# MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY



# FACULTY OF ARTS DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

### **RESEARCH TOPIC**

# URBANISATION AND ITS IMPACT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN HARARE. A CASE OF HARARE SOUTH.

 $\mathbf{BY}$ 

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# **DECLARATION**

I, Priscilla Mangwende declare that all	information presented in this study is my original work.
Acknowledgements were made to all n	naterial from other scholars used in this study.
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# **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this dissertation to my late mother, **Tendai Gwadu** who continue to be my rock and my source of inspiration even today. I will always cherish your love, kind heart and the hopeful encouragement that made me through this day. I also dedicate this research to my grandparents **Mbuya and Sekuru Gwadu** and to my uncles and aunt, **Oliver, Edwin** and **Evans, Tatenda Wellington Gwadu and Chiedza Mashiri** through whom my success has and will always blossom on their love and support. Last but not least this research is dedicated to everyone who supported me to earn this degree.

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### **ABSTRACT**

Urbanisation in Zimbabwe is associated with sustainable development challenges especially in the major cities such as Gweru, Kwekwe, Mutare, Masvingo and most importantly Harare. This is evidenced by the fact that Zimbabwe is also one of the countries which failed to meet the Sustainable Development Goals by the year 2015. The research therefore focuses on how urbanisation has impacted on the sustainable development of Harare which is the most affluent city in the country. Through participatory observations, interviews and secondary sources the study revealed that urbanisation had indeed threatened the sustainability of the city. Urbanisation has compromised the provision of basic social services such as education, health, adequate housing, water and sanitation, transport and communication systems, employment and the fair distribution of resources among others. This research also examined Harare's population growth and dynamics and urbanisation control measures in the face of increasing urbanisation as well as possible solutions to curb the phenomenon are also discussed.

# **ACRONYMS**

AIDS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

C.B.D Central Business District

C.S.O Central Statistical Office

ESAP Structural Adjustment Programmes

H.I.V Human Immune Virus

U.N United Nations

U.N.F.P United Nations Population Fund

U.N.H.C.S United Nations H

W.H.O World Health Organization

ZINARA Zimbabwe National RoadsAuthority

ZIMSTATS Zimbabwe National Statistics

### INTRODUCTION

# **Background to the Study**

Research has shown that economic, social and political shifts in the world have resulted in most of the world's population living in urban areas. The (UNHCS, 2007) places the global population at 6,572 billion people at whom 50% of this reside in cities. However, Africa is projected as the most continent experiencing high levels of urbanisation but this phenomenon has not been in line with its rate of economic, social and political development. (Tannerfeldt 1995) argues that Africa's urbanisation is double than the rest of the world. Presently about one billion of the population in Africa is in urban areas and it is estimated that by the year 2030, the urban population would have doubled according to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFP, 2007). However, given all that it is important to note that to this occurrence, Zimbabwe is no exception since the country attained its independence. Since independence, the country's population rose from 23% in 1982, 30% by the early 1990's, 35.5% in 2000, 42.5% in 2010(United Nations, 2005), and it is anticipated to increase by 49.1% by the year 2020 agreeing with the (Global Report on Human Settlements 2003).

The population in major cities in Zimbabwe is increasing at a rate of 5% per annum since 1980. Of most importance is the experience of Harare the Capital city of Zimbabwe which leads in terms of urban population. The capital alone has the general population share at 16% of the total population of the whole country. The city's population since independence is increasing more quickly from to 656,011 in 1982 to 1, 189,103 in 1992 to 1,435,784 in 2001and finally to 2 123 132 in 2012 out of 13, 771 of the whole country, (Central Statistical Office 2012).

This explosive situation has faced criticism at the local and global level and this kind of urbanisation fashion which is distinctive of many developing countries, can be defined as the "challenge of rapid urbanization", (United Nations 2005). Urbanisation can be described as the shift in population from rural to urban areas as a result of migration and natural increase.

Demographically, the process can be described with the level of urban population share,

McGranahan and Satterthwaite (2014).

The rate of urbanisation in Harare outpaces the available resources hence it comes with the requirement for the provision of services such as housing, clean water and sanitation, education and health among others which results into urban challenges for the sustainable development of the capital. This increases the demand of services which are usually overwhelmed hence the sustainability of cities subsequently becomes compromised. Sustainable development according to the (WCED 1987) is described as development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs. It is at this point that this dissertation therefore brings out this impact of urbanization on sustainable development from an empirical perspective.

## **Statement of the Problem**

Harare is experiencing rapid population growth. The city's population since independence is increasing more quickly from 656,011 in 1982 to 1,189,103 in 2002 to 1, 435,784 in 2002 to 2,123,132 in 2012 at 5% annual growth rate (Central Statistical Office, 2012). This rapid population growth has led to an increase in demand for various resources and social amenities and growth in the city's economy. The city council has been putting in place various policies and measures such as the Operation Restore Order of 2005, the Growth Point Policy and Operation

Garikai to deal with rapid population growth and its demands. The major question however, was to find out how rapid urbanization impacts upon sustainable development in Harare urban.

# **Research Objectives**

- To assess the extent to which urbanization has impacted on sustainable development in Harare.
- 2. To discuss the policies put in place by city authorities to deal with rapid urbanization.
- 3. To describe the process of urbanization in Harare.
- 4. To suggest ways of ensuring sustainable development in Harare in the face of rapid urbanization.

# **Research Questions**

- 1. How has urbanization impacted on sustainable development in Harare?
- 2. What are the measures put in place by city authorities to deal with rapid urbanization?
- 3. How is urbanization taking place in Harare?
- 4. What methods can be put in place to ensure sustainable development in Harare in the face of rapid urbanization?

# Significance of the Study

Urbanization has increased the competition for scarce resources and dispossession has led to an unpredictable state, which if not given proper attention could result in insecurity and even lead to threats to national security. Practically, this research provides information to the Harare City Council and the Local Governance Ministry as it serves as a starting point on how this

phenomenon could be addressed especially on cases to do with migration and rapid population growth and possibly urban regeneration with regards to social service provision. The research also gives an insight of what urbanisation implies for the comfort and health of citizens in Harare specifically how the process influences their access to basic services and resources such water and land.

Academically, the study is beneficial as a reference material for academics and other researchers. Furthermore, the research helps increasing the space of knowledge absent in previous researches on the subject thus bridging the knowledge gap by providing necessary evidence on how urbanization in Harare has impacted on sustainable development.

### **Theoretical Framework**

The Malthusian legacy of population growth argues that population growth strains investments as the economy strives to provide for the growing population hence impeding investments that would promote economic growth for present and future needs. This view has been advanced in sophisticated models of economic growth, as in the applauded Solow (1956) growth model. It is also worth noting that neo- Malthusians describe poverty as something far more than just income deprivation. This is because rapid population growth in Harare for example pressures social services such as education, transport, health and adequate housing for example infrastructural facilities meant for a fixed population is spread to accommodate a large population that it is not intended to hence limiting its capacity to provide the best service delivery. As a result also budgetary actions of poverty also increase, (Ahlburg, 1994). Due to this scholars such as (Todaro, 1996) argue that resources are much consumed in order to meet the needs of the increasing population for example the current power supply and water supply shortages in

Harare are because the current resources were only meant to serve a fixed population but due to population grown it means that these resources have to be used to their fullest and this has resulted in many parts of Harare experiencing water and power shortages.

The Malthus theory is based on a number of assumptions that are:

- a) Uncontrolled population growth exceeds the natural carrying capacity, often resulting in overpopulation and societal problems.
- b) Population grows geometrically along the order of 1, 2, 4, 16 and 32 whereas resource supply grew arithmetically thus along the order of 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- c) Without population control, population growth would be only reduced by natural checks through disasters such as food shortages, war and diseases.

Malthus is of the view that population growth far surpasses food supplies. As can be noted with the case of Harare, population is growing at an unprecedented rate to such an extent that the available resources cannot keep up with the speed of urbanization and as a result resources are overwhelmed and the sustainability of the city automatically becomes questionable.

The theory also argues that without population control, the population would be reduced by natural checks through catastrophes such as war, famine and diseases. As can be noted the theory played out in Harare in 2008 where food insecurity became a humanitarian tragedy together with the deadly combination of HIV/AIDS and Cholera outbreak which a lot of people could not survive.

# **Conceptual Framework**

Urbanization can be understood as a situation in which the proportion of people living in a city increases than that living in the rural areas and exceeds the carrying capacity of the environment. Sustainable development can be viewed as the ability of an environment to meet the needs of the existing living and non-living beings in such a way that does not jeopardize the possibility of meeting future needs from the same environment. The major objective of sustainable development is meeting present human needs in a way that will not threaten posterity to meet their requirements. It is important to note that sustainable development has its main indicators which can be adopted to measure how well a community meets the needs and expectations of its current and future members (Abolina, 2005).

Social indicators encompasses the fair distribution of resources, adequate housing, elimination of poverty, provision of services such as water and sanitation, education, health and proper transport and communication facilities. Environmental indicators of sustainable development encompass the protection of bio diversity, maintaining climatic equilibrium, preservation of water sources, reducing pollution. Institutional sustainable development focuses on community participation in the decision making process of things that affect their lives. It also focuses on organizations, such as councils and committees, responsible for the Millennium Development Goals in a country.

# Research Methodology

To unravel this occurrence of urbanisation in Harare, the researcher used the qualitative research pattern concentrating on "how" and "why" urbanisation has impacted on the sustainable development of the three affected areas in Harare urban that is Mbare, Hopley and Highfield. The

techniques to be used for this type of research include participatory observations, interviews and secondary sources.

Adescriptive research design was conducted for this topic since the research aimed at analyzing how urbanization impacted on the sustainable development of Harare. To do this, the researcher gathered information that described events and then organizes, tabulates, illustrates and describes the data collection. This will employ the use of visual aids to aid an understanding of the data distribution as well as descriptive statistics that would reduce the gathered data to a manageable form.

A stratified random sampling technique was used for this research to make sure that each of the three suburbs was represented in the research. A stratified random sample is a population sample that requires the population to be divided into smaller groups, called 'strata'. Random samples can be taken from each stratum, or group. In this case the study area (Harare South) will be divided into suburbs where random samples will be collected from the different suburbs (stratums), the selected suburbs are Mbare, Highfield and Hopley.

As data collection instruments, the researcher used participatory observations, secondary sources and interviews. The researcher employed key informant interviews as well as general interviews with the population. Kumar (1989) key informant interviews are qualitative in depth with a selected group of individuals who are likely to provide needed information, ideas, and insights on demography and service delivery with the Harare City Council and Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTATS) as well as the Local Governance Ministry. General interviews were carried out with the general population in the selected locations.

Secondary data was used to obtain data on demography and sustainable urban development in order to find out what is accountable for the rapid urbanization of Harare and to help giving possible solutions to the study. The researcher used Millennium Development Goals Reports, City Council Rural and Urban Planning Data Reports on Harare, Zimbabwe Census Data from the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTATS) as well as other publications relevant to the topic.

The data analysis is qualitative in nature. Data collected from the interviews, participatory observations and secondary sources were analyzed using the Thematic Content Analysis. This method of analysis involves analyzing interview transcripts, identifying themes within those data and gathering together examples of those themes from the text. Confirming assumptions on the basis of the reliability of the informant as well as the ability of the informants to answer the researcher's questions. This section looked at what urbanization is and its effects on sustainable development. At this point, all information gathered will be subject for analysis as well as recommendations given by the participants.

### **Ethical Considerations**

Ethical considerations are critical so as to observe the rights of people to privacy, safety, confidentiality and protection from deceit with the pursuit of scientific endeavor (Polit and Hungler, 1998). Permission was sought from the Harare City Council, ZIMSTATS, and the general population before key informant and general interviews were carried out as well as the motives for carrying out this research.

# **Literature Review**

The literature on urbanization as a threat to sustainable development has been tremendously diverse and intensive; therefore this chapter will review what other studies have done relating to the subject and what gaps have been left behind by previous researches in addressing the matter at hand. This chapter will focus on the impact of urbanization on sustainable development citing what various scholars articulate on the subject.

#### **Urbanization**

Urbanization is defined as the process by which large numbers of people become permanently concentrated in small areas, forming cities. In this process the number of people living in cities increases compared with the number of people living in rural areas. A country is considered urbanized when over 50% of its population lives in the urban areas (Long, 1998).

Urbanization is the manner in which cities and towns grow and develop. It also involves movement of people from rural to urban areas, as well as movement between cities and the attendance growth as well as development of urban social, political and economic systems (Kurfi, 2010).

Waugh defines urbanization as a process by which rural areas are transformed into urban areas and which involves the growth of urban populations through the combined effects of migration and natural increase (Waugh 1990).

Urbanisation is defined as the accumulation of people in large numbers at a specific place, Agbola (2004). Other scholars believe that urbanisation is concerned with certain situations like modernization, physical and economic development and the heterogeneity in profession, (Harvey, 2000). The former definition of urbanisation is a reflection of what urbanisation is in the third world countries, while the latter reveals what urbanisation is in the industrialized

countries. Consequently, in the developed countries, urbanisation is as a result of rapid development, modernization and industrialization rather than the agglomeration of people. Hove et al (2013) stipulates that urbanization in the developing states is a magnitude of the push and pull factors between the rural and urban areas.

Otto (2008) describes it as a change of employment structure from agriculture and cottage industries to mass production and service industries. Within the field of urban research, the urban phenomenon is considered the active result of multifaceted process of articulation of cooperative and often contradictory economic, political, legal and cultural forces. Due to this process cities and rural areas in developing countries have been redefined by the changing nature of capitalism and more recently, by the process of economic globalization (Fernandes 1998).

The several definitions have numerous regular features. Urbanization is described as a: (i) demographic process, (ii) essential component of economic and industrial development, (iii) driving strength behind social change and (iv) universal phenomenon.)

#### Sustainable development

According to the Bruntland Report, sustainable development is "the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (WCED, 1987). This suggests that the principal goal of sustainable development is meeting present human needs in a way that will not jeopardize the potential of posterity to meet their needs. (Wiednhoeft (1981) and Padisson (2001) noted that sustainable development entails the attainment of equilibrium among three contenting sub-systems that are economic, social-cultural and environmental.

Sustainable development refers to achieving economic and social development in ways that do not exhaust a country's natural resources, Ashford (1995). WCED (1987) define sustainable development as a process of change in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development, and institutional change are made consistent with the future as well as present needs.

The European Commission(2009) defines sustainable development as that meets the needs of the present generations without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs- in other words, a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations to come.

Urbanization as a Threat to Sustainable Development

Hove et al (2013) in the research The Urban Crisis as a threat to sustainable development in Sub Saharan Africa, points out that the enormous size of urban populations and more significantly, the rapidity with which urban areas have been and are growing in Sub Saharan Africa have severe social, economic and physical repercussions. They went on to argue that the accelerated growth of urbanization has amplified the demand for key services. However, the provision of shelter and basic services such as water and sanitation, education, public health, employment and transport has not kept pace with this increasing demand.

Likewise, hastened and ill managed urbanization has resulted in numerous types of atmospheric, land and water pollution thereby endangering human security. However, the major weakness following this research is that the research is broader in nature since it looks at Sub Saharan Africa hence a generalization of the facts whereas this research will get more specific. It can also be noted that the research was simply desk top research in which the researchers simply gave

back the general information already known. In this regard this dissertation seeks to get more information about the study by getting into the field to collect more evidence.

According to Chirisa (2008) in his population growth and rapid urbanization Africa: Implications for sustainability, the realities of rapid urbanisation and population growth in Africa are objectively patent with the realities of diversity of challenges, constraints and threats to service delivery in urban centres. Urban centres are attraction centres for rural population and population sizes continue to grow concomitant with the demand for the services (hospitals, schools, industrial and commercial zones, and security). The foregoing discussion gives a general impression of urbanisation in Africa but there are considerable variations between countries on the continent. With this in mind this discussion focuses on Zimbabwe.

In a study (Abubakar et al, 2014) on the Impact of Rapid Urbanization on Sustainable

Development of Nyanya, Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, Nigeria, the findings were that the

primary factor for the rapid urbanization of Nyanya within a short period of time is migration.

The consequence of this rapid urbanization and population rise within a short period is that

infrastructural facilities and services are grossly inadequate to cater for the population. The study

reveals that there is inadequate good quality housing, poor waste management facilities,

inadequate electric power supply, inadequate good quality domestic water supply, inadequate

and unaffordable health care facilities, poor environmental health and traffic congestion.

A study by (Kwasi, 2014) on the Effects of Rapid Urbanisation on Urban Livelihoods in Ghana observed that the most outstanding change in Ghana over the last few decades has been the dramatic demographic shift from rural areas to cities with over 70% rural independence, the country is now over 50% urbanised. As cities and towns in Ghana have confronted this demographic explosion, urban management has become all the more challenging amid the

current trend toward decentralisation. The study highlighted that urbanisation brought with it poor access to housing or shelter. For the livelihoods of urban dwellers to be sustainable, there is need for proper shelter that meets the standard of WHO Expert Committee on housing to be provided.

Due to this urbanisation has brought about the development of slums and shanty towns in cities such as Accra, Kumasi, Tema and Takoradi since the limited housing units available for consumption are not affordable to the urban poor. However, the study only focused on the impact of urbanisation on sustainable development on the aspect of housing and accommodation and hence cannot be relied upon as a source of information for academics thus this study aims to give more detailed information on the subject.

Nsiah-Gyabaah (2003) conducted research on Urbanization, environmental degradation and food security in Africa, in which he examines the urbanization process in Africa in the context of the environment, food supply and human security and also on the implications of rapid urbanization for sustainable development and human security in Africa. His paper draws attention to the socio-economic and environmental implications of rapid urbanization and population growth in the developing countries with particular reference to Africa. He concluded that although urbanization is associated with unemployment, air and water pollution, congestion, overcrowding, social disturbances, crime, ethnic conflicts, environmental degradation, HIV/AIDS among others. It however provides opportunities for growth and development of markets for consumer goods and a source human capital for managing natural resources. His recommendation is that there must be a decided move towards better planning and management which will focus on cities with past failures giving way to more appropriate policies and

practices. Proper land use planning, urban environmental monitoring and family planning are required to solve the problems of urbanization in Africa.

Akolade (2007) undertook a study on the effect of urbanization on key economic, social and environmental variables on sustainable development in the urban areas of South-West Nigeria; by assessing the impact of urbanization and some other driving force of development on urban economic growth and the quality of life and quality of the environment in the area. He employed models based on the overall hypothesis that constraints on sustainable development in the urban areas of the region arise from low investment in socioeconomic infrastructure, high population density and poor quality of human capital.

In his findings, Akolade concluded that in the urban areas of South-West Nigeria, the momentum of urbanization is accentuated by the previous level of growth of urban areas of the region, but not by level of investment in urban socio-economic infrastructure. Similarly, level of urban income and sustainable development are driven by their previous level while educational expansion or lack of it in the urban areas of the region is found to deteriorate the level of sustainable development in the area. It is also discovered that while the urban areas of Lagos State are faced with the possible threat of over- urbanization, urban areas of Ogun and Oyo States can marginally accommodate increased urban growth that can contribute to increased level of sustainable development.

### **CHAPTER ONE:**

# THE PHENOMENON OF URBANISATION IN ZIMBABWE.

## **Chapter Introduction**

Zimbabwe has a population of 13, 771. Urban population growth (annual %) in Zimbabwe was last measured at 4.30 in 2013, according to the World Bank urban population in Zimbabwe was 4,620,426 as of 2013 and two thirds of these live in Harare and Bulawayo, the largest cities in the country. It is at this point that this chapter will give an insight on the causes of urbanisation in Zimbabwe. The chapter will also give a background on the history and development of urbanisation in Zimbabwe and goes on to discuss some of the efforts put in place by the government or city authorities to control the occurrence.

### 1.1 Causes of urbanisation

Urbanisation is a social, economic and political phenomenon

### 1.1.1Political factors

In most African countries, the source of rapid urbanization rests on post-colonial growth policies with their focus on industrialization in a few urban centres. These development policies led to a high concentration of the population, industries supporting infrastructure and services in a few, urban areas whose superiority of place originated from their historic position as colonial outposts.

In the case of Zimbabwe, the country followed macroeconomic policies that paved way for urbanisation and Zimbabwe is no exception. Zimbabwe adopted a series of post-independence policies that include the Statutory Instrument 216 of 1994 of the Regional Town and Country Planning Act which provided the impetus for the ascendance of the informal sector through the reduction of regulatory holdups hence different players to enter into the production and distribution of goods and services. This allowed activities such as hairdressing, wood and stone carving, tailoring, book- binding, welding among others to be deregulated. The change to majority rule in 1980 saw the lifting of decades of racial restrictions to the "Right to the City", (United Nations 2005). The urban population of Zimbabwe rose rapidly from 23% in 1982 to 30% by the early 1990s. This paved way for rural – urban migration as the ruralentities, witness impoverishment because many migrants to the city operate in the informal economy and population saw high income opportunities and access to social services. Due to these initiatives the major cities of Harare, Bulawayo, Mutare and Gweru in Zimbabwe reached population growth rates of over 5% per annum throughout the 1980s. However, cities as the major economic notwithstanding their aid to the urban economy, they rarely pay taxes or fees in direct fraction to the services they use leading thus straining local government capacity in terms of planning, environmental management and the provision of basic services.

The failure by growth points to plug migration into large cities has resulted in the major cities like Harare the capital experiencing swift growth. Because Zimbabwe's economy was once propped up by agriculture, hitherto its backbone, this sector's demise over the past decade resulted in once bustling growth points such as Murambinda, Mupandawana, Magunje, Dotito, Kotwa and Sanyati among others, experiencing inertia. Out of the more than 40 growth points that were named just after independence only one, Gokwe, in the Midlands Province, still

maintains its town status. However, none of these numerous other areas still attain the business centre status hence continued migration.

#### 1.1.2 Economic factors

Cities offer better access to wealth and services that many rural areas lack. Rural inhabitants typically move to cities to exploit economic opportunities and improve their social mobility. People move from the rural areas hoping that they can secure a better source of income for example the rise of the informal sector in Zimbabwe has caused a lot of people to move into major towns such as Harare, Gweru, Kwekwe, Bulawayo and Mutare. Migration from rural areas on average accounts for about 60 per cent of the urban population and in exceptional cases, as much as 75 per cent (Todaro 2000).

In addition, inter-urban movement of people also occurs, particularly from smaller towns to the larger urban centres, and these movements affect the national urban hierarchy and national integration. The increasing number of factories in urban areas created a need for labor. In Zimbabwe, rural employment seekers moved to the cities to content this need. Often this need was succeeded by the movement of others to provide various services for these employees. However, rural—urban migration exceeds the absorptive capacity of the urban areas (Todaro and Stilkind, 1981). The 5% urbanisation growth rate in Zimbabweis much faster than the overall population, indicating continued rural migration. Much of this migration has been dictated more by the lack of opportunities in these areas than by the presence of opportunities in the urban areas. Instead of contributing to urban growth as such, this has only impoverished the urban centres. Therefore, the sustainability of urban growth in Zimbabwe is thus very strongly related to the development of rural areas, especially the backward pockets.

Apart from that, foreign investors also prefer to capitalize in the principal towns though they can only employ a small fraction of the massive rural-urban migrants. Economic globalisation has weakened the ability of governments to control external forces that impact on local economic development. Cities are drawn into the dominant global economic activity and have become pivotal points for foreign direct investment. However, productive capacity is often restricted to a limited number of cities. Major cities such as Harare and Bulawayo combine rapid economic growth only benefitting an affluent minority with rapid urbanisation of poverty, environmental degradation and a weakened social fabric.

### 1.1.3 Social factors

Looking at the social causes of urbanisation in Zimbabwe it is important to note that before the country attained its independence in 1980 the black population was confined to living in the reserves created by the settler government for example the Chivi, Shangani and Gwaai reserves. These reserves were areas of unproductive land, not conducive for agricultural production and were tsetse fly infested hence the black population had no option but to survive in these hard conditions. However, the attainment of independence promoted the movement of people from the so called reserves to other areas with better living conditions and the major points of departure for these populations were major cities hence an increase in the population residing in urban areas in Zimbabwe in this regard.

However, despite this achievement these areas are currently still congested. The government has even tried to improve standards of living through actions such as the Land reform Policy and the Land Resettlement Programme but however, these areas are still congested.

The current rate of urbanisation in Zimbabwe has been largely due to developmental imbalances between urban and rural centres, (Hope et al 1999). Urbanisation in Zimbabwe has been attributed to the idea that rural people have been underserved in terms of most social, political and economic services such as financial institutions, the distribution of resources and insufficient investment in basic necessities such as schools, hospitals and agriculture, the focus of public investment in major cities including the concentration of government offices, conference centres, stadiums, schools and universities, (Sandbrook, 1982). As a result, students travel to cities to go to universities whereas the aging people move to cities where it is closer to hospitals and health facilities.

Natural increase has also contributed to urbanisation for the reason that the availability of relatively advances in medical care's in the cities, improved nutrition, better living standards and the presence of first-generation rural-to-urban migrants still attached to their rural traditions concerning family size to the city. Statistics from censuses suggest levels of total fertility mostly between six and seven children per woman in Zimbabwe. Improved medical facilities result in the reduction in mortality rates that is not consistent with fertility rates, (Lotter, 1990). As a result, as the population of a country grows, so does its rate of urbanisation.

Urbanisation in Zimbabwe can also be attributed to social factors such as religious and traditional beliefs. Some actions of some religious sects such as the Johanne Masowe and Johanne Marange are still guided by the belief that God commanded them to give birth as much as they can. On the other hand, customary traditions in Zimbabwe still guide the actions of the old generations who still believe in large families. All these factors automatically have an influence on population trends in Zimbabwe. Research has also indicated that due to these ideas women can give birth to about 6-8 children thus influencing urbanisation.

Over time, some rural areas accumulate sufficient population to qualify them to be classified as urban. Such a scenario in Zimbabwe is Zvishavane which attracted a population through the establishment of a mine as well as a university.

### 1.1.4 Environmental causes

Another major cause of urbanisation in Zimbabwe has been environmental factors due to climate change and several aspects climate change such as drought and flooding for example flooding in Muzarabani has forced people to relocate It is important to note that the tidal wave of forced migration creates discontentedness in the poorest and most deprived parts of the country. The recurrence and persistence of disasters in many rural parts of Zimbabwe has also increased the migration of people to nearby towns. When the natural habitat of farming families is destroyed due to deforestation, or other environmental destructions they are forced to find somewhere else to live.

### 1.2 Trendsof Urbanisation in Zimbabwe

Researches in the study of urbanisation review that the population of Zimbabwe is increasing at an alarming rate. Zimbabwe's urban areas are growing rapidly. Statistics reveal that Zimbabwe's population rose at an unprecedented rate of 23% in 1982 when the country attained its independence to 35.5% in 2000, 42.5% in 2010 and just like any other African country, Zimbabwe's population is expected to rise by 50% by the year 2020, (Global Report on Human Settlements, 2003).

Urbanisation in Zimbabwe is characterized by the enlargement and development of urban centres across the country. This process has seen the rise of new towns such as Gokwe and Zimplats

Mine. It is also interesting to note that Zvimba rural now has urban suburbs adjacent to Harare's

Kuwadzana suburb. All these examples are a confirmation of how this trend of urbanisation is occurring in Zimbabwe.

Harare, which is the subject of this paper has a current population of 2.1 million people representing 16.2% of the total population in the country (ZIMSTATS, 2012). The rising population has in turn resulted in the physical expansion of the city as well as an increase in density.

Urbanization is generally a product of economic, social and political phenomena. The circumstances under which cities grow and develop in different countries change under different circumstances.

### 1.2.1 Urbanisation in pre-colonial Zimbabwe

Due to urban influx controls in the 1960's such as the Vagrancy Act of 1960, there was limited rural-urban migration into the major cities such as Harare and Bulawayo. This meant thatonly a small fraction of the total population of Rhodesia resided in urban areas with only a few blacks providing labor services living in urban areas. This is because urban areas were reserved only for the white population constituting only 3.5% of the country's population, (Patel 1988). The then government had affected urban inflow controls for the black population, (Gadgett, 1977) thus controlling the overall rate of urbanisation, Rhodesia had thus counter- urbanized. Urbanisation during this period depended on the availability of employment and accommodation in the city. However, in the same period industrial development followed transport and communication development as well as the introduction of the Hut and Poll tax forced the black and the white population flock into the monetary market. These developments saw the rise of towns such Harare, Gweru, Marondera, Kadoma and Bulawayo among others. The development of rail

transport at mining extraction points such as Zvishavane and Hwange marked the increase of the urban population in Rhodesia. Also, migration of the urbanized white population increased the urban population from 78.3% to 79.8%, (Patel 1988).

Due to the increase in income earnings and the development of the towns, blacks progressively began to move to urban areas. At first, the blacksonly migrated for short periods of time to for employment and to get the goods they needed and would come back to the rural areas after some time. According to Moller (1978) this period manifested what he termed 'circulatory migration' between the rural and urban areas when a state of 'quasi-stabilisation' which meant the staying in town of the working age, with subsequent retirement to the rural areas) had begun. However, as time went on, their stay in urban areas increased due to increased industrial expansion as well as the weakening of the then government.

### 1.2.2<u>Urbanisation in 1970- 1980</u>

This period also witnessed major shifts in the urban population share of most towns. This was because the liberation struggle had made it difficult for the Smith government to regulate the rural-urban migration. It is imperative to note that; urbanisation during this period was as a result of migration by the refugees of war thus increasing the urban population share. The prevalent population trend stemmed the foundation of squatter settlements in several urban areas such as the Chirambahuyo settlement in Chitungwiza which had a population of 30 000 in the 1970's (Patel and Adams 1979).

### 1.2.3<u>Urbanisation in 1980- 1990</u>

As soon as Zimbabwe attained independence in 1980, all migration regulations were detached.

The newly elected ZANU-PF government also promoted the development of indigenous

businesses to spur economic growth in the country. This was followed by the flooding of economic migrants who had been kept up in rural areas by the influx control systems into urban areas. These migrants, accompanied by their spouses, had a direct impact on urbanisation due to increased birth rate

Consequently, the level of urbanisation in Zimbabwe thus rose a further 4.6% partly because of natural increase and also because the newly established government began a state controlled transformation trail.

However, the inherited sanctions and debt by the government combination with the liberation war had weakened the economy. Above all, the government had dispensed a lot of money into education and healthas a way of redressing colonial imbalances and this reduced mortality in Zimbabwe hence an increase in population.

### 1.2.4Urbanisation in 1990-2000

In the 1990's Zimbabwe had become 33.6% urban. Nonetheless, there were demographic shifts such as a fall in the fertility levels whilst death rates were increasing. These changes in the population share were because of a series of events such as the adoption of the Structural Adjustment Programmes (ESAPs) through which the government thought could improve social service provision.

To begin with, the adoption of austerity measures such as the Structural Adjustment Programmes (ESAPs) negatively affected the operations of the urban based businesses previously protected from international competition. The cut down on public expenditure also resulted in job losses. Furthermore, the Land Reform Programmesaw the expropriation of land without compensation. This move affected Zimbabwe's relations with its donor countries which automatically led to the

withdrawal of donor support and this and other factors mentioned above resulted in an economic crisis. All these factorshad an influence on rural to urban livelihoods and hence became a fundamental reason for the exodus from urban areas. This can also be highlighted by the 2002 census which indicated that the population of Zimbabwe had fallen from an annual rate of 3.3% in the 1980's to 1.1%(Potts 2008).

### 1.2.5<u>Urbanisation in 2000-present</u>

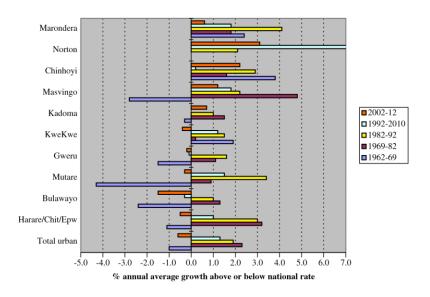
The loss of international financial support by the government created severe economic conditions that affected the country's urbanisation (Chitiyo et al, 2014). The situation was also characterized byhigh levels of food insecurity and the formal sector which had become worthless relative to urban living expenses. The dwindling of formal employment marked the rise of the informal sector categorized by the sale of second hand clothes (Bhero), school uniforms, vegetables and fruits and the proliferation of colleges along the streets in urban areas.

A government led campaign against informal structures in the urban areas (Operation Restore Order of 2005) further aggravated the urban situation, emigration from the urban areas was on the rise characterized by cross boarder trading with people migrating to and from countries such as South Africa, Mozambique, Botswana and Zambia urban to urban migration as well as rural migration. The informal sector had thus became the only viable source of livelihoods for many in Zimbabwe beginning in 2010 and since then it has been attracting the migration from the rural areas to urban areas especially into Harare the capital of Zimbabwe.

As compared to other cities in Zimbabwe such as Bulawayo, Mutare, Gweru, Masvingo, Kadoma among others Harare since independence has been the most affected city in terms of urban population share. Harare's urban share increased from 1. 542 million in 2011 to 2 123 132

in 2012 (ZIMSTATS, 2012). Due to the escalation of the informal sector in the city Harare's urban population is expected to double by the year 2010. However, this situation has not been appreciated nationally and internationally since it has negatively impacted on the sustainability of Harare and other cities in Zimbabwe hence the need to elaborate on these consequences in this research.

Figure 1Urban population growth rates relative to national population growth for Zimbabwe's 10 largest towns, 1960s to 2012.



Source: Potts, (2014)

Figure 1 shows the urban population variations of the 10 largest towns in Zimbabwe. The figure also shows the biggest cities that is Harare Bulawayo, Mutare, Gweru and Kwekwe losing their urban population share in the 1960s and 2000s, (counter-urbanisation. This was because, during this period, influx controls were more obligatory in the most affluent cities. However, urbanisation increased in the 1970s as regulatory systems thwarted as well as economic development pulled the rural based people into urban areas.

However, in the 1990s the largest towns such as Bulawayo, Harare, Mutare, Gweru and Kwekwe started de-urbanising. This was because of the economic meltdown brought in by ESAP's, and the government's free education and health policy programme. This saw Harare, the largest of them all, growing at only 0.3% per year followed by Bulawayo, growing at -0.3%.

Table 1the table below shows the urban population trends for some of the major cities in Zimbabwe.

Name	Population	Population	Population	Population	
	1982	1992	2002	2012	
Harare	656, 011	1, 189, 103	1, 435, 784	2, 123, 132	
Bulawayo	413, 814	621, 742	653, 337	676, 650	
Mutare	69, 621	131, 367	170, 466	186, 206	
Kwekwe	47,607	75,425	93,608	100,900	
Gweru	78,918	128,037	140, 806	154,825	
Masvingo	30, 523	51, 743	69, 490	87, 886	
Epworth			114,067	167,462	
Chitungwiza	172,556	274,912	323,260	356,840	
Kadoma	44,613	67,750	76,351	91,633	

Source: Central Statistical Office, Zimbabwe. (2014)

As shown by the graph there has been prominent changes in urban population in different towns. As recorded, only the largest towns of Harare, Bulawayo, Mutare, Kwekwe, and Gweru experienced rapid population growth in the 1980s from net in-migration due to the dwindling of influx controls when the country attained its independence. Also the positive economic segment during this period is clearly portrayed.

## 1.3Measures Put in Place by City Authorities to Deal with Rapid Urbanisation

## 1.3.1<u>The Growth Point Policy</u>

Historical developments in Zimbabwe resulted in a disparity in levels of development between the urban areas and the lagging rural areas. An industrial decentralization policy was adopted in Zimbabwe in the first five-year development plan introduced in 1980 (after independence). Industrialist were encouraged to locate their industries outside Harare, Bulawayo and other urban industrial cores, and locate at designated centres or growth points in the rural areas. This strategy saw the establishment of Chisumbanje, Wedza, Murewa, Nkayi, Jerera, Sanyati, Mataga, Mushumbi, Maphisa and Gutu as the focal points for this programme (Rambanapasi 1990). These growth points were to act as centers of economic development, with the intention that they will eventually become natural centres of economic growth in the disadvantaged areas and as a result would reduce urbanisation as they would limit the flooding of people into urban areas (Carr 1997; Perroux, 1958). However, scholars like (Conyers, 2001) point out that this strategy failed to produce the intended result and curb urbanisation. This is largely because the growth points lacked a strong economic base, poor investment levels, inadequate infrastructure, unsatisfactory government support and financial incentives, like tax concessions among other things. To make matters worse, cuts in government expenditure under the auspices of economic reforms in the 1990's came into being before the programme of infrastructure development and

It can therefore be noted that the issue is not merely one of inspiring the scattering of industries from the major cities in Zimbabwe but such a decision should be well backed by the creation of

service provision was accomplished.

necessary infrastructure and viable marketing services and above all, government support such as subsidies and tax reduction.

## 1.3.2 Operation Restore Order 2005 (Murambatsvina)

Rapid urbanisation in the major cities of Zimbabwe brought with it the challenge not only of unemployment but also came with it the accommodation challenges. As decent houses could not be afforded, the urban poor which makes up almost three quarters of the population resorted to squatting and the development of shanty houses. By the year 2005, the situation had become worse resulting in government embarking on an internationally condemned Operation Murambatsvina/ Restore Order. The operation demolished cabins, illegal structures and informal productions (Vambe 2008, Tibaijuka 2005).

Although some people relocated to the rural areas, the so called Operation Restore Order did not yield the intended results. This is because the process attracted severe criticism nationally and internationally. It is interesting to note critics like (Chirisa 2007) lamenting the action by the government as "the hen that eats her own eggs". From a human rights perspective it is argued that the campaign followed gross human rights violations as people were used to their own houses without due notice, process or compensation. (Sachikonye 2006). Internationally, critics believed that this operation was a stance by the government to punish the so called opposition cohorts alleged to be residing in urban areas (ICG 2005, Tibaijuka 2005). Above all, Murambatsvina made people desperate to such an extent that they started settling at any open space in makeshift homes thus paving way to another government campaign Operation Settle and Prosper of 2006.

## 1.3.3 Operation Garikai/ Hlalani Kuhle/ Settle and Prosper

Having violated the right to property through the unselective Operation Murambatsvina in 2005, the government of Zimbabwe turned to Operation Garikai/Hlalani Kuhle (Settle and Prosper). This movement was a property ownership scheme aimed at offering decent housing to those affected by Operation Murambatsvina. However, this also failed because it failed to meet the shelter needs of the evictions. Qualification to this scheme was based on proof of formal employment and a specified salary which made it unaffordable to the homeless especially those who were employed in the informal sector. It also failed because it failed to prioritize the victims of the operation (Chikuwa). About 700,000 people were left deserted after the demolition of houses, as well as informal traders when their goods were confiscated.

The failure of the campaign can be noticed in that in less than a decadethe informal sector had resuscitated, taking new shapes in scope, dimension and variations. This gave a clear picture that the bulldozer was a temporary solution as it could not deal with the informal sector (AAPS, 2012). A good example of this is Harare today, plagued by informal actions such as vending, illegal transport operators, money changers, informal settlements, urban agricultural activities, educational informality and small enterprises.

## 1.3.4The Informal Sector

The loss of formal employment has witnessed the rise of the informal sector in Zimbabwe. Informal activities have created a volatile situation in the country's Central Business Districts (CBDs) since it has increased the urban population share. Informal activities in Zimbabwe have in recent times come in a different manner ranging from the selling of groceries, handsets, fruits and vegetables, second hand clothes, pesticides among others along every street in the Central Business District. This vending activity has not been appreciated since it has threatened the sustainability of cities in Zimbabwe and if not addressed would result in serious consequences.

The city fathers have tried to respond to this situation through the creation of market places for these vendors to go but however, the vendors prefer to remain on the streets which they believe have more business that in the designated areas. Also the City of Harare has tried to confiscate the vendors' goods and charge them a find for remaining on the streets but still a more effective strategy has to be sought to deal with this scenario. Furthermore, the government has tried to prohibit the flow of second hand clothes since it is the major informal activity but the issue has become a threat of national security. Research has shown that the informal sector in Zimbabwe has become the source of livelihood in Zimbabwe and this means that any efforts by the government would result from violence from informal operators. The thinking was that if all these strategies would keep people off the streets, many had no option but to go back to the rural areas hence reducing pressure in urban areas but however, all these efforts have failed to achieve the intended result.

#### 1.3.5The Toll Gate System

Another way in which the city authorities tried to respond to the urbanisation crisis in Zimbabwe was through the introduction of tollgates along major roads. This was in a bid to limit the number of people moving into towns. The tollgate system saw the building of tollgates on major roads such as the Harare-Bulawayo road, the Harare-Masvingo road and lastly but not least, the Harare-Mutare road. This system also saw the increase in the tollgate fee to a double of the usual amount. However, this strategy worked to a lesser extent as it only increased the revenue of the transport authority, (ZINARA) and did not necessarily fulfill what it was intended to.

This failure was because, public transport operators as a response strategy created their own escape routes to flee from the tollgates as well as increased the passenger travelling fee so that

they can balance their profit as they pay for the tollgates. This generally meant that the tollgate system has failed to reduce urbanisation in Harare.

#### 1.3.6The Barning of Second Hand Vehicles

The Transport Authority in Zimbabwe also tried to deal with urbanisation by decongesting cities.

This was to be done by barning entrance of second hand vehicles into the country.

## 1.3.7 The New National Housing Policy (2012)

The new housing policy of 2012 focuses on the promotion of Community Based organization to meet housing needs in Zimbabwe. However, the policy is crippled by the lack of financial support and most importantly due to bureaucracy in land administration.

## 1.3.8 Zimbabwe Agenda forSustainable Socio- Economic Transformation

According to the Ministry of Local Governance, Public Works and National Housing, the June 2013 harmonized elections in Zimbabwe, marshaled in the popularZimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (ZIMASSET). This macroeconomicblueprint is aimed at achieving sustainable development and socioequity through indigenization, empowerment and employment creation. The programme is expected delivery to deliver 125,000 housing units and/or serviced stands whilst, the ZANU PF Party's manifesto targets 250,000 units and/or serviced stands, by the end of the ZIM-ASSET plan period, December 2018, Ministry of Local Governance, Public Works and National Housing.

However, the programme is yet to bring any results as the shortage of housing and unemployment is still on the rise due to urbanisation. Many urban dwellers still reside in poor housing conditions, and cases of job losses are on the rise. It also important to note that the

majority of the people in need of housing in Zimbabwe fall within the low income bracket hence the programme is yet to reflect any positive results so far.

## **Chapter Summary**

The chapter examined the causes, the trends of urbanisation in Zimbabwe and the control measures that were put by city authorities to deal with urbanisation. The miracle of urbanisation has been associated with a variety of factors since the country attained independence in 1980. Since then, urbanisation has been an inevitable phenomenon which was mainly constituted by political, economic and social factors such as imbalances between rural and urban areas, the removal of influx control measures when the country attained its independence and most importantly due to natural population increase. Currently, this explosive nature of urban growth has reached its maximum to such an extent that the city fathers have put measures to reduce the increase of urbanisation in the country. It is important to note that this phenomenon has been a serious case affecting the development of cities particularly the capital of Zimbabwe, Harare to such an extent that the government put measures such as the internationally condemned Operation Murambatsvina of May 2005, Operation Restore Order, the Growth Point Policy as well as the barning of informal activities in the CBD's. However, all these efforts went in vain and faced a lot of criticism due to the ways they were carries out in particular Operation Murambatsvina which was associated with the gross violation of human rights as people were forced to demolish their own houses. Lack of public support for these measures also made them weak to control urbanisation in Zimbabwe for example the issue of the informal sector on which most of the population depends on for their livelihood. It is at this point that the study will go on examine the effects of urbanisation on the sustainable development of Harare.

## CHAPTER TWO: URBANISATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN ZIMBABWE

## Introduction

Urbanisation in other parts of the world was a slow process which happened at the same time as economic, political and social development was taking place. However, what is sarcastic and puzzling about the manner of urbanization in Africa is that the process in happening so fast were conditions rapid population growth and less economic, social and political development is the norm. It is evident from the data collected and evaluated, that to a larger extent the situation stated above is the case of Harare.

Due to this, several challenges are being faced by the Harare City Council and the general populace due to the impact of urbanisation currently being experienced on sustainable development of Harare. This is because urbanisation in Harare comes with the need to provide accommodation, sufficient infrastructure, maintain ecological balance, provide water and sanitation, health, education and improve living standards among others. Despite efforts to invest in some of these services especially economics very limited investment is reserved for urban infrastructure. However, the question that arose was how does this relate to the sustainability challenge? Given the ways in which Harare is presently developing, urbanization does not aid to the realization of sustainable development goals.

Sustainable urbanization is defined as when urbanization can sustain the population it has within the framework of water and sanitation, energy, waste management, accommodation, employment, transport and communication and limiting the city's contribution to climate change (UNH 2007). Urbanisation is described as a demographic, environmental, sociological and

economic occurrence that explains the focus of population in urban areas. Recent urbanisation trends have compounded and weakened the capacity of developing countries to achieve sustainable development. In the context of urbanisation, sustainable development entails the capacity of urban areas to remain functional at anticipated qualities of lives by the public without restrictive options offered to the existing and future generations.

## 2.1 The Impact of Urbanisation on Sustainable Development

## 2.1.1 <u>Social indicators of sustainable development</u>

The several Departments of Housing Services in Zimbabwe have an obligation to provide adequate, reasonably priced, decent houses to the people but however, this is just on paper in Harare since the rate of urbanisation in the city has not kept pace with this provision, it has led to severe overcrowding.

The competition for land has seen the sky rocketing of land prices since the 1970s, currently the least amount of acquiring a serviced residential stand in a high density is \$20 per square metre, for non-serviced land the council charges an intrinsic value of \$5 per square metre. The values are not uniform they vary depending on location and size as well as general ground conditions according to Mr Gwadu an evaluator from the City of Harare.

This cost of living has led many to reside overcrowded in poor quality houses in areas such as Mbare, Hopley and Highfield in Harare where family houses are exceeding their intended carrying capacity. The urban poor also find consolation in the construction of temporary shelters. In 2005 almost half of the population in urban areas resided in temporary structures such that the situation went out of hand. Eventually, it drove the government embark on the internationally condemned Operation Murambatsvina. The Operation was intended to destroy all illegal

settlements in and outside Harare and those that were left homeless returned to the rural areas and some with nowhere to go were built substandard houses provided by the government in areas such as Hopley. This case must be understood in the broader setting of the urbanisation catastrophe in Africa. It is also worth mentioning that filthy housing situations were witnessed in Mbare, South of Harare where residential flats such as Nyerere and Shawasha have become health dangers.

One of the residents of Matapi in Mbare, Mr Kondwelani, commented that "maflats aya originally haafaniri kugara vanhu vakawandisa sezvaakaita izvezvi. Mazhinji acho ma (room 3 x 5 meters) anofanira kugara vanhu 2-3. There is nothing we can do because ma stands acho akudhura saka tongogara zvedu takawanda".

This clearly shows most of the citizens residing in these poor living conditions consist mainly of the urban poor whom cannot afford the high land costs for residential areas.

The problem of housing in Zimbabwe has also been confirmed by the Ministry of Local Governance, Public Works and National Housingwho elaborated that there are nearly 1.2 million people on the government's national housing waiting list. This clearly shows that high population growth has not gone hand in hand with the provision of social services in the country.

However, the problem not only lies in the deprivation of adequate housing for the urban poor but also on the way this situation has challenged the attainment of sustainable development.

Rapid population growth in urban areas has witnessed the deterioration of many buildings such as the Mbare flats and the Highfield (figure 2a and b) high density suburbs because the population is straining the few resources that are remaining to such an extent that their continued existence is in question. I population growth has compromised the health and life expectancy of

the urban poor. Poor living conditions, overcrowding, poverty, lack of access to clean water and sanitation has been associated with the frequency of diseases such as Malaria, Typhoid and Diarrhea. It has been argued that less than 50% of the urban population in Harare has access to clean water (National Water and Sanitation Inventory, 2009). Above all, these conditions make women and girls susceptible to sexual abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, child marriages and unwanted pregnancies hence withdrawing affirmative action to achieve women empowerment

Figure 2) Poor housing conditions in Matapi Flats, Mbare 2015



Source: field work 2015

Figure 2shows the poor housing standards in Mbare (Matatpi Flats). The figure shows that the flats have not been given attention in terms of renovation.

Figure 3 poor housing standards in Mbare, 2015



Source: field work 2015

As shown by figure 3, high land costs have led the urban poor to make temporary settlements in Harare.

It is worth noting that sustainable development goals are hard to meet when there are devastating health challenges and generally, health cannot be maintained without cost-effectively sustainable development. Rapid urbanisation in Harare has seen the strain of social services such as the provision of health, clean water and proper sanitation. Social service providers are unable to keep up with the rapid changes in population structure thus putting pressure on a few resources available. Overpopulation has affected the distribution of clean water and solid waste disposal to such an extent that people now depend on dumping wastes along the streets causing pollution. For this reason the public become vulnerable to water borne diseases such as Diarrhea and other diseases that compromise their health.

Consequently, the urban poor are the most vulnerable to the health effects of urbanisation because they are affected by three groups of factors that is: low income, poor education, and malnutrition. Moreover, they are affected by circumstances such as poor housing,

overpopulation, pollution and poor access to clean water sources which accordingly brand them vulnerable to diseases. Finally, the poor are defenseless to emotional problems as they are underserved in terms of social support systems, urban violence and the effects of social segregation. These groups of factors combine to create a health risk in informal settlements.

The gender dynamics of poverty have also challenged efforts towards women empowerment in the face of rapid urbanisation. Research has shown that overcrowding in informal settlements has rendered women and girls exposed to sexual abuse often leading to unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortion, sexual exploitation, child marriages, malnutrition, drug and substance abuse among others.

In Harare generally, the government has been unable to cope with the rising healthy demands due to population growth. As a result sufficient funds are not injected in the maintenance of the available public services such as health. This ultimately translates into inadequate provision of medicines, trained doctors and nurses. Above all, it can be noted that Harare like other African cities has if faced with the challenge of HIV/AIDS which has strained the already depreciating resources available to deal with the pandemic. The effects of HIV/AIDS have been tremendous as many health care facilities such as the Central Parirenyatwa Hospital in Harare is currently hard-pressed outside its capacity due to the escalating HIV-AIDS patients in urban areas (UNAIDS 2011). In such a case increases in health costs, locally and nationally, leads to the diversion of resources meant for other development initiatives for the facilitation of health needs thereby crippling sustainable development. Above all, the effects of poverty lie further beyond the provision of public services but it also reduces life expectancy, production and incomes, therefore disturbing general sustainable economic development ability (UNAIDS 2011).

Health is crucial for sustainable human development, both as an inalienable human right and an essential contributor to the economic growth of society. Health is also a good summative measure of the progress of nations in achieving sustainable development. It contributes to national development through productive employment, reduced expenditure on illness care and greater social cohesion.

Research has shown that the aspects of quality education and learning services in Harare have deteriorated due to urbanisation thereby affecting efforts to achieve sustainable development. Education is one of the guarantees of quality education in that it builds future human capacity well equipped to improve the society. Nevertheless, cities in Harare have become too populated leading to pressure on educational resources. This scenario is best explained by the pupil to teacher ratio in Highfield and Hopley. The teacher to pupil ratio has been used as an indicator of quality education. However, questions rise when evidence in the two cities indicated that the ratio was between 35 and 55 in schools such as Harare High, Chirodzo Primary School, Mbare High School, Chitsere Primary School and Shingirai Primary School in Mbare. Highfield High 1 and 2, Kwayedza High School, Chengu Primary School and Rusvingo Primary School in Highfield thus affecting the dissemination of information between the teacher and the students effectively.

Zimbabwe as a country generally, has got a high population below the age of 15 but only has a few resources to cater for this population. It therefore means that schools have to compromise the available resources such as textbooks and furniture to cater for the growing numbers of students thereby affecting the quality of education. The situation is further aggravated by the fact that the government is incapacitated in terms of funds for investment in schools. In some instances sufficient funds are not assigned for the essential upkeep and administration of surviving

amenities. The general consequences are congested classrooms, lack of educational materials such as textbooks, unqualified and ill paid teachers among other problems.

It has been argued that the literacy rate in Zimbabwe is 98% (ZIMSTATS, 2015). However, it is of importance to note that most of the population only attained basic primary education making it difficult to survive in the current economic conditions thus affecting the ability of the populace to achieve sustainable development.

Urbanisation in Zimbabwe has also been characterised by rising levels of urban poverty. Poverty is defined as a state of long term deprivation. Poverty has also been confirmed by the Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Honorable Chinamasa in 2014 who stipulates that about one third of the Zimbabwean population residing in urban areas live below the poverty line. Also evidence from the Poverty Income Consumption Expenditure Survey (PICES) of 2012 show that almost 47 per cent of people living in cities in Zimbabwe were categorized as poor (ZIMSTATS 2012).

Due to the obstinate nature of urban poverty in urban areas proved by the lack of access to basic services, rapid weakening of the natural environment, unemployment, the rise of informal economic activities, and the drive towards sustainable development in Harare appears to be lost. Significantly, the achievement of sustainable development continues to be an unrealistic goal unless urban poverty is eradicated. Urban poverty in Harare as such has impeded the attainment of sustainable goals such as the aim to achieve the seventh goal of the Millennium Development goals (MDGs) to achieve environmental sustainability by the year 2015. However, urban poverty has threatened the efficient use of environmental resources such as the cutting down of trees for firewood and as a source of income.

Urban poverty also encompasses starvation, lack of access to education poor health conditions and poor living standards. The intensity of poverty in Harare can be shown in Mbare for example where basic commodities such as sugar, soap, bread, mealie meal, salt and vegetables have turned out to be a luxury and survival has become the major concern for the poor residents. These are issues present on people displaced by the effects of urbanisation such as high land prices who fail to adapt to the values of urban areas where social and economic development are the determinants of survival.

In these circumstances of poverty, women and children are usually the most vulnerable groups. There is a growing number of children roaming the streets of Harare who survive by begging on the streets or casual work. Their source of livelihood is extremely dangerous. Most of them have got little education, little hope for the future and are very susceptible to abuse especially girls. Prostitution and crime have turned to be the means of surviving. At this point, it is imperative to note that the ability of future generations to meet their own needs is compromised when poverty reduces their chances of attaining quality education to capacitate them with the right tools to meet their own future needs. Therefore, urbanisation is a threat to sustainable development.

Municipalities have the mandate to provide all urban services under the Urban Councils Act Chapter 29:15. However, it is sad to notice that even in the capital city of Zimbabwe, Harare to the least town in the country, service provision is true problematic. Research has shown that the water and sanitation situation in Zimbabwe has reached its climax. Although Zimbabwe has been a signatory to the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Seven (7) aimed at reducing the number of people without access to water and sanitation by 50% in 2015. However, reality has revealed that this objective seemeda hopeless one (Chigonda, 2011) (figure 3). In actual terms, results from the city of Harare's Water and Sanitation Inventory showed that instead of noting

improvements in the sector, the population that has access to safe water and sanitation declined from 81% in 1999 to 51% in 2009 and the situation is still to continue (National Water and Sanitation Inventory, 2009).

Figure 4Water shortages in Harare



Source: field work 2015

Harare City residents queue up for water in Highfield suburb, 2015. This indicates the water challenges that the city has been facing due to urbanisation in Harare.

These challenges can be attributed to the fact that the City of Harare is still using outdated infrastructure since its establishment in 1890.

The Department of water and Sanitation in Harare commended that, "The council has not been able to change the aging water pipes and pumps which it has since used without adequate maintenance. Urbanisation has also increased pressure on the few resources that the council still have thus making it difficult for the adequate provision of water and sanitation".

Consequently, this has led in the malfunctioning of the water and sanitation systems, confirmed by the sewage overflow in the streets of Mbare. Also the inconsistency in solid waste collection led to people dumping in open spaces along the streets as shown by the streets of Mbare suburb in Harare.

Figure 5Waste dump in Mbare, Harare, 2015



Source: field work 2015

The uncollected garbage in Mbare suburb of Harare City, 2015 is enough evidence paints the local government as a weakened authority because it seemsill-equipped to deal with waste disposalin the city.

Diseases like Diarrhea and dysentery have become the norm in local clinics and hospitals, specifically to children below 5 years of age. It can be said therefore that challenges of water and sanitation in Harare City are evidently matters of the present and future that will affect the realization of sustainable development goals.

Human security is also among the many indicators of social sustainable development. However, this factor has been threatened in recent times since Zimbabwe started experiencing rapid urbanisation. Urbanisation has brought together people of different languages and cultures

together resulting in the gradual decline of traditional social values and cultures. Juvenile delinquency and crime have become the social issues of the day.

Theft especially in Mbare and Highfield is the most common crime and some criminals have advanced to drug dealing and money laundering. Crime is facilitated by the incapacity of law enforcement institutions to avoid crime and the unspecified character of the big city which have become factually incontrollable. Therefore, poverty and social exclusion, weaknesses of law enforcing agents and justice systems multiple the challenge of insecurity with women, children and the elderly being the most victims of crime.

The sustainability of cities is also threatened due to the fact crime creates insecurity by threatening lives and properties, peace, social order and security thus reducing the quality of life of the citizens which impedes foreign direct investment and the expansion of existing businesses.

Harare experiences the worst transport difficulties in Zimbabwe. The larger part of transportation is delivered by the private sector. Rail transport has a duty to relieve the problem on the roads. Awkwardly, the Zimbabwe National Railway Company is incompetent, while the transport services such as roads are poorly maintained.

Urbanisation comes with the need for infrastructure development such as roads and residential areas. This promptly increases the number of motor vehicles which intensifies resource consumption and the level of air pollution negatively impacting on the environment and health conditions of the general population. An increase in motor vehicles gradually increases the overexploitation of resources in that fuel demands will also rise thereby posing a threat to the sustainable use of natural resources. The problem is further exacerbated by the fact that the existing transport facilities are poorly maintained, and investments in expanding this service are

inhibited by lack of financing. Consequently, traffic congestion especially during peak hours, inadequate public transport, crumbling roads (figure6) become the norm in the day to day transport service in Harare.

Figure 6, crumbling roads in Harare, in Highfield high density suburb, 2015



Source: field work 2015

The figure shows poor transport facilities in Highfield characterized by portholes and the crumbling of the tarmac surfaces.

Traffic congestion in Harare has also become a death trap especially during peak hours. The Traffic Safety Council of Zimbabwe (TSCZ 2012) revealed vehicle accidents in Harare increased from 20 676 in 2007 to 25 404 in 2010 and the number of deaths from 540 to 604 during the same year. Although current accident statistics are not available, chances are that they are higher due to deterioration of transport infrastructure. These have severe effects on achieving sustainable transport goals

## 2.1.2Economic Indicators of Sustainable Development

Economic sustainability means the provision of both present and future economic well-being.

Natural capital is central is achieving this goal paying particular attention to natural resources of economic value such as vegetation, soil, wildlife and bio-environmental system such as air and water.

Urbanisation in Africa is taking place without industrial development (Sandbrook, 1982). Zimbabwe is no exception of this incident and the country has been confronted with the challenge of providing employment to the growing urban population. Employment is particularly hard to find not only for the unskilled rural migrants but also for the graduates further increasing the unemployment ratio to 11.3% in 2014 (ZIMSTATS, 2014). The situation has been made worse by the implementation of economic policies such as the Structural Adjustment Programme (ESAP) which saw the retrenchment of many formal employees.

Employment needs saw the rise of the informal sector which ranges from the selling of second hand clothes, fruits, groceries, phones among other things (figure 6). Women are the most active participants of the informal sector and this has been the major source of livelihood for the urban poor. Statistics have shown that 3 to 4 million Zimbabweans earned their living by engaging in the informal sector, assisting another 5 million people (The International Labor Organization (ILO) 2005) whereas the formal economy employed approximately 1.3 million people (ZCTU 2005).

Figure 7Informal employment in Mbare, 2015



Source: field work 2015

The figure shows the mushrooming of the informal sector in Mbare, where every street is congested with groceries, fruits, uniforms and other household goods. This also is a clear indicator of the unemployment challenge in Harare.

Another important dimension of sustainable development is the fair distribution of resources to the general population. However, the situation was different when it comes to the 2014 National Budget (table 2). The budget shows an allocation of 40.5% on Water and Sanitation, 23.9% on Transport and Communication, 21.7% on Housing, 12.7% on Health, 12.8% on Education, and 9.5% on Social Services.

However, it can be argued that the budget distributed to social services is irrelevant, particularly at a time when the health delivery system is deteriorating and compromising life expectancy in Harare which is estimated to be 55.4 years for males and 55.97 years for females (ZIMSTATS, 2015). Furthermore, it can be noted that the 40.5% budget allocated to water and sanitation services is not reflective of the current water and sanitation distribution system in Harare.

Improper budgeting on the maintenance of the water and sanitation infrastructure is apparent in the deteriorating water supply and sewage schemes. Streets in Harare are characterized by broken sewage pipes and tanks with overflow of sludge onto the streets in residential areas especially in densely populated informal settlements.

Considering the gap between the budget allocated to social services such as health, education and housing, it becomes questionable whether the budget allocation does not meet the requirements of the service or rather it is because of the mismanagement of funds or corruption in this case.

In addition, the poor housing conditions in Mbare, Highfield and Hopley clearly indicate that the service is not adequately budgeted for and this is also reflected by the 2015 National budget which only allocates 21.7% to housing services. The budget allocations for education, health and transport explain better why there are many challenges in achieving sustainable development in Harare in the face of rapid urbanisation.

## Table 2. Sectors that have benefited from the budget disbursement

Table 2 Capital Budget Performance to October 2014

Sector	Us \$m	% utilization
Energy		0%
Transport & Communication	12.4	23.9%
Water & Sanitation	37.3	40.5%
Housing	17.8	21.7%
ICT	6.1	21%
Health	6.8	12.7%
Education	6.1	12.8%
Social Services	0.1	9.5%
Agriculture	119.9	43%
Furniture & Equipment	0.9	10%
Vehicles	1	15.7%
Contingent Liabilities	23.2	98.7%

Other Capital Transfers	20.8	66.5%
Other Capital Expenditures	16.1	43.4%

Source: Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (2014)

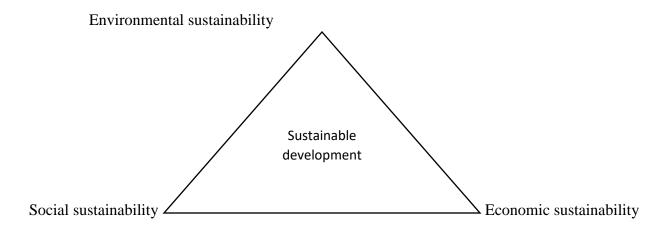
It is also important to note that there is less access to power supply in Harare. Substantial proportions of houses in the city have inadequate power supply. Recent surveys have indicated that the residents of Mbare and Highfield only have less than 12 hours a dayof power supply. The situation is even worse taking into account places like Hopley where there is no electricity. The residents have resorted to the use of firewood, paraffin and gas for domestic cooking. Of the three, the most used is firewood which according to the residents is cheap and can be easily found in the nearby bushes however, the consequences of deforestation are either not known to them or the need for a source of energy overrides the need to protect the trees to them. Inadequate power supply is also one of the major challenges being faced by businesses which are largely depended on power supply. It has been noted that due to this, businesses have been forced to connect generators as standby for their electricity supply requirements. Currently, realizing a continual power supply in Harare still remains a dream. Sustainability is challenged in this regard because if the situation still persist, the only few industries would consider relocating to other countries where their power supply needs are not interrupted resulting in many people losing their jobs.

## 2.1.3 Environmental Indicators of Sustainable Development

Rapid urbanisation in Harare has challenged environmental sustainability. There is a close relationship between the environment and urbanisation in that the environment does not exist in a

vacuum. Environmental sustainability in the context of urbanisation means that our social and economic activities have to go hand in hand with the carrying capacity of the environment. It can also be viewed as development that delivers ecological, social and economic services to the populace without affecting the viability of natural resources on which the provision of these amenities rest on (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, 1994).

Figure 8 The 3 Pillar Concept of Sustainable Development



Source: Brundtland Commission (1987)

In trying to explain the concept of sustainable development, the (Brundtland Commission, 1987) came up with the three (3) pillar concept that our social and economic activities have to happen within the capacity of the environment but however, one cannot do without the other. Sustainable development according to this model focuses on preserving ecological services. It also encompasses the fact that planet development must improve quality of life without necessarily having to consume more resources.

Research has shown that urbanisation in Harare creates the need for residential space which is often characterized by the clearance of large tracts of land to fulfil this need. Land is a scarce resource thus the development of residential areas require the use of existing agricultural or forest land for the development of new housing areas. This action is associated with a variety of environmental problems such as loss of biodiversity, permanent habitat loss, pollution (water, land, visual and noise) and deforestation and the devastation of wetlands. It can be noted that the biologically rich habitats are destroyed as the space is transformed into residential zones as well as areas for informal activities. The need for residential land also comes with it the loss of biodiversity altering the biochemical cycles therefore affecting the sustainability functioning of ecosystems that depend on biodiversity (Tillman, 1997). In addition, poor waste disposal in the city has seen the deposition of waste on fragile ecosystems whilst raw materials must be extracted from the same habitats.

Inadequate power supply and power costs in Zimbabwe mean that urban zones now rely on firewood for their household energy needs. This has resulted in rapid deforestation in areas surrounding urban areas. Selling firewood has become part of the informal sector. This is in an effort by the increasing urban inhabitants to aggravate themselves from the yokes of urban poverty. The use of firewood continues to be on the rise in Harare because power supply has been unreliable and expensive for countless households. Trucks of firewood were encountered in Mbare where the selling of firewood has become a major source of livelihood.

As land is cleared for housing space, industrial zones, and for firewood, carbon is released into the atmosphere. This greatly plays a role in the problem of the greenhouse effect, subsequently resulting in global warming. In urban areas, temperatures are usually warmer than the surrounding areas creating an urban heat island due to tarmac surfaces. The burning of fossil

fuels for electric energy generation for domestic and other urban uses and traffic flow emit greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide that heat up the atmosphere. Traffic jamming increases the generation of exhaust due to traffic delay and this has been another major environmental problem in Harare.

The concrete and sealing off of much of soil cover change the natural drainage systems causing land erosion. Rapid population growth fuels the competition between diverse land uses. Whereas new infrastructure is needed to cater for the growing urban population, land is also required for other resolves like agriculture and biodiversity conservation (Eriksson 1998).

However, it is important to note that environmental sustainability means that resources should not be over used beyond the capacity of the natural environment but the above evidence from Harare has shown that maintaining environmental sustainability in the wake of urbanisation is a difficult task since urbanisation has intensified pollution, deforestation, climate change, loss of biodiversity and soil erosion among others.

#### 2.1.4Institutional Indicators of Sustainable Development

Research in the three suburbs indicated that there is lack of community participation in the matters that affect these communities in the face of rapid urbanisation. It is important to note that community participation has become an indicator of sustainable development because participation promotes the decision making of the things that affect people's day to day living. However, the survey indicated that the community is not involved in the decision making of the things that affect their lives through education.

The study reflected lack of proper information dissemination as the major reason behind lack of participation. People are hardly aware of their rights such as the right to clean water and proper

sanitation. This is because the community is not given the chance to lay out their views. A perfect example emerges from the radical Operation Murambatsvina of 2005 which was characterised by gross human rights violations as the people were forced to demolish their own houses. As a consequence, many were left homeless and were forced to relocate to areas of unhealthy conditions.

Also the interviews highlighted that the population shows lack of interest in the day to day decision making of the country and for this reason they have learnt to adjust to every situation that may be affecting them. A good example of this can be noted in the way that citizens in Harare have adjusted to shortages of water and sanitation, power supply, medical facilities and transport problems among others. Water shortages have seen the drilling of boreholes and storing of water in large barrels. Poor waste disposal has seen the dumping of waste along the streets as well as burning it. Power shortages has seen the shift to firewood as the major source of energy and as of late the use of gas as a source of energy thereby threatening environmental sustainability. This affects sustainable development in that the underlying causes of poverty and deterioration of social services which exist in the community are not addressed hence sustainable development goals such as poverty alleviation, the attainment of education, quality health, adequate housing, and environmental sustainability among other factors.

## Chapter summary

This chapter managed tried to describe the expanding nature of the urban problem in Zimbabwe with a particular reference to Harare, the capital city. This has been due to the failure to bridge the developmental gaps between rural and urban areas in Zimbabwe has made migration a continuous process. However, this continued rapid movement has not kept pace with the

development of the city to meet the needs of the growing population thus there is a growing gap between the demand and supply of services. The study argues that, increased population growth stresses the City father's ability to provide social services such as adequate housing, access to primary health care, quality education, employment, clean water and sanitation and lastly but not least, transport and communication services. All these factors make it difficult to realize sustainable development in Harare urban. It is therefore necessary to pay special attention to the challenge of rapid urbanisation in Harare so that urbanisation can be reduced. It is at this point that the researcher discusses some responsive measures that could be put in place to deal with rapid urbanisation in Harare.

# CHAPTER THREE: FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE FACE OF URBANISATION IN HARARE URBAN

## **Chapter Introduction**

There is clear evidence that the capital is facing the challenge of rapid urbanisation and primacy. As the prevailing challenges of urbanization in Harare have been exhaustively examined, the researcher propose the following ways recommended to confront these challenges so as to guarantee sustainable development in Harare.

## 3.1 Responsive measures

The strengthening of rural-urban linkages is also crucial in reducing urbanisation in Harare. It is important to note that this process will not essentially reduce the general rate of urbanisation but then again will lessen population density in the capital city. The major attribution of urbanisation in Zimbabwe generally are existing inequalities between rural and urban Zimbabwe. People move from the rural areas in search for better service provision and employment which are hardly met in the rural areas to towns where these services are better accessible although this is not always the case. Dealing with this challenge of urbanisation therefore requires the government to amend these imbalances. In order to do this, the researcher proposes effective policy formulation aimed at promoting physical development for infrastructural facilities for the provision of social, economic and political services such as quality educational facilities, good transportation and communication systems, convenient water supply, efficient health facilities, power supply, industrial development, as well as the decentralization of other government offices in rural areas. This has the capacity to reduce inequalities amid the urban and rural areas thus curbing rural to urban migration.

However, it is crucial to note that the major threat to sustainable development in Harare is poverty. The term poverty, can be defined as a state of deprivation and this is a situation regarded insufficient to lead a decent life. (Chinamasa 2014) indicates that about a third of the population in Zimbabwe population live below the poverty line with only a few having access to clean water and sanitation services, education and access to primary health care. An examination of poverty in Zimbabwe reveals that poverty threatens political stability, social unity and environmental equilibrium. The researcher therefore advocates for the eradication of poverty if sustainable development goals are to be realized through agricultural aid, the creation of public works and promotion of entrepreneurial activities. The issue of poverty therefore needs a critical analysis and be accorded undivided attention worth it if triumphing sustainability is something to go by.

With housing being one of the biggest urbanisation challenge facing Harare today efforts should be made towards affordable housing. This initiative can be enhanced by the recycling of industrial, domestic and agricultural wastes to provide low cost building materials that are affordable, sustainable and environmentally friendly. An example of this method is the Zim Alloys mine in Gweru which is now making low cost bricks from the asbestos factory waste.

It is also crucial that different stakeholders such as the Urban and Regional Planning department, National Population Services, Civil Society Organisations, private operators and the Ministry of Environment among others should be encouraged to work with the Harare City Council. This is so because urban local bodies such as the City of Harare and the Ministry of Local Governance in Harare will remain guarded in their ability to improve their operations through investments to improve service provision systems. The main aim is to come up with an urban renewal strategy involving any stakeholder's views and comments to meet the challenges of suitable transport,

water and sanitation, waste management services, environmental conservation among others. It is also important to make sure that this strategy checks and amends all damages apparent in the escalating of semi- permanent buildings in Harare.

It is also important for the city to use the existing resources in a sustainable manner so that there is no continued over exploitation of resources for example instead of clearing land for residential land or industrial expansion the city authorities should make use of building upward buildings like flats that would accommodate a lot of people while at the same time consuming a few resources. At the same point it is also necessary that adequate care and resources should be dedicated to the upkeep of present services for enhancing the livability of Harare such as the renovation of the Mbare flats which needs great recovery and expansion and not just the construction of fresh infrastructure. At the same point it is also important that the City authorities make use of dilapidated buildings for residential and industrial activities so that they can be maintained.

Sustainable development in Harare can also be achieved through the equal distribution of resources. This is so because since the attainment of independence in Zimbabwe, urban areas have often provided better employment opportunities and high income compared to the rural areas. This unequal resource distribution trend has acted as a pull factor to the rural based unemployed population to the city. Realizing the consequences of this occurrence, the government has in the past embarked on cohesive rural development projects aimed at redistributing resources to the rural population. A good illustration of this, is the decentralisation policy which was aimed at decentralizing industries and administration offices to rural areas. However, this strategy failed because it was not supported by the provision of adequate transport and communication facilities hence the need to redistribute resources to the rural

population. Equal resource distribution also requires political will and a good example of this lays in the idea that if ever rural-urban income differences should be lessened, additional urban investment has to be reduced.

Since the leading economic activity in the rural areas is agriculture, efforts should be directed to the provision of necessary incentives that would spur agricultural development. This could be in the form of giving zero-interest loan to agriculturalists, affordable agricultural tools and most importantly the provision of a good market for agricultural produce and effective transportation facilities. This can help reduce urbanisation in that a thriving agricultural sector provides employment opportunities in the rural areas thus curbing rural to urban migration. It can also act as a source of income to the rural poor hence reducing urbanisation. In the same manner if the problems of urbanisation though rural-urban migration are to be thoroughly dealt with is to be a more diversified economy should be adopted for employment creation. It requires policies and programmes that address traditional issues of land use and tenure, together with those that improves the marketing of agricultural produce, credit and agricultural inputs, and this would absolutely help to reduce the flow of rural-urban migration.

It is also necessary for the government to implement policies that attract foreign direct investment (FDI) as well as the creation of an enabling environment for private sector investment in the local economy. This is meant to reduce the high levels of unemployment rates in the capital city. National and local policies have an important role to play. In this regard for it is difficult for businesses to be competitive if land costs are high and if bribery and administrative inadequacies coupled with delays and poor services are present. Dealing with urbanisation therefore requires a thorough revision of some of the policies implemented by the government and equip them enough to attract foreign direct investment.

Another way of promoting sustainability in the city of Harare in the wake of urbanisation is through environmental conservation. This can be through the Local Government Ministry. The ministry should promote the use of the 3R's that is Reduce, Reuse and Recycle as its waste management policy for instance, waste should be used as a resource for example as raw material for construction.

In order to promote sustainable development in the face of urbanisation on the environment there is need to evaluate the various laws in charge of environmental management in Zimbabwe such as the Environmental Management Act (EMA) and all other pieces of legislation responsible for environmental monitoring in the country. According to the researcher, these laws ought to be more effective in terms of obedience, implementation and punishment.

The practice of good governance is another fundamental way of dealing with urbanisation in Harare. This type of governance ensures the adoption of sustainable development approaches. Sustainable approaches to development bring together all facets of development from social, economic, and environmental and facilitates the equal distribution of resources and the delivery of satisfactory social amenities like primary healthcare, quality education and decent housing among others. At the same point, the devolution of power and responsibilities can also be crucial in fostering sustainable development in Harare urban. This is so because the effectiveness of local authorities such as the City of Harare depends on their ability to formulate policies and decide the ways to implement them devoid of instructions from the Central Administration

Nevertheless, one disappointing characteristic of governance in Zimbabwe is the Top-down approach to policy formulation and implementation and often this approach has frequently wiped the urban poor of their self-respect. It is important therefore that the government adopts the Bottom up Approach to policy formulation which engages the community before a policy is

implemented. This is because policies that are implemented without community participation often lack the support from the people it is intended to hence the promotion of community participation is necessary for the achievement of sustainable development.

Dealing with corruption and mismanagement of funds is also crucial in dealing with urbanisation in Harare. This is because, despite investments channeled towards service provision, the problem of water shortages and bursting sewage pipes still persists. The major question however, is if the City authorities are using these investments for the right reasons or not? For that reason, achieving sustainable development requires institutional transparency and accountability during policy implementation at the national and local level.

Continued reliance on the ancient Regional and Town Planning Act by the City of Harare has shaped the authority's operations. It is important to note that the City of Harare is yet to adjust to the changing population structure of Harare and still uses the ancient resources that were used before independence when the rate of urbanisation in Harare was very low. As a result, there is poor service provision such as lack of proper housing, transport facilities and proper sanitation. It is therefore necessary that the council revises this Act as well as organizational reform meant to enhance the efficiency of the Harare City Council in a bid to provide good services that can meet the needs of the current population.

Institutional capacity is another important element for fostering sustainable development in Harare. The lack of technical skills has made the realization of sustainable development only a dream in Zimbabwe generally. The study indicated that has indicated that many social service authorities in Harare such as the Traffic and Transport Department does not have anyone in the department with the relevant qualifications and experience in issues to do with sustainable transport in the city. The researcher therefore argues that the people with the relevant

qualifications should be put at relevant positions that can meet the demands of the day. Having the right people at the right positions will also promote long term planning and impede events going beyond intended development plans. This will also promote extra determination as a base for the building up of upcoming needs of the city.

There is a growing realization that the present public transport system in Harare which is dominated by minibuses is unsustainable. However, local authorities in Harare have been making efforts to reduce and improve traffic flow but with no success. The researcher therefore recommends the adoption of mass transport systems to curb the problem of transport. There is need to introduce government controlled mass transport in the form of big buses and the revival of rail transport. This is so because the current public transport system is inefficient as they are operated by individuals. Buses and trains accommodate a lot of people, making them resourceful for as transport mechanisms eventually decongesting the city. This system cuts the emission of carbon dioxide that would otherwise have been emitted from the convectional bus system and individual vehicle use.

The transport infrastructure in Harare is in need of great improvement. Evidence from the city indicate that the transport authority has been using pre independence infrastructure which has not been maintained the authority is incapacitated financially to deal with the transport problem. In this case the researcher proposes that the city authorities responsible for transport services to invest in the development of urban transport infrastructure as well as repair the old transport resources that the city has. The City of Harare could invest in transport infrastructure through increasing road capacity that is through the introduction of dual carriage systems. The authority also needs to improve traffic regulatory systems, the filling of portholes, promote the implementation of efficient traffic law. Of most importance, is to promote the effectiveness of

traffic police to make sure that rules and regulations apply all transport operators with the same penalty and ensure that the system is not manipulated through bribery.

## **Chapter Summary**

This chapter discussed some of the responsive measures that the City authorities could adopt as they try to manage urbanisation. The survey showed that the authorities have been incapacitated to deal with urbanisation due to a variety of factors such as the continued reliance on ancient infrastructures, reliance on the Regional and Town Planning Act, lack of financing, lack of skills among other factors.

The researcher therefore argues that the City authorities should engage different stakeholders so that they can come up with a long term development strategy that is not biased on one sector. Also, the study suggest that the city authorities should address the developmental imbalances between rural and urban areas. In order to reduce carbon emission, the government should also introduce mass transport systems. It is also important to note that transparency and accountability on the part of city authorities should be promoted. In this way, urbanisation in urban Harare can be reduced whilst sustainable development is being promoted.

## 4.1CONCLUSION

The major aim of this study was to examine the impact of urbanisation on the sustainable development of Harare. The survey defined urbanisation as a situation in which the larger part of the population share residing in urban areas in a country far exceeds the rural population share. This situation is evident of the Zimbabwean situation in which approximately a third of its national population share resides in urban areas. Sustainable development can also be defined as development that meets the needs of the present generations but also living room for the future generations to meet their own needs.

It is also important to note that sustainable development as a concept has its main indicators which are access to health, education, adequate housing, employment opportunities, and conservation of biodiversity, community participation, and adequate transport and communication systems among other factors. It is important to note that the provision and the access to these indicators are reflective of a sustainable urban.

Urbanisation in Zimbabwe began in 1980 when the country attained its independence. During the colonial periods, urban areas were reserved only for the white population and a few blacks who managed to secure employment in the established industries. The settler government control urbanisation through the implementation of influx control measures that restricted the black population from moving into cities. At independence came the need to redress these imbalances by the new government which aimed at redressing these imbalances.

This was followed by the removal of all restrictions on rural to urban migration thus witnessing the flocking of the rural population to urban areas. The study highlighted that the major reasons behind these movements are mainly economic. Urban areas have always offered better

employment opportunities and high income earnings than rural areas. People are then attracted to move to urban areas to increase their income earnings and improve their standards of living.

Agriculture has been the major economic activity in the rural areas and currently due to its collapse people move in order to sustain their social life.

However, it is important to note that the speed of urbanisation in Zimbabwe outpaces the development of the country's cities. Rapid population increase has compromised the adequate provision of social services such as land, water and sanitation, health and education. This is so because the few resources that were meant to cater for a stipulated population are now being spread to meet the needs of the growing population. However, the results are not always satisfactory as resources such as water and power supply are over stretched resulting in power and water shortages. This threatens the ability to achieve sustainable development goals such as the increase of people with access to water and sanitation services.

Urbanisation has also intensified the competition for land in Harare gradually resulting in high land costs. These land costs have in turn limited the ability of other citizens to secure better housing in the city and have resorted to the construction of temporary structures or overcrowding in poorly maintained houses such as the Matapi Flats of Mbare.

Due to this explosive situation, the government has also tried to come up with strategies such as the Operation Murambatsvina, introduction of Housing Schemes, the growth point policy, the barning of second hand transport facilities among others. This was in a bid to try to reduce urbanisation in Harare. However, the way the strategies were implemented lacked support thus resulting in their failure.

It is at this point that the study also highlighted on some of the responsive measures that the city authorities could make use of in order to reduce urbanisation and promote sustainable development in Harare. To reduce urbanisation in Harare, the first port of call is to address the causes of urbanisation in Harare. As such, the government should redress the developmental imbalances between rural and urban areas in Zimbabwe. It can also promote agricultural activities that make up the backbone of the rural economy.

It is also important that that the government engage all stakeholders so that they can come up with a long term strategy that promotes urban renewal in the face of rapid urbanisation. Above all, the city authorities should revise the various policies that govern their operations such as the Regional Town and Planning Act so that they can open way for new ideas that can address the urbanisation challenge and foster sustainable development in Harare.

With all being said it can be said that urbanisation has threatened the sustainable development of Harare. This urbanisation crisis, if not given adequate attention, could result in grave consequences to such an extent that the realization of sustainable development in Harare becomes jeopardized.

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## Appendix I

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR ON "URBANISATION AND ITS IMPACT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN HARARE".

Good morning/ afternoon Sir/Madam, it is my honor to meet you with confidence that you will assist me in every way you can in doing my research. I am pleased to inform you that the information you will provide on urbanisation and its impact on sustainable development in Harare is only for academic purposes and therefore will be treated with privacy so please be open togive your opinion on the topic. Your assistance will be significantly valued.

## **SECTION A**

Title of Interviewee	
Date of Interview	

## **SECTION B**

- 1. What do you understand by urbanisation?
- 2. What do you think are the major causes of urbanisation in Harare?
- 3. What, in your perspective, do you understand by sustainable development?

- 4. What are the major challenges of urbanisation in Harare?
- 5. What do you think are the challenges facing the Harare City Council due to rapid urbanisation?
- 6. Do you think urbanisation has an impact on sustainable development, if so, how?
- 7. What are the measures put in place by city authorities to deal with urbanisation in Zimbabwe?
- 8. What do you think should be done to control the situation of rapid urbanisation in Zimbabwe?
- 9. What, in your opinion can be done to foster sustainable development in Harare in the face of rapid urbanisation?

Thank you for taking your time to answer the questions