- The research was impeded by lack of proper accessibility since there are poor gravel roads in Tongogara district.
- The channel to get permission to undertake the research was too long given the limited time that the researcher had.
- Tongogara rural district has 24 wards and it was difficult to cover all the wards considering limited time the researcher had.
- The research was also compromised as some respondents were defensive not willing to open up as they thought it was linked to politics since the study scrutinizes the Community Share Ownership Trust and the Indigenization and Economic Empowerment at large. The indigenization and economic empowerment policy has been a subject of political debate among Zimbabweans whose political affiliations are deeply polarized to ZANU PF and MDC therefore the participants were not open to discuss and to respond to the questionnaires as they perceived it as a political trap.
- The researcher was robbed of time to cover all wards in Tongogara district.
- The research was also compromised by lack of financial resources as the researcher used personal savings to carry out the study and thus covering all the wards was compromised.

1.8 Delimitations of the Study

The research was confined to the Tongogara rural district and the wards that are benefitting from the program and to have a clear picture on how the (TCSOT) have bearing on wards marred with high prevalence of poverty. The scope of the study targeted primarily women since poverty usually affect women more, men and youths aged 18 and above. Of great importance to note is that the research focused on Tongogara community share ownership trust, indigenization and economic empowerment from 2011-2015 and its impact on the welfare of the rural populace.

1.9 Assumptions

- The researcher came across respondents willing to air out relevant information to the research thus collecting correct information.
- The assumption that CSOTs reduces the prevalence of poverty
- The researcher covered all the wards in Shurugwi in order to have a wider range of information from different communities.
- The researcher had sufficient resources needed to carry out the research.

1.10 Ethical Considerations

It must be noted from the onset that undertaking a research in any discipline requires observing the ethics in research. These ethics according to De Vos (2005), entails a matter of principled sensitivity to the rights of others and he further alludes that ethical consideration will transpire prior and during the research process. Ethics in research also help the researcher to get more detailed information about the study since ethics guarantee the respondents privacy and protection.

- Therefore, the researcher to a greater extent observed all the ethics in research, the researcher asked for consent from the respondents.
- The research was also conducted under democratic circumstances where force to the respondents was not applied those willing to participate were embraced.
- The research further paved a free way for those who wanted to withdraw from research whenever it acts against the respondents.

- Of great importance to note is that the researcher guaranteed the right to privacy and confidentiality since on questionnaires there was no section to fill the names and also the use of pseudo names.
- The researcher promised not to show the information to anyone without the respondent's approval.

1.11 Chapter Summary

In summation, the chapter above provided an in depth background information of mining and poverty in Zimbabwe starting from national level, provincial level to district level. The statement of the problem was also highlighted, research objectives and questions, significance of the study, conceptual framework, limitations to the study, delimitations of the study; assumptions were also embraced in this chapter. The researcher also realized the implications of undermining ethics in research, thus all ethical considerations were embraced.

1.12 Structure of Dissertation

Chapter 1: The Problem and its setting

Chapter 2: Literature Review

Chapter 3: Research Methodology

Chapter 4: Data Analysis, Presentation and Discussion

Chapter 5: Conclusions and Recommendations

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

The chapter provides a discussion of relevant study material on Community Share Ownership Trust and its impact on rural poverty. It is important therefore to note that the relationship between mining and rural poverty has received a fair share of scholarly and academic attention in recent years. This chapter therefore seeks to shed light on theoretical framework and different perspectives by different scholars on rural poverty, its causes and solutions and the significance of Community Share Ownership Schemes in addressing this issue. The researcher is going to discuss the individualistic and structural view on the causes of poverty, rural poverty in Zimbabwe as a general perspective, livelihoods strategy for the Tongogara community, Share Ownership Schemes and Community Share Ownership Scheme in Zimbabwe among other relevant issues. Some scholars are of the opinion that poverty can be as a result of the economic, political as well as social discrimination which then hinders the participation of local people to deal with their problems while other scholars view poverty as a result individual failures and of great importance to note is that some believe the (CSOT) is simply a replacement of white imperialism by black imperialism. Now the duty of this manuscript is to discuss various literatures on themes around rural poverty and community share ownership schemes and seek to fill the gaps with other relevant materials.

2.1 Theoretical Framework

The topic under study is informed and supported by a number of theoretical frameworks that seeks to explain rural poverty but the researcher decided to pay more attention to the three principles of Sustainable Development Approach. This approach was then merged with the Grassroots theory of development as this theory is in line with the community share ownership scheme and its quest to reduce prevalence of poverty from grassroots level.

2.1.1 Sustainable Development Approach (SDP)

The Sustainable Development Approach to development is cemented on three basic principles namely social, economic and environmental protection. These principles provide a guideline on how poverty and underdevelopment can be addressed. The SDP approach according to the World Commission on Environment and Development (1987) in Drexhage and Murphy, (2010), states that sustainable development is the ability to meet the needs of the present generations without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs. So in as much as mining is essential in boosting national economy and reduction of poverty in Zimbabwe, thus TCSOT should ensure that both the present and the future generations' needs are met and also that the all pillars of sustainable development are met. Also of great importance to note is that such programs should consider all the three pillars of sustainable development.

➤ Principle 1: Economic

This economic pillar reflects that a system is rendered economically sustainable when it is able to produce goods and services on a long-term basis. The Sustainable Development Approach defines economic development in terms of maximization of welfare over time (Harris, 2000). This definition looks into several processes like investment in infrastructure development, creation of employment, provision of formal financial sources, increasing food security as well as supporting small to medium enterprises and the informal sector. In as much as economic growth may be essential for poverty reduction, there is no automatic relationship between the two as it depends with the poor people's capabilities to take advantage of the expanding economy.

The implementation of the Community Share Ownership Trust in Zimbabwe with the quest to reduce the prevalence of poverty in mining communities around the country and the production of goods and services on a continuing basis should be realized. The scheme should provide the local people with skills and enhance their capacity on a long term basis. The other economic aspects such as employment creation as a result of the implementation of the TCSOT should be realized so that the local communities will have income on a more sustainable way. Contrary, TCSOT/S is failing to provide the local communities with employment opportunities and income on long term basis.

➤ **Principle 2: Environmental Stewardship**

Another critical pillar under (SDP) is environmental stewardship. According to this principle, an environmentally sustainable system must maintain a stable resource base, avoiding over exploitation of renewable resource systems or environmental sink function and depleting non-renewable resources only to the extent that investment is made in adequate substitutes. In most scenarios in Zimbabwe, policies that are crafted by the government put much emphasis on economic and social aspects without looking at the environmental implications of such initiative. Thus in as much as policies such as CSOTs are crafted and implemented to address poverty, there is great need to design them in such a way that it pay attention to the environment since most rural communities in Zimbabwe rely on the natural environment for survival. Poverty will remain prevalence and a rural phenomenon since programs are designed in such a way that they do not consider the environment implications within which resources are extracted. Thus environmental wellness should be maintained for the benefit of the present as well as future generations.

➤ **Principle 3: Social Inclusion**

The sustainable development approach reflects that a system that is socially sustainable must achieve equality in resource distribution, adequate provision of social services including health, education, gender equity and political accountability and participation. Since poverty reflects elements of lack of the basic amenities for a means of living, TCSOT have tried to build clinics, schools and boreholes. However poverty cannot be only addressed simply by the provision of such social elements but political accountability and participation should also take centre stage. The aspect of heavily engaging the community was overlooked as policy designs are done by political elites and even the distribution of the resources from the trust are done without incorporating all communities. Poor themselves know their state and felt needs better and must therefore be included in the crafting of policies and designing of projects intended to transform them. Thus for equitable distribution of resources to be realized there is need to heavily engage the local communities in every decision making processes.

2.1.2 Grassroots Theory of Development

Some scholars view this theory as the Bottom-Up Approach to development as this approach is concerned about the transformation of societies starting from the grassroots. The grassroots approach to development gained prominence after the realization that the top-down approach had proved to be of no meaning to the grassroots community. The top-down approach emphasized on trickling down of benefits from the top to the bottom in actual sense this proved to be unviable since the benefits of any development initiative remained concentrated at the top rather than spreading down to the grassroots communities. It was also realized that the top-down approaches were increasingly recognized as being limited in their success at reducing the extent of poverty in local communities and even the large areas of world.

This brought a new view angle and a rethinking to better ways to improve the lives of the local people from the grassroots level. This then gave birth to the Grassroots theory or approach which denotes that any development initiative should be cemented on providing solutions to the problems of local communities first. Green et al. (2003) postulated that this theory then reflects the local concentration approach of collective process whereby a local community determines the direction of the future of its own area. Researchers are of the conclusion that grassroots methodology takes after a "seed" model whereby the starting is small yet in the long run develops in complexity and fulfillment. Looking at the situation on the ground in most mining societies in Zimbabwe where Community Share Ownership Schemes were implemented, one would realize that the community is powerless and their involvement in key decision making process is greatly compromised. Politicians and those who are politically connected decides on behalf of the whole community which is in sharp contrast with this approach where local communities should be heavily engaged as they know their felt needs more than anyone else.

It must be noted that rural communities are generally isolated and rarely asked their views about their own destiny and perceived as not relevant to issues affecting them. In normal circumstances initiatives to resolve their problems are developed in isolation and even by people who are not in that same situation. Through this approach, local communities are assured that their felt needs and wishes are taken into consideration as the starting point and unit of analysis. In real life situation the felt needs of the poor are not addressed as they are not given time to air out their grievances and determine their destiny.

On paper, this theory clearly concurs with the community share ownership scheme where the local communities within which resources are being extracted should benefit. Since the strategy was implemented to actively involve the local communities within which minerals are extracted from to have a decision on their felt needs. Thus the grassroots approach to development articulates that the local communities should be actively involved in every development initiative that takes place within their community and not only to involve them at the flick of the switch, as this does not provide adequate solutions to their real problems. But it must be noted that the ground situation is characterized by lack of power to effect change by the grassroots people as most crucial decisions are made by those with political muscle and the elite. Addressing poverty through the CSOTs should be therefore centered on involving and prioritizing the felt needs of the local communities first.

2.2 Characteristics of Poverty

Poverty is multi dimensional in orientation and is rich in various definitions which include income definition of living below a dollar per day, access to basic amenities such as food, shelter, clothes and participation in key decision making processes. In most African countries, poverty is a rural phenomenon and women are the most affected. The characteristics of poverty include remoteness as the poorer households are located far away from roads, markets, schools and health services. In Zimbabwe, a typical rural set up comprise of poor families in isolated remote places away from services. In most cases people have to walk several kilometers to access health, educational facilities and clean and safe water.

Furthermore, the level of education and access to it also form part of the characteristics of poverty. Education has significant positive impacts on poverty looking at its impact on employment, access to credits facilities, and agricultural production among other aspects. The level and quality of education determine the employability of an individual. Dasgupta, (2009) believes that uneducated people are most likely to face ultra poverty than subjacent poverty. In Zimbabwe and other developing countries, the poorest are the least educated. The uneducated lack skills and knowledge to achieve desired goals in life which makes them susceptible and remain impoverished.

The aspect of land holding and control also shows one characteristic of poverty in rural areas. The control and ownership of productive assets is an important indicator of livelihood as assets generate income. Levels of landlessness is higher in poor communities and those living in less than a dollar per as they income to access and control productive assets. Levels of poverty are also higher in the minority groups. These groups are usually disadvantaged and underrepresented which makes them suffer from ultra poverty. It is usually difficult for poor rural households to come out of poverty since they do not own and control means of production.

2.3. Poverty Perceptions (Individual and Structural view)

Views and thoughts about identifying the nature of poverty as perceived by poor themselves, planners, development practitioners and outsiders vary considerably. Some scholars view poverty as an individual phenomenon while other scholars view it as a result of structural system. The proponents of the individual view perceive poor people as lazy, hedonistic, lack education, ignorant or otherwise inferior in some manner. According to Ryan (2014), poor people are not the same consistently, and in the event that this perspective was valid, it would take after that bankrupted individuals are fundamentally the same consistently. If that were valid, we could whip poverty by helping that specific rate of the populace to make sense of and move out of their poverty situation. The researcher is in sharp contrast with this view as poor people do not choose and also want to be in such impoverished state, also they are not lazy as they fight extra hard to come out of that situation but certain structures are stumbling blocks. Looking at the situation in Zimbabwe both rural and urban areas, poor people are in that poverty state because of structural factors.

The researcher is in support of the structural view on the causes of poverty. The proponent of this theory views poverty as a result of structural phenomenon as people finds themselves in poverty because of the economic system that delivers them inadequate income. The structural barriers may include economic system, political structure and social discrimination. In as much as some scholars would like to point their fingers at the poor people to be accountable for their own poverty state, but however there are various circumstances bedeviling the poor people to come out of that state. Hartwell (2006) supported this by pointing out that poverty is inevitably a

political concept. The belief is that the politicians are responsible as they run the day to day activities of the country and they decide on policies and distribution of resources to its citizens.

This perspective concurs with the researcher's line of thinking. Taking for instance poor rural communities in Zimbabwe they are in that state because the economic system is structured in such a way that the poor people fall behind regardless of how effective and competent they may be. Alcock (2004), also support the structural view of the causes of poverty by indicating that there is no need to look further than politics and politicians to find the causes of poverty as they run the day the country and they are responsible for problems within it. The argument is valid if one can scrutinize the exclusion of local mining communities within which resources are extracted in rural Zimbabwe. In most cases they are the worst communities with high poverty levels and this can be clearly identified as most participants in key economic, social and political decision making processes are the political elite who are not even in that situation.

2.4 An Overview of Rural Poverty in Zimbabwe

Rural poverty is a topical issue and it has received a fair share of scholarly views and in Zimbabwe, just like any other African state poverty is a rural phenomenon. It must be pointed out that though poverty is a rural phenomenon, women are not affected the same as their male counterparts. According to Save the Children (2009), in 2009 approximately 10 out of 13 million Zimbabweans that is over 75 percent of the population were living in desperate poverty. Maxwell (1999) in Mtetwa (2013), denotes that rural poverty encompasses income or consumption poverty, human under development, social exclusion, ill-being (absence of capability to function), vulnerability, livelihood unsustainability and lack of fundamental needs. Thus in discussing rural poverty in Zimbabwe this multi dimensional perspective should take centre stage rather than relying on the income definition of poverty which states that poverty is living below one dollar per day because it leaves too many loopholes. Matunhu (2012) pointed out that rural poverty and underdevelopment is a result of the superstructure that puts in place socio-economic bottlenecks that prohibit the rural communities from ascending out of such situations.

As indicated by the Government of Zimbabwe paper introduced at the Africa Governance Forum (AGF) in Mozambique in (2002) view rural poverty as the powerlessness by individuals, families or groups to fulfill their most essential needs. These encompass a personal, family, community state of inadequacies where there is very little or nothing in terms of food, clothing, shelter, clean water, sanitation facilities, health, employment, transport and productive land. According to this paper, rural poverty in Zimbabwe has been largely blamed on natural phenomena such as drought, poor soils among other factors. Manjengwa and Feresu (2010) in Matunhu (2012) believe that rural poverty in Zimbabwe is as a result of low income from farm livelihood activities, unemployment and underemployment. However these cannot solely give an adequate explanation of rural poverty since structural factors such as government policies towards rural societies are characterized by skewed inequalities.

Government implemented quite a number of policies and programs since independence to try and address the problem of poverty but up to this point in time the problem has come to no avail. Rural poverty in Zimbabwe can only be dealt with if the poor themselves are incorporated in policy crafting and implementation. This is line with Ahmed et al (2009) thinking by indicating that understanding the world's poorest and hungry and the reason for which their deprivation persist is important when designing policies to meet their needs and improve their welfare. According to Dasgupta (2009), variables like education has got bearing on rural poverty in Zimbabwe as absence of it adversely affect agriculture production, employment opportunities, access to credit, use of government services, adult and child health. He further concludes that uneducated rural people are more likely to face ultra poverty.

2.5 Rural Livelihoods Strategies in Mining communities

Mining has a great potential of improving the economic as well as addressing poverty in mining communities through employment and illegal mining. Livelihoods in its simpler terms refer a means of gaining a living and these encompass capabilities, equity and sustainability. A different dimension has been put across by other scholars claiming that livelihoods refer to adequate stocks and flows of food and cash to meet basic needs. This therefore entails that a household can earn a living through ownership of assets and stable employment with adequate remuneration. A livelihood is rendered sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stress

and shock. It is therefore important to note that livelihoods are not only about capabilities and assets but also access to them.

Determinants of livelihoods vary depending with social, economic and ecological environment in which they find themselves. A good picture of this can be derived from livelihood strategy adopted by the Tongogara rural communities as they are dependent on the mining activities for a means of living these strategies including selling of agriculture products, second hand clothes and also employment opportunities from the mining company. The question that remains unanswered is whether their livelihoods are sustainable. For the livelihood strategies to be sustainable many scholars articulate that there is supposed to be livelihood diversification where the rural communities should not solely depend on one source of income. In rural Zimbabwe most communities have realized the dangers of depending on one source of income like agriculture; this was probably through the work of nongovernmental organizations. Due to the impacts of climate change on agriculture, mining communities are now depending on both farm and off farm activities.

2.6 Mining in Zimbabwe

The economy of Zimbabwe was open to investment since the 1980s but however there was a turn in investment after changes in policies such as land reform program in 2000. Mining sector was greatly affected and the country marked a decline in investments and income especially during political unrests in 2008-2009 periods. After the country started to stabilize in 2010, investment increased and changes in mining policies were realized. The Ministry of Youth Empowerment and Indigenization advanced the IEE Act of 2007 where foreign owned mining companies had to share their profits with the local majority. By the end of 2012 most countries had reached the agreement with the government about giving 51% to the locals. Areas that were affected by these policies included Marange and many other on the Great dyke such as Kwekwe, Shurugwi and Zvishavane.

With the implementation of such policies, the local communities began to benefit and also the economy of the country was boosted. The only problem which crippled the operation of mining in Zimbabwe is the management of financial resources from mining activities. There is uneven

distribution of the benefits from mining as the benefits are self centered. Few individuals with political muscles are the ones benefitting at the expense of the majority. The management of mineral wealth resource should be redesigned so that the majority will benefit and their welfare will improve for the better. Since the local communities are not enjoying full from mining activities most people in mining areas resorted to illegal mining. This is dominant in areas such as Kadoma, Kwekwe, Zvishavane and Shurugwi where local people depend on illegal mining as a livelihood strategy.

2.7 Share Ownership Schemes

Share ownership schemes did not originate in Zimbabwe. Globally, several countries have also pressed for the establishment of Share Ownership Schemes. However, the reception of share ownership trusts in some of these countries has largely been driven by the need to enhance financial participation by employees. The thought was to join workers in the standard economy of organizations. The United States of America and Australia are among some of the countries which have witnessed the growth of what are referred to as Employee Share Ownership Trusts, (Mawowa, 2013). Generally speaking, the provision of employee share ownership schemes has been driven less by government provisions than by personnel policy considerations in companies.

Most importantly in limited companies the introduction of participation schemes has substantiated itself a functional contribution to improving enterprise culture and worker inspiration (team spirit), 'entrepreneur in the enterprise', and participation in enterprise value added. This has certainly been helped by the fact that the schemes often involve low costs for the company (for example, stock-option schemes, or the issue of employee shares within the framework of capital increases), Partner (2014). A form of 'economic democracy' might be made whereby workers accomplish a more prominent offer of the advantages of financial movement, until now thought amongst the few, Blair et al. (2000) Southern African nations' way to deal with Share proprietorship plans is however extraordinary in that it is a piece of accomplishing the real goal identifying with their dissemination of monetary assets through expansive based possession and investment of neighborhood groups. This has been witnessed by various community share ownership schemes launched by governments.

2.8 Empowerment Schemes in Southern Africa

Mining is crucial in stabilizing the economies of countries in Southern Africa. Foreign companies are instrumental in empowering local communities through partnerships and employment opportunities and this has great impact on the poverty status of local communities. According to Pedro, (2005), sustainable development will be achieved if mining in Africa is centered on empowering local communities. Eloquent example can be drawn from Tanzania where De Beers partnered with the Tanzanian government and development organizations to establish the Mwadini Community Diamond Partnership and Wise and Shtylla, (2007) views this as an initiative to produce a viable and potentially transferable model for improving the qualities of lives in rural mining communities. In South Africa, the Anglo-American giant in 2010 implemented an empowerment programme targeted at empowering underprivileged individuals and improves the economy of South Africa's mining communities, Anglo American case study, (2011). To achieve this, the company established the "Anglo Zimele" helped to address challenges to enterprise development. The ownership of minerals by Africans increased because of the Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) Scheme.

Zimbabwe also joined other Southern African countries in empowering its people in mining communities through the establishment of Community Share Ownership Schemes. To advance this the President of Zimbabwe launched the Mhondoro/ Ngezi/ Zvimba CSOT, Zvishavane CSOT by Mimosa Mining Company and Tongogara CSOT by Unki Mining Company. The whole idea was to correct the imbalances of colonial unjust since foreign owned mining companies used to milk the country's resources without ploughing back to the local mining communities. This proved to be a sound program as the local mining communities have realized a remarkable change in the social and economic spheres. According to Saunders, (2007), Zimplats managed to built 80km road, electricity supply and housing for the mining communities on site.

2.9 Community Share Ownership Trusts and the Impacts on Rural Poverty in Zimbabwe

There are various literatures on (CSOTs) in Zimbabwe and different perceptions are revealed. According to the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition (2015), the current models of the (CSOTs) under

the Indigenization and Economic Empowerment Framework raise a significant number of concerns as their operational architecture is deemed to be highly defective and opaque. The literature further reveals that questions of accountability specifically arise with regard to who benefits and how. The rationale behind this was to empower the previously marginalized groups of people within which minerals are extracted from. Thus by right of ownership, locals lay claim to the 10% of the dividends to the locals.

The government launched various CSOTs across the country which included Gwanda, Zvishavane, Tongogara, Zimunya/Marange, and Mhondoro/Ngezi/Zvimba CSOT among other Trusts. It is important to note that the CSOTs in Zimbabwe was bound to face challenges in addressing rural poverty since the trust as a board was going to manage the funds on behalf of the people. The study supported that the (CSOTs) in Zimbabwe are characterized by corruption of the political system and as such still lags behind in genuinely empowering previously disadvantaged communities. Most of the Community Share Ownership Schemes since 2011 and looking at the time frame, signs of transformation should have been noticed. Therefore this indicates that the policy is characterized by political domination rather than local communities taking centre stage and defining their destiny. This is so because the political elites both local and national crafted the program in such a way that it suits their personal accumulation projects masked under the name of community development. Saunders (2007) calls for the revisit and redesign of the current CSOTs in Zimbabwe so as to create institutions and systems that are transparent and accountable.

This also concurs with the researcher's perspective on the (CSOTs) taking into consideration the situation in Tongogara where Unki mine pledged its full amount of 10million for the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust but nothing of great significance has been realized on the part of the impoverished Tongogara rural communities. The tireless efforts by Unki through pledges should have gone a long way in reducing poverty but however the poverty situation clearly reflects misdirection of funds for personal aggrandizement. Also the situation at Zimunya-Marange community share ownership trust, at first it was said that each of the 5 mining companies around that place pledged 10million but by 2013 there was only 430 000. There is need for a shift in management systems to incorporate the needy to air out their grievances and

provide solutions to them. The poor know their problems better than anyone else, so they are supposed to be incorporated in designing policies to solve them. Therefore the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, (2015) concludes that there is need for a policy rethink regarding the indigenization programme, if Zimbabwe is to fundamentally transform the relics of the colonial economic architecture.

2.10 Assessment of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust in Addressing Poverty

The Trust was established in 2011 as a fulfillment of the government's indigenization and Economic Empowerment Program and Unki mining company pledged 10million towards the Trust. The idea was that the Tongogara rural community should benefit from mining activities taking place in the area since for many years minerals were mined without ploughing back to the locals. Zimasco had suspended its operations without ploughing much to the local community so there was need to ensure that the Tongogara community with all means possible should benefit. Some scholars regard the scheme as one of the successful schemes across the country as it built a school at Musasa thereby improving access to education, improve services and infrastructure at clinics, upgrade water systems, rehabilitate roads and construction of a mortuary at Zvamabande clinic. It has been estimated that the scheme allocated \$25000 to each of the 24 wards with the aim for each ward to undertake programs aimed at reducing prevalence of poverty in their respective wards. However poverty reduction efforts cannot only be realized through the provisioning of these basic services but the grassroots should be heavily engaged in every program that affects them and play a crucial role in key decision making processes.

There were complaints by the villagers that there is gross misappropriation and embezzlement of funds for personal enrichment by political figures. Politicians and other individuals who are politically connected were accused of dictating projects for the community yet the community has to be consulted so as to address their felt needs. According to the Newsday of 28july 2015, the board members were awarding themselves with large amounts of allowances approximately US\$120 per every meeting and this compromised service delivery. According to the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition (2015), political interference hindered the day to day running of the (TCSOT), as people who are not trustees tend to dictate on which projects to be implemented

and even claiming instructions from higher authority. According to the same report, the appointment of trustees was highly flawed as it goes against crucial principles of inclusivity and transparency. This clearly indicated that the trust was doomed from the start as it lacked transparency, community engagement and was characterized by nepotism. Thus communities were then denied their right to enjoy the benefits from the trust as politicians used political muscles to acquire a greater portion from the trust.

It is also important to note that, instead of empowering the poor rural communities, the TCSOT has become a program of empowering the already empowered since the trustees were selected based on political processes and thus the trust was run along political lines. One can even say that minerals in rural Zimbabwe have become a curse to the local communities as only those who have political muscle gain access to them. Andreasson, (2010) in Matunhu (2012) pointed out that the late Solomon Mujuru rightly claimed that he did not fight the liberation war to end up a poor man. Similarly, the rural communities in Zimbabwe did not participate in the war of liberation for them to remain poor. Thus the TCSOT should ensure that the local people are empowered to come out of that undesirable state.

2.11 CSOTs and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe and other third world countries joined hands with international actors to uphold millennium development goals. In trying to advance the MDGs, Zimbabwe embarked on several policies and institutions with CSOT as one of institutions. The major thrust of the CSOTs in the country is to see local communities benefitting from minerals thereby eradicating extreme poverty. This aim is in line with goal one of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by helping those with low incomes. To achieve this goal, the Trust created employment for the local though on short term basis. Furthermore goal 2 of the MDGs is to achieve universal primary education and this goal was advanced through the construction of schools around mining communities to ensure that children both boys and girls will have access to education and complete primary levels. In Tongogara rural a number of primary schools were built at Banga, Musasa among other areas to advance the MDG 2. The construction of primary school blocks resulted in thousands of children gaining access to primary education and better living conditions for the teachers.

Goal 5 of the MDGS is to improve maternal health and reduce maternal mortality rates. In Tongogara rural community the Trust built clinics and a house for waiting mothers since they used the so called “Zvitumba” and this previously affected waiting mothers since there was no proper shelter to accommodate them. However the Trust should be criticized for not taking into consideration environmental sustainability to ensure that the needs of the future generations will not be compromised. Measures and policies were supposed to be put in place to promote environmental wellness and environmental stewardship. Poverty covers a lot of aspects and by looking at few goals that does not address poverty as a broad concept. Generally in mining communities quite a lot was done in advancing MDGs especially in health and education.

2.12 The Role of the Third sector in Tongogara Rural District

It must be noted that the third sector is of paramount importance when it comes to fostering change within communities that are impoverished. Third sector include NGOs, community based organizations and International Organizations who are instrumental in bringing about positive change by compromising government efforts. Their efforts are greatly felt especially in less privileged societies. In Tongogara Rural District there are a lot challenges with regards to poverty reduction as barriers are there that pull down poverty reduction efforts. Some of the NGOs that are instrumental in Tongogara include the Centre for Conflict Management Transformation (CCMT’s) and the Shurugwi Partners.

The CCMTs is an organization that addresses the conflicts within societies that retard development processes. This organization was very instrumental in resolving conflicts between the council and community members concerning poor service delivery and ownership of Gundura clinic. The issues raised by the community members included that for a long time district officials were unable to engage with the community and development efforts were slowed down. Thus the CCMTs helped in clarifying the different roles of each group and this also helped in community engagement by local authorities since issues affecting the grassroots cannot be addressed without incorporating them. The marked a change as there was reconstruction and mending of the broken relations in the society.

Apart from the (CCMTs), Shurugwi Partners is also a community based organization that is very vital in poverty reduction through various projects targeting women and vulnerable youths in Shurugwi rural. Since poverty usually affects men and women differently, the Shurugwi Partners is concerned about transforming the lives of women and youths through income generating projects. The organization managed to establish a nutritional community garden for communities such as Chitako. The organization established an irrigation system for sustainable water supply for gardening and domestic use. This helped the Chitako community since it is highly susceptible to climate change. They helped the grassroots by establishing the community garden, providing seeds and also establishing a market for the produces thus improving household incomes.

The organization helped to establish market for the women at Hanke Adventist High School where their produces are bought in large quantities. Their produces included tomatoes for domestic use and income, leaf vegetables and butternuts. The Shurugwi partners have managed to assist hundreds of households through income generating projects. This means that their work have a great coverage and covering the whole Chitako community. The organization realized that women are the worst when it comes to poverty levels and thus to empower them economically, they were granted small livestock including goats. Many scholars believe that small livestock forms the real empowerment for women specifically for those that do not have access and control over economic assets and means of production. These are clear efforts to eradicate poverty by empowering the grassroots people.

2.13 Chapter Summary

Scholars are at loggerheads as whether the government initiative of Community Share Ownership Trust provides real solution to rural poverty. The first board of scholars credited the CSOT as a crucial step in addressing rural poverty while the other board of the scholars views CSOT as simply a replacement of white imperialism by black imperialism. The chapter outlined theories around rural poverty which include sustainable development approach and grassroots approach, it also indicated perceptions around poverty the individual and structural view, the concept of rural poverty in Zimbabwe, share ownership schemes the general perspective, community share ownership trust and its impact, the role of the third sector organization and an

assessment of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust and its bearing on poverty levels in Tongogara.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

2.0 Introduction

This chapter outlines the way in which the researcher gathered data on the impact of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust on rural poverty. It reveals the methods used by the researcher to gather the relevant data from the area of study Tongogara Rural District. The researcher in the course of the chapter will outline research methodology adopted, target population, research design, data collection techniques, sample size and a brief summary of the chapter.

3.1 Research Methodology

Research procedure as indicated by Thorn and Sanders (2005) alludes to the orderly, hypothetical investigation of the techniques connected to a field of study, or the hypothetical examination of the group of strategies and standards connected with a branch of learning. Bell (1993) just put it as the investigation of techniques or means by which information is assembled or uncovered from an exploration venture. This research adopted the qualitative method in research because it is flexible and gives a more social dimension of issues and a deep understanding of phenomenon not just providing a conclusion basing of numbers as of quantitative approach. Qualitative method in research is also holistic in nature as information was presented in the form of words rather than numbers or statistical nature of quantitative. The approach was also adopted because the information gathered was richer and has a deeper insight of the phenomenon under study.

The research consolidated an assessment in the examination strategy including research plan, information collection tools, sampling technique, identification of the population, methods of data analysis, sample size and research instruments. Since it was not possible to cover all the 18 wards in Shurugwi so few wards were purposively selected and be examined thus purposive sampling took centre stage in the research. The reason for adopting the purposive method in

research was that it is judgmental. Since the researcher adopted the framework of qualitative research during the study to gather data, this chapter therefore highlighted instruments used in extracting data giving the pros and cons of these instruments. The researcher made use of questionnaires, interviews, observations and desktop survey as instruments to collect data from the research field.

3.2 Target Population

Target populace as indicated by Parahoo (1997), is the aggregate units in which information can be gathered. This mirrors a gathering of individuals with one or more comparable attributes and persists interests in research. In this research, the researcher included the people that reside in Tongogara rural communities who are impoverished and intend to benefit from the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme. Since it was impossible to cover all the wards, the researcher therefore selected chiefs, CEO of the Scheme, councilors and households to collect data from. The researcher also targeted wards with high prevalence of poverty such as ward 7,8,10 to have an insight on the nature of poverty and how the CSOT has addressed this issue.

3.3 Research Design

Parahoo (1997), research design involves an arrangement that portrays how, when and where data was assembled and examined. While White (2000) sees research design with an alternate lens as he express that is a definitive last gathering of appropriate procedure, information accumulation, strategies expected for utilizes the picked techniques for information examination and elucidation. Therefore the researcher applied the qualitative method in order to understand the impact of the Community Share Ownership Trust on rural poverty. The method was adopted by the researcher because of its aim of gaining actual information of the situation using flexible research tools that include questionnaires, interviews and observation to collect data from targeted population. Furthermore qualitative method in research is holistic in nature as it emphasizes on words rather than the statistical nature of the quantitative approach and this gives rise to another reason why the researcher incorporated this method. Qualitative data was derived from the internet, journals articles and books. However this approach is time consuming during data collection. Data was gathered on 1 April at Tongogara Rural District Council where board members were gathered for their board meeting.

3.4 Data Collection Tools

Data gathering apparatuses are instruments and ways that are utilized by the researcher to assemble important information to the research. Parahoo (1997) means that data accumulation devices are instruments used to assemble information and further notes that instruments are devices intended to gauge knowledge, skills and attitudes. Therefore in this study the researcher employed primary and secondary data sources to collect relevant data to the study. The primary data sources included key informant interviews, questionnaires and observation. The secondary data sources included document reviews, newspapers, electronic journals and research papers. The combination of these data collection tools are of paramount importance to deal with the impacts of the weaknesses of each tool selected. Taking for instance questionnaires reveal the skeleton, while the informant interviews explain the look and give an in-depth data. The primary data sources provided the researcher with first hand information whereas the secondary data sources provided supportive information basing on what the other researchers found.

➤ Questionnaire

Basically questionnaires according to Dillman (1994) are a group of composed questionnaires focused to members where they are solicited and reacted in structure of writing. The researcher figured various questionnaires both close ended and open ended got from the research objectives. Gillham (2008), takes note of that open-ended questionnaires require the respondent to define reacts through composing whilst close-ended questionnaires the respondents tick in the suitable given alternatives. The open ended questionnaires were a bit challenge to respondents as they were too demanding in nature as they required formulating your response in form of writing thus they are time consuming. The questionnaires were issued out to households, CEO, Village heads, councilors and chiefs to fill in the provided gaps with relevant information to the demands of each question.

For the close ended questionnaires, it was easier for the respondents as the questions required a yes or no answer and to tick in an appropriate box. The close ended questionnaires provided the research with skeleton information since the answers did not required detailed explanations however they were not time consuming. With the open ended questionnaires the respondents had

to give an in-depth narration and this helped the researcher to get important and detailed information that was not revealed through close ended questions.

Since the researcher had no enough time to undertake the research, questionnaires were vital to the researcher as they were not time consuming. The questionnaires were issued out to households and stakeholders who are directly involved in the activities of the TCSOT and this was easily achieved as relevant stakeholders were gathered for the board meeting on 1 April 2016. The questionnaires were a bit flexibly as the respondents were even able to answer the questions in the absence of the researcher. A blend of open ended and close ended questionnaires helped the researcher to get point by point data and less time consuming for the close ended questionnaires. Most respondents managed to participate well on questionnaires as the questions were simple and straight to the point.

➤ **Interviews**

Interviews can be viewed simply as a conversation or dialogue among or between two or more people with a sore aim of getting desired information and results. Carnell (1957), view an interview as a conversation with a purpose. Thus interviews conducted by the researcher had an aim and purpose of getting relevant information around TCSOT and its impact on rural poverty. The researcher therefore applied in-depth interviews which were more like conversation and this helped selected participants to freely express themselves about their view on the CSOT. It was easier for the researcher to conduct the interviews since the permission was granted and also all the relevant stakeholders were gathered for their board meeting. The researcher employed face-face interviews to the selected respondents which included councilors, households, CEO and chiefs. The aim was to first establish a good relationship with the respondents such that they were free to air out any useful information to the study. This greatly helped the researcher as cell phone interviews were going to distort some of the information as the researcher was not going to get hold of all stakeholders and all the relevant information.

It must be noted that most of the questions were open ended questionnaires and this helped the researcher to gather volume of data as the questions required detailed explanations. In this research, interviews were used to chiefs, councilors and households. The interviews were

purposely used to Chiefs since they are important stakeholders as they also chair the (CSOT), Chief Executive Officer for the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust was also interviewed as they have detailed information on the day to day running of the scheme and also councilors were interviewed and to get hold of them, the researcher took advantage of the board meeting attended. Few households were also purposely selected to be interviewed since it was difficult to cover all the households. To avoid distortion of information, the researcher had to apply good listening skills, note taking and recording. In order for the researcher to avoid distortion of information, responses from participants were recorded and were coded later.

➤ **Observations**

Observations are alluded to as the orderly taking note of and recording of occasions and practices in the social setting decided for study. Observations are alluded to as the orderly taking note of and recording of occasions and practices in the social setting decided for study.. Direct observations were important to cross check on the information provided by councilors, chiefs, households and the Chief Executive Officer of the Trust. Observations also helped to identify some aspects that did not come visibly in questionnaires or interviews. This was augmented by snapshots for the various projects implemented by the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme to reduce rural poverty. The researcher had to observe various common livelihoods and projects implemented by the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme in its quest to reduce the prevalence of poverty in Tongogara Rural District. Thus the observation helped the researcher to have first hand information on the projects that were set by the TCSOT. The researcher believed that the observation seemed to provide the most accurate and desirable data.

➤ **Desktop Surveys**

The researcher also used the desktop survey during the research and this is classified under the secondary information. The researcher had to study the already existing sources of information which include information from books, journal, published electronics, newspapers and other various sources to have a better picture of the topic under study. The desktop survey provided the researcher with necessary background information to the study. It also provided the researcher with vast information related to the literature of Community Share Ownership Schemes and rural

poverty. The desktop survey also provided the research with supporting evidence to issues under study.

3.5 Sample

Manion (2003) sees sampling as a procedure of selecting various people for a study in such a way those people represent the large group from which they are selected. In such manner, it is the proportion that is representing whole population in the area under study Tongogara Rural District. It must be noted that purposive sampling took centre stage in this research and according to Parahoo (2003) the sampling involves the selection of respondents that bears the interest to the area under study. Purposive sampling technique is judgmental and this made it easier for the researcher to choose the respondents basing on those judgments. The wards were purposively selected one with high prevalence of poverty and one with lower level of poverty. The sample size of the population was made up of 30 people from whom the researcher collected information from on the impact of the CSOT on rural poverty. 20 out of the 30 were from the households in Tongogara and the other 10 were comprised of the CEO of the Trust, councilors, village heads and chiefs.

3.6 Chapter Summary

After the above discussion, one is of the point that the researcher employed suitable and appropriate research methodology to gather data from respondents on the impact of the Community Share Ownership Scheme on rural poverty in Tongogara. Qualitative method in research took centre stage in this research and explanations were provided as to why the method was adopted. The chapter also indicated various research instruments employed such as questionnaires, interviews, observation and desktop survey. It also indicated that purposive sampling was adopted and gave detailed information on how and why it was adopted. These instruments are crucial as they promote validity and reliability of data collected as they complimented each other.

Chapter 4

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Introduction

The chapter that follows presents a critical analysis of data that the researcher collected from the area of study and will be presented, analyzed and discussed in full course answering the question that whether the CSOT has any bearing in addressing poverty in Tongogara rural. This chapter therefore provides comprehensive information on the socio-economic characteristics of the respondents which include sources and level of income, education level, reception and significance of the idea of CSOT by Tongogara community, the socio-economic benefits of the community share ownership to the purposively selected wards, employment opportunities, the priority needs of the Tongogara community, community participation, sustainability question of the Trust and challenges affecting the operation of the TCSOT. The researcher adopted the qualitative method in research, so the information will be in descriptive form answering the research objectives and questions. It is of great significance to note that the researcher was so fortunate to interview relevant stakeholders including the CEO, Chiefs, Councilors and village heads that were present on the board meeting of 01 April 2016 and this made it easier for the researcher to collect data as was not expected.

4.1 Characteristics of Respondents

The researcher selected respondents basing on several issues which include demographic data, socio-economic aspects such as sources and level of income, educational level, sex, age among other issues. All these aspects were crucial in providing knowledge and understanding the poverty levels and the role being played by the TCSOT in addressing the issue. The researcher managed to reach out to 30 people with large population being female. The age groups included 15-30, 30-45 and 45 and above.

➤ Demographic Data

Most of the respondents were women since a typical rural set up is largely dominated by women. From the age of 15-30, women constituted about 9 of the respondents and men constituted about

6. This means that women are the most affected group by poverty since most women reside in rural areas and yet poverty is a rural phenomenon. Thus also women had broad knowledge on the TCSOT since most of the times they are in rural areas. Youths also had a significant number between the age of 15-30 who might have completed certain levels of education such as ordinary and advanced levels and they are looking for employment opportunities in rural areas. From 40 years and above there were few respondents since most of the households were characterized by many youths with few elderly people.

➤ **Level of Education**

The research considered level of education of the respondents and the belief being that the level of education determines the quality of information and knowledge base. This means that the educated respondents were more receptive to the idea of the TCSOT. On the level of education, about 8 of the respondents said to have achieved standard six, 13 had attained primary level, 6 had attained secondary and only 3 said to have attained tertiary level of education. Those who said to have achieved tertiary level include some board members including the CEO, workers around NGOs in the local communities among other individuals. This helped the researcher as most of the information given by respondents was relevant to the questionnaires administered and most of the respondents were literate.

➤ **Economic level**

It must be noted that analyzing the sources and levels of income was crucial for the researcher to get an understanding on the contribution of the trust and other different sources of income to the reduction of poverty, understand levels of poverty and how the community is struggling to come out of their poverty situations. Economically about the levels and sources of income, approximately 12 said that they earn money from selling their fresh produce to the shopping centre and mine workers and also through piece jobs. About 2 rely on selling second hand clothing to mine workers and shopping centre and only 1 revealed that their family members work for Unki mine. This therefore is in sharp contrast with the economic pillar of sustainable development approach as income and employment should be generated on a continuous basis. About 9 of the respondents revealed that they receive money from relatives who are working in different areas around and outside the country. Other group of respondents revealed that they are

heavily depended on agriculture for their livelihoods but due to climate change and climate variability their income is largely compromised.

4.2 Reception and Significance of the idea of CSOT by Tongogara Community

The reception by the Tongogara rural community on the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust from the open and close ended questionnaires indicated that the community appeared to have knowledge on the existence of the Trust but some cannot fully explain how it functions. About 19 of the respondents indicated that they had little knowledge about the Trust and reasons for its existence, only 10 indicated that they know everything about the Trust in terms of how it function. However out of all the respondents only 1 revealed that they know nothing about the TCSOT. This was so because one of the villagers acknowledged lack of information dissemination to conscientize the Tongogara rural community about the scheme. In an interview with one of the village heads, he revealed that most of the meetings are done without the involvement of the community. It is also crucial to note that since some of the respondents had low levels of education, this could have also affected the understanding of the TCSOT.

4.3 Significance of TCSOT to the Community

Through the interviews conducted and questionnaires that were employed, the highest number of respondents believed that the Scheme brings both social and economic benefits in the Tongogara community with approximately 12 of respondents. Only 1 revealed that the TCSOT create employment to their relatives. 5 of the respondents highly concur with the notion that minerals are a benefit to the community. More so only 2 articulated that they managed to have direct social and economic benefits which transformed their lives for the better. Approximately 10 revealed that most of the benefits from the Trust are social with less emphasis on the economic sphere. The CEO of the Trust revealed that the community is happy with the implementation of various projects but however some wards are still waiting for the pipeline projects to be fulfilled. This Trust should be a crucial aspect that the community should bank on for them to come out of their poverty state. It is important to note that poverty is a key indicator of structural violence and when the Trust is failing to address that then it means that there is lack of distributive justice of resources.

4.4 The Socio-economic Benefits

The researcher since purposively selected wards with almost same levels of poverty with high, moderate and low levels basing on poverty levels provided by the Poverty Atlas(2015). The idea was to reveal how the Trust has managed to address poverty in wards which include ward 7, 8, 10, 14, 22. The CEO of the Scheme revealed that quite a lot was done so far to help the villagers in different wards in Tongogara to deal with their poverty situations. Approximately 19 respondents through questionnaires articulated that social amenities such as clinic, schools to foster health and education respectively were provided by the scheme.

It must be noted that much focus was put on social aspects yet efforts to reduce poverty should include both social and economic aspects. The community might have schools and clinics built but without income or employment opportunities to acquire other basic needs necessary poverty cannot be addressed. Since the community's sources of income are not sustainable looking at income from selling second hand clothes, relying on income from relatives working outside the area thus focusing on social amenities only does not address rural livelihood problems. It is also crucial to realize that failure by the Trust to address poverty is failure to deliver on the very same people who fought the liberation struggle.

Justice should prevail in the distribution of resources to ensure poverty reduction in all wards. The Trust was established to benefit every ward and household in Tongogara rural district but it appeared as if much focus placed on certain wards and neglect others. The researcher questioned the selection criterion on the wards to benefit first. It is important to note that nothing of great importance was realized on the part of the villages in ward 7. At least every community was supposed to benefit a small portion from the "seed capital" but however for ward 7 there just general benefits which include road construction and maintenance of which it is cross cutting to all other wards and few boreholes were put in place for clean and safe water. However to deal with poverty there is need to understand the broad indicators of it. Lack of equal distribution of projects clearly shows that decisions were done in isolation of the community and one of the village heads articulated that there are still many wards that are yet to fully benefit from the Trust as most projects are pipeline dreams.

Ward 8 is under Chief Banga and from the poverty levels provided by the Poverty Atlas (2015), the ward is among those wards with highest levels of poverty. Through interviews and questionnaires, most respondents revealed that at Banga primary school a block was built with 2 classrooms to improve the state and access to education to local communities. In an interview with the councilor of this ward, indicated that another block is still under construction though at its final stage. In terms of water supply, most questionnaires highlighted water problems. Thus villagers have no access to clean and safe drinking water even water for other purposes such as irrigation. In ward 8 there are poor roads and this compromised the accessibility of the area. This therefore means that a lot still need to be done since poverty is wide in its scope covering a number of issues to be addressed which include income, access to medical facilities among others. So concentrating on building schools only does not address poverty in Tongogara.

The benefit enjoyed by ward 10 was the construction of a clinic at Zvamabande where the previous state was unbearable. Villagers indicated that it was very hard for villagers and waiting mothers to get proper medical facilities as they relied on small round houses commonly referred as “zvimatumba”. However with the construction of the clinic, households through questionnaires indicated that they now have access to medical facilities in the ward. It must be noted that in ward 10 much focus was put on health and neglecting the education aspects. Nothing of great significance has been realized in terms of improving the state of education in the area and this greatly compromises the quality of education in ward 10. This therefore means that a lot need to be done to strike a balance between all pillars to reduce poverty in the area.

It is important to note that results from an interview with the CEO indicated that the TCSOT has so far dealt with water supply problems at Svika clinic and rehabilitated Chirume dam wall in ward 14. He further revealed that the dam which has a capacity of 95 000m³ was constructed in the 1960s but it had collapsed in 2004. This was a huge blow to the communities that was for long been relying on water from the dam. The CEO Mr Rufasha revealed that “the area was for long time been suffering due to droughts emanating from climate change”. After the construction the dam has a capacity to supply 200 households and from the questionnaires villagers in ward

14 indicated that they now have water supply for vegetable production through community garden.

Ward 22 is also one of the wards that enjoyed general benefits like the construction of roads yet such projects alone cannot adequately reduce poverty levels in a community. Boreholes were also drilled to ensure safe drinking water for the residents of ward 22. Poverty is multi dimensional thus efforts to reduce it should also take this wider coverage in scope and implementation of projects. The researcher believes that provision of one aspect does not solve the problem but it is only a step towards the reduction of poverty. The CEO admitted that a lot still need to be done in some areas that are lagging behind in terms of project implementation. The researcher will then question if the Trust was established to serve its intended cause this is so because certain areas are regarded as supporting the opposition part thus full benefits were not realized. This drove the researcher to the thinking that selection of projects was based on political lines since the board was also selected on political grounds.

4.5 Other Socio-economic Development Projects Implemented

In an interview, Chief Ndanga indicated that “following requests by the villagers, the Trust responded by building a school at Musasa primary school with 8 classrooms and 3 houses for teachers”. This has helped approximately over 400 children from grade 0 to grade 7. The situation before was that they were learning in an environment not conducive for learning such as disused general dealer shop. The building of blocks improved the quality of the learning environment thereby upholding the quality of education for children in school and reduce teacher to student ratio as more learning facilities are now available. This was crucial as the building of social amenities such as schools was one of the objectives of the Trust and this also helped in addressing poverty. Thus the construction of blocks at Musasa will go a long way to improve the learning facilities at the school and access to education to local communities.

In ward 8, two blocks at Banga primary were built to improve access to education and a nutritional garden at ward 10 to improve income levels for households. The construction of a nutritional garden should be seen as a step towards improving food security and income through selling of fresh produce.

4.6 An Overview of Activities by TCSOT/S

From the general look of the activities and or projects implemented as a result of the Trust one would even wonder if the actions taken were very considerate in orientation to the priority needs of the community. Most of the projects reflect imposition of projects on communities as supported by village heads. Some of the activities included construction of 5 classroom blocks at Musasa primary school to cater for approximately 500 beneficiaries in ward 18, at Banga primary school 2 blocks were built to benefit about 260 children, clinic at Zvamabande in ward 10 to benefit the entire community and reconstruction of Chirume dam in ward 13 to supply water for irrigation purposes. These are some of the major projects done by the trust to benefit the community but however there is no need for a genius to explain that much focus was put on social service provisions casting a blind eye to economic sphere where employment and income are also key elements to come out of poverty.

The majority of youths are unemployed and the mandate of the trust was to create employment for the youths and some poverty alleviation projects but nothing of great significance has been realized. Though it was highlighted that there was equal distribution of funds to all the wards but the ground situation reflects imbalances in terms of development of different wards in Tongogara. Much focus was placed on certain wards neglecting other wards such as ward 7 and 22 as nothing tangible can be pointed to as the work of the Trust. The researcher believes that the distribution of wealth and other resources marks no major difference on the impoverished communities since a few are benefitting from it. Just like the colonial era where a few enjoyed at the expense of the majority the scenario is still present as those politically connected enjoy at the expense of the majority.

4.7 Employment Opportunities

The TCSOT should generate employment on a long term basis as supported by the economic pillar of sustainable development approach. The income definition of poverty measures level of poverty basing on the income and expenditure of individuals and households. One out of 30 respondents highlighted that their family member is employed at Unki mine. Most of the respondents indicated that their income is not directly coming from the activities of the Trust.

The employment situation at Tongogara is almost the same with other community share ownership schemes around the country. Taking for instance the Zimunya-Marange community share ownership scheme where Chinese mining company Anjin in Chiyadzwa is not creating employment for the local people even in Manicaland at large. Local communities are not employed for them to gain income to acquire basic amenities to come out of poverty. They are importing personnel from China to operate machinery, drive cars and to undertake any other duties and the people around the place are unemployed yet are employable.

Employment opportunities in most instances are on a short term basis, taking for instance the TCSOT employed local communities during the rehabilitation of Chirume dam, also incorporated the locals during the construction of schools like construction of Musasa primary school under Chief Nhema and construction processes at Banga primary school. This reflects that poverty in Tongogara cannot be reduced since the community lack income as employment is provided on short term basis and that cannot meet the other basic needs required to reduce poverty. Employment opportunities should be provided on a more sustainable way so that local communities will gain income on a long term basis.

4.8 The priority needs to reduce poverty of Tongogara Community

➤ Water Supply and Sanitation

In an interview, the CEO Mr Rufasha revealed that the Tongogara community is still facing water problems. From the questionnaires employed to respondents, they revealed that they are facing problems and only a few responded that they now have access to clean water and water for other purposes. The CEO also revealed that there are certain areas that still travelling long distance in search of boreholes for clean water. He indicated that in ward 9 they travel about 3km to the nearest borehole. Mr Rufasha also indicated that the issue can be resolved since the Trust bought a truck mounted drilling rig for the purpose of drilling boreholes and quite a number of boreholes are being constructed. Therefore it means that the situation of water crisis will be resolved especially in wards with serious water shortages usually between July and November.

➤ **Education Sector**

It must be noted that though the scheme built blocks in different schools such as Musasa and Banga however there is still a lot that need to be done to address educational problems encountered by the community. The councilor of ward 8 admitted that Tongogara community need to be upgraded by constructing more schools in the area, renovate worn out buildings, and purchase furniture for the new and existing classrooms. In order to improve the quality of education textbooks should be provided, furniture should be bought, worn out buildings should be repaired and the welfare of teachers should be improved. Access to education is a key in reducing poverty and the absence of it creates a chain of uneducated community members.

➤ **Income Generating Activities(IGAs)**

A sustainable economy should provide income and employment on a long term basis. From an interview with the councilor of ward 8, revealed that the Trust should prioritize the establishment of income generating projects since most of rural populace is youths and women who are unemployed. This means that without the establishment of income generating projects, poverty will remain the order of the day. The CEO also admitted that projects such as piggery and goat keeping, poultry, and nutritional gardens should be implemented to boost household income for the Tongogara rural community. The trust should establish income generating activities as well as a ready market.

4.9 Community Engagement in Development Projects (TCSOT)

Poverty can be measured also by looking at participation of the society in key decision making processes. Involvement of the community in crafting and implementation of projects and programmes is crucial since poverty cannot be addressed through provision of social amenities but by also heavily incorporating the community so that they air out their felt needs. In an interview, the Chairman of the Trust revealed that “the Trust as a board run the day to day activities on behalf of the community.” The community is usually included when the decisions are already made and where projects are already underway. Respondents through questionnaires indicated that they are at times shocked when certain projects are implemented without their involvement and in most cases the projects do not address their felt or priority needs. This reflects that a project implemented for the community without incorporating them from the very

first time is not for them. Community cannot be involved only at the flick of the switch yet they are supposed to know where the project is coming from and where it is going. Also by including them in the decision making processes means that their priority needs will be attended to first. TCSOT is run by people with political connections and they decide on behalf of the general populace and this compromised addressing real problems that the community is facing.

4.10 Sustainability of the TCSOT

In various interviews and questionnaires administered, most respondents question the sustainability of the Tongogara community share ownership trust in addressing poverty in the area. Most respondents feared that the TCSOT will not go a long way as initially expected due to the complications that the Scheme is facing. Most mining companies are now unwilling to pump out their funds towards the Trusts because of politicization of the Scheme and also corruption. A lot of information was published on media indicating the inefficiency of the Trust. This therefore means that there are no future prospects of getting funds from Unki mine because of records of misappropriation of funds by those in charge of the Trust.

It must be noted that some respondents indicated that they did not benefit from the Trust which means that if the needs of the present generations are not even met, there are high chances that the future generations will not benefit from it. This therefore drives one to the point that the introduction of these community share ownership schemes had political motives rather than addressing real community problems. Looking at the number of people who have so far benefitted against those who have not yet benefitted one would find out the a large percentage has not benefitted. The CEO admitted that most of the wards in Tongogara have not yet benefitted and considering the time frame that there are almost 5 years of operation without much that have realized on other wards.

The sustainability of the trust is also questionable because of lack of participation of the local people in matters that affect them. Community participation is essential in sharing ideas, identifying felt needs and determines the direction of the Trust. The community has to be involved at each and every stage to make sure that they are well knowledgeable about the operation of the Scheme. Most respondents indicated that they are hardly asked for their needs

and ideas. This makes them suspicious if the Trust was established for their benefit. A program for the community has to involve the community so that they feel being considered and they can work with the same aim and purpose.

4.11 Challenges affecting the operation of the TCSOT

The TCSOT faced challenges from the onset of the implementation of the program and these challenges continued to prevail during the course of the operation of the scheme. In an interview, the CEO Mr Rufasha revealed that initially it was hard for him to undertake various tasks since there was shortage of skilled man power. The CSOT was implemented without adequate and skilled workers to run the day to day activities of the Scheme. Initially he worked as an Administrator, accountant and secretary to the Scheme. This aspect of multi-tasking affected the effective and smooth operation of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust. He is the acting CEO and that alone considering the burden of loaded work to be done by one person worse in an acting capacity compromised the efficiency of the Trust. This resulted on too much work on one person and this compromised the pace of implementing development projects. This also led to the delay in implementation of pipeline projects as the board of trustees was not yet fully constituted. Now that it has been fully constituted, there were cries by the community that the board was awarding themselves with huge sums of money.

Respondents revealed that the operation and efficiency of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme was doomed from the onset since the selection of the board members was based on political lines. This resulted in too much political interferences and mismanagement of funds for personal enrichment by those who were politically connected. Thus those with political muscle could take anything from the Trust for personal use and this affected service delivery and compromised the funds that should have gone a long way in addressing poverty. The selection of board members should be based on expertise since the operation of the Trust requires knowledge and technique. Whenever politics takes centre stage it means that there is now division in terms of aims and goals. Benefits from the Trust were not enjoyed in the same way as some who were considered to be not supporting the right political party were discriminated. The kind of politics in Zimbabwe is centered on the winner takes all kind of a situation as those with political powers gain access and control of resources.

Lack of expertise is another critical challenge crippling the operation of the TCSOT. One of the chiefs indicated that people were selected on the basis of political connections yet those people lack expertise and knowledge of development work. Nepotism therefore affected the operation of the scheme as this compromised quality of services since experts were needed to run the Trust. Another challenge facing the trust is failure to priorities the felt needs of the community. It failed to realize that needs differs with each community and each community should be treated different from each other. The financial resources were just poured for almost similar projects in different areas without addressing their major concerns. Assessments by experts were supposed to have been done initially so that the problems of each ward were to be addressed differently according to need.

4.12 Chapter Summary

It is important to note that the data collected reflected that TCSOT has emphasized on the provision of social amenities casting a blind eye to an important pillar of economic empowerment through income generating activities, since provision of social amenities only cannot address poverty. From the questionnaires and interviews conducted a lot need to be done to address the priority needs of the Tongogara community so that they can come out of their poverty state. It must be noted also that participation of local communities was greatly compromised. The researcher also looked at various issues including challenges, characteristics of respondents, their priority needs among other relevant issues to the study.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter provides conclusions to the research findings from the area of study by indicating how the results or data incorporated tally with the research set objectives. The researcher managed to clearly highlight how the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust has brought about poverty reduction in the area. The chapter therefore ends with conclusions for each objective and also provides recommendations on how the TCSOT can improve effective operations in its quest to reduce poverty in the community.

5.1 Conclusions

The researcher during the research period observed that the majority of the respondents in Tongogara community lack detailed information about the operations of the Trust. This was probably because of lack of community participation as highlighted by councilors that the community is rarely involved in matters that affect them. It must be noted that only few respondents showed in-depth knowledge about the Trust and its aims probably because they are constantly engaged in matters around the Scheme. The lack of information and knowledge about the operation of the trust can be attributed to lack of community participation and probably the low level of education which makes them unable to understand the Trust.

It must be noted that the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust has managed to bring some changes on the part of the impoverished Tongogara community especially on the social aspect namely building of schools to improve state of education, clinics for health, drilling of boreholes for clean and safe water and probably roads for accessibility of the place. However poverty cannot be dealt with by the provision of social amenities only but inclusion of the local communities in key decision making and having power to effect change. A lot still need to be done since economic wise the community is lagging behind and nothing of great significance was done by the TCSOT since the trust should provide employment and income on a long term basis to reduce poverty, also most of these initiatives were done in the absence of the community

who are in the situation and they know their priority and felt needs to come out from their poverty state.

Sustainability of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme is questionable since it failed to take into cognizance all the three pillars of sustainable development approach as much focus was put on provision of social amenities only. Furthermore, for sustainability of the Trust to be realized there was supposed to be constant engagement of the community. The fact that Unki is no longer interested in pouring out more funds for the Trust because of misdirection of the financial resources has also crippled the sustainability of the program.

5.2 Recommendations

Through interaction with the respondents and findings from the research, the researcher managed to note some recommendations that may help in operation of the Trust in the future. The recommendations came as a result of observations, responses from the interviews and questionnaires administered. It must be noted also that these recommendations are derived from the conclusions for each set objective.

- Participation is one of the crucial missing links in the Trust. From the interviews and questionnaires administered, the researcher noted that the trust is running and deciding on behalf of the community. Engaging the community entails that their felt needs will be attended to. Thus poverty reduction efforts for the community must include the community. The lack of participation of the community is what led to lack of knowledge about the Trust.
- Management of the Trust- many programs in the country are failing because of lack of proper management of programs. Most government initiated programs sound very viable and effective on paper but is mismanaged on the ground. From the responses, the Trust is run by people who are politically connected, selected on political lines and they are the ones who enjoy large portions yet the community is supposed to be enjoying that large portion. For the program to go along way, it must not be a party program and also be managed by people who have the community at heart and qualified for development work.

- Poverty reduction efforts must consider all facets of life including social, economic, political and environmental. From questionnaires administered it was clear that there was too much concentration on social aspects and neglecting other important spheres of life. Thus addressing poverty should take a multi dimensional approach since provision of social amenities only does not solve the issue.
- The distribution of resources should come after a proper analysis of the needs of the people and thus resources should be distributed basing on felt needs of the community.
- The selection of members should be based on merit rather than political grounds. This will help effective operation of the Trust since the people will be dedicated and well equipped for the work.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

Questionnaire for Tongogara Rural Community

My name is Tinashe Bowa currently doing development studies at Midlands State University. I am carrying out a research on the impact of community share ownership trust on rural poverty in Tongogara District. So without you stakeholders my research will be incomplete, now I am asking for your assistance by providing me with relevant information on the Tongogara community share ownership trust and its bearing on rural livelihoods. All the information will be used for academic purpose only and it will be kept confidential.

NB (give your response by ticking in the boxes provided where it is applicable)

Please do not write your name on these papers

Date

Ward

1. Household

Male Female

2. Age group (15-30) (30 -45) (45 and above)

3. Level of education: primary, secondary, tertiary

4. Marital status: single, married

5. Sized of household: 1-3 4-5 6 and above

6. What are the sources of livelihood for the household? Please rank in order of importance

- a) Self employed
- b) Community share ownership trust
- c) Farming
- d) Formal employment

e) others

7. What are the major income contributors for your household?

- a) Remittances
- b) Pension
- c) Piece work
- d) Salary
- e) others

8. Is the community benefitting from the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust?

- a) Yes
- b) No

OPEN ENDED QUESTIONNAIRES

Objective 1: to find out the knowledge level of the Tongogara communities on community share ownership scheme and poverty.

Question 1: what do you understand by the community share ownership scheme?

.....

Question 2: how does the Tongogara community share ownership operate?

.....

Question 3: what are the aims of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust?

.....

Question 4: Are the communities around Tongogara district poor? If so justify.

.....

Objective 2: to assess on how the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust has improved the social and economic way of life of the Tongogara community

Question 1: What was the poverty situation of Tongogara District before the implementation of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme?

.....
Question 2: What programs have been put in place to deal with poverty around Tongogara District?
.....

Question 3: What are the direct social and economic benefits realized as a result of the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme?
.....

Question 4: What are the livelihoods strategies adopted by the Tongogara rural communities?
.....

Objective 3: to assess the sustainability of the Tongogara community Share Ownership Trust

Question 1: is the community heavily engaged in every activity that the trust undertake?
.....
.....

Question 2: Do you think that the future generations will also benefit from the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Trust? Explain.
.....
.....

Question 3: Are there any chances that those communities that did not benefit from the scheme will benefit in the future?
.....

Question 4: For how long has the community benefitted from the scheme?

APPENDIX 2

INTERVIEW GUIDE

- When was the Tongogara Community share Ownership Trust launched and with what aims?
- Who is responsible for directing and managing the scheme?
- Which areas are benefitting from the Community Share Ownership Trust?
- What criteria are used to choose beneficiaries of the Community Share Ownership Scheme?
- Are there any groups of people or area that was left out from the program and if so what are the reasons?
- Do you think the community is heavily involved in terms of participation and key decision making processes and justify?
- As a stakeholder what changes have you witnessed on the lives of the impoverished Tongogara communities?
- Do you think that the Community share ownership Trust will go a long way to reduce poverty around the Tongogara district and justify?
- I understand that every program has problems, so what challenges are you facing?
- What are the community's perceptions on the Tongogara Community Share Ownership Scheme?
- Are there any NGOs helping the Tongogara communities and which projects have they put in place?
- What recommendations can you give on the future groups to benefit from this scheme?