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**EXAMINATION OF CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESETTLED
SUGARCANE FARMERS UNDER THE FAST TRACK LAND REFORM
PROGRAMME: CASE OF MKWASINE ESTATE**

BY MUNJANJA MUROMBO (R111983E)

**A dissertation submitted to the Midlands State University to the Department of Local
Governance Studies in partial fulfilment of the Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in
Local Governance Studies**

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Declaration: I hereby declare that this research is a product of my own individual, industrious, and original efforts. The work has not been presented elsewhere for academic or any other conceivable purposes. The views of others used to augment or clarify issues have duly been acknowledged.

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The undersigned certify that they have read and recommend to the Midlands State University for acceptance of a dissertation entitled: Examination of challenges and opportunities for resettled sugarcane farmers under the fast track land reform programme: case of Mkwasi Estate

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DEDICATION

This research is dedicated to my passionate parents Mr and Mrs Murombo, my brothers and my sisters.

To my friends-I love you all you make me smile whenever I think of you guys

Mollert Murombo my little sister may God bless you and I wish you to climb greater heights

Abstract

Land reform programme remains a subject of controversy in various sects of the society. The invasion of sugarcane estates in Chiredzi district being one of the controversial ones with many some citizens believing it was a threat to national economy as new farmers are exposed to various challenges which affect production as compared to former white farmers. The other side of the society believing that fast track land reform brought opportunities for the new farmers to enhance economic growth. This is the background to this research in which challenges and opportunities for fast track resettled sugarcane farmers are examined as well as the solutions to the challenges faced. The objectives of the study were to find out the challenges, opportunities for resettled sugarcane farmers and solutions to the challenges faced by the farmers. The literature review in the research was provided on the definition of land reform, why land reform was done in Zimbabwe and also on the objective of the research. That is literature on the challenges faced by resettled farmers, literature on the opportunities for resettled farmers and solutions to the challenges faced by farmers. The research utilised both qualitative and quantitative methods in data gathering and analysis. The study population was 238 farmers and 12 managers from Mkwazine and a sample of 20 farmers and 5 managers was selected using the simple random sampling technique. Questionnaires and interviews were used to collect data and were complimented by field observations. Data was presented in both qualitative and quantitative methods. Questionnaires were distributed to sugarcane farmers and interviews were done with Mkwazine Estate company managers. Research findings reflected that farmers are facing challenges like lack of equipment and resources, health and education challenges and lack of support from both government and private organisations. Opportunities identified by the research include investment and industrialisation opportunities as well as employment and land ownership opportunities. The research also made recommendations which include increased government support, sugarcane farmers representation and reengagement with international organisations to enhance productivity among other recommendations.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

IMF	:	International Monetary Fund
NGO	:	Non-Governmental Organisation
RDC	:	Rural District council
ZSDA	:	Zimbabwe Sugarcane Development Association
ZFSA	:	Zimbabwe Sugarcane Farmers Association
ZSA	:	Zimbabwe Sugar Experiment Association

LIST OF TABLES

Table1: Study population distribution.....	22
Table2: Target population and description.....	23
Table3: Questionnaire response rate.....	29
Table4: Interview response rate.....	30
Table5: Organisations supporting sugarcane farmers.....	41
Table6: Farmers' associations and farmers represented.....	43
Table7: Mkwasiine MMG division production series.....	44

TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure1: Fluctuations in Fallow hectares.....	32
Figure2: Sugarcane under maintenance and scattered sugarcane bundles.....	33
Figure3: distribution of equipment among farmers.....	34
Figure4: Farmers assistance in capacity building.....	36
Figure5: Impact of agriculture mechanisation programme.....	38
Figure6: Land ownership for farmers.....	40
Figure7: Previous employment status for sugarcane farmers.....	42

LIST OF PLATES

Plate1: Sugarcane under maintenance.....	33
Plate2: Scattered sugarcane bundles.....	33

CHAPTER 1
RESEARCH INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter serves to introduce the research, provides the background information about the research, research area and it also provides the research objectives and research questions that guide the researcher. Also looks at the delimitation that is stating the area of research. Limitations to the success of the research are also mentioned together with the solutions to the challenges. Also important in this research is the statement of problem which identifies the problem under research. The chapter also looks at the significance of the study by pointing out why the research is important.

1.1 Background

During the colonial period, the white regime grabbed land from the black majority with many facilitation legal instruments being formulated and endorsed in order to make the land seizures a success for example the Land Apportionment Act. This led to imbalances in land occupation with the white minority occupying almost 70% of the land and the black majority with less than 40%. Most of the Land owned by the whites was for commercial farming and this led the country to have an Agro based economy. At the Lancaster House Conference in 1979, the willing buyer willing seller principle was adopted as a measure of land redistribution. The British government was responsible for funding the process in order to make the land redistribution a success. The agreement was breached when a government came into power and refused to fund the process as was the agreement, arguing that the agreement was made by the Thatcher government not the Labour Party. A formal letter explaining the breach of the 1979 agreement was addressed to the then Minister of Agriculture, Kumbirai Kangai by the British government explaining that it could no longer fund the process and giving reasons why. This did not go well with the Zimbabwean Government and the issue was brought to the attention of the international community in a bid to find the way forward including the 1998 Donor Conference. According to Mabaye (2005), 48 countries attended the 1998 Donor Conference in Harare, the Zimbabwe

government tried to appeal for help from the international community and donors but the appeal failed to yield good results. The donors only pledged 100 million US dollars instead of the 1.1 billion US dollars proposed by the Zimbabwean government.

The government decided to launch the fast track land reform around the year 2000. Nationalists and war veterans led the programme and the phase seemed unorganised. However, the government later on involved the Ministry of Lands in the programme to give new farmers offer letters. Two main models were introduced that is the A1 farmer and A2 farmer models, with A2 farming being of more commercial purpose. This was the similar case in Chiredzi district which was also affected with the programme with the main activities being in sugar estates of Hippo valley, Triangle and Mkwesine as well as surrounding conservancies. These estates were previously owned by white farmers who had over 400 hectares of land.

Mkwesine Estate falls under natural farming region five thus farming is most viable under irrigation due to droughts. Mkwesine Estate relies on water from Manjirenji dam and Siye dam as a support dam. Mkwesine Estate as the target area for the research was previously owned by Tongaat Hullets under the name Mkwesine Estate private limited but now Tongaat Hullets is only a service provider they are no longer involved in farming business since all the land now belongs to the black farmers. This is different from Hippo valley and Triangle where there is coexistence of black farmers and white farmers. Former Tongaat Hullets (estates) workers now own their small farms either in Mkwesine Estate or surrounding dry lands and some of these employees have their working contracts terminated or voluntarily choose to leave their jobs for sugarcane farming. This has created a hostile relationship between sugarcane farmers and the former landowners and has led to sabotages from Tongaat Hullets. Tongaat Hullets have the power to sabotage because they own the sugarcane mills in

Hippo valley and Triangle Estates thus Tongaat is the miller for Mkwesine sugarcane farmers.

1.2 Statement of the problem

The launching of fast track land reform in sugarcane Estates was of great controversy with some section of the society believing that it was unplanned thus it exposed resettled farmers to various challenges others believe that it provide opportunities for resettled sugarcane farmers to develop. Also the fast track land reform was followed by a decline in sugarcane yields and this further raised some doubts and questions among the public. The research seeks to bring light on the situation by exploring the challenges faced by resettled sugarcane farmers, opportunities as well as the solutions to the challenges.

1.3 Research objectives

- (1) To find out the challenges faced by newly resettled sugarcane farmers under land reform programme.
- (2) To find out the opportunities for fast track resettled sugarcane farmers.
- (3) To find solutions to the challenges facing new black farmers.
- (4) To explore the achievements made by resettled sugarcane farmers.

1.4 Research questions

- (1) What are the challenges faced by resettled sugarcane farmers?
- (2) What are the opportunities for fast track land reform resettled sugarcane farmers?
- (3) What can be the solutions to the challenges faced by resettled sugarcane farmers?
- (4) What are the achievements made by resettled sugarcane farmers?

1.5 Significance of the study

This study is of greater importance considering the fact that it can be used as a point of reference by the future generations in both academic and practical activities. Also since the country is struggling with some challenges from land reform the research will explore the challenges and bring out solutions to those challenges thus it is a significant study. More so from this point it is important to note that the research can be used for correctional purpose that is to correct areas which were not correctly done during the land reform process. The research also identify opportunities for development in the area of study by examining the opportunities for the resettled farmers in the current set up in the district .lastly it extents and strengthen the understanding of the researcher on the topic.

1.6 Delimitations

Mkwasine Estate is located in Chiredzi District which is screwed to the south eastern corner of Masvingo Province, Zimbabwe. In the north it shares boundary with Bikita and Zaka Rural District. It is located about 120 km from Masvingo town. Its geology is quiet good with black reddish sodic soils and alluvial soils from river deposits. The main area of research is Mkwasine Estate where sugarcane farming is being totally done by fast track resettled sugarcane farmers.

1.7 Limitations

Lack of resources especially financial resources seems to be a major threat during the research because there is need for transport and accommodation fees during the research. The only way of finding transport to move around Mkwasine Estate is to hire a car and that seemed expensive. The solution to this challenge was to select a small sample thus to

minimize the sample size so that there will be less transport costs and stationary costs for the questionnaires.

Also poor road networks impose a limitation to the research because some parts of the research area are not accessible especially the marginal areas of Mkwazine Estate where there are only roads for high clearance vehicles and tractors. The solution was to hire a tractor to allow faster movement from place to place since cars were not suitable.

More so ignorance by people also imposed a threat. Some people are ignorant to activities that seems not beneficial to them. Thus the researcher had to walk around with some items like exercise books and pencils to offer the children of the respondents.

Fear of political victimisation by the respondents was also a challenge. The target area is a stronghold of the ruling party thus people in the area regard opposition supporters as minors. Thus people avoid interviews and questionnaires fearing to be investigated on their political background leading to loss of important information. The solution was to have a letter from the elected councillor in the wards and to walk around with the councillors to instil confidence in the respondents.

Also language barrier was a challenge in some parts with Shangani people who could not understand Shona and English. Due to this communication challenge important information can be lost thus the solution was to walk around with an interpreter.

1.8 Summary

The chapter is of greater important since it makes the debut of the research thus it gives the outline of the research as it states the research objectives and research questions which will be guiding the researcher throughout the research process. The chapter give the background

knowledge on the study and provide information how the problem under study came about. It also demarcates the area of study giving relevant details on the area of study. The chapter finally outlined the limitations or challenges which affect the research. The completion of this research introduction paves the way for the researcher to proceed to literature review which is the second chapter.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter serves to give various views and thoughts by other scholars on the opportunities and challenges for resettled sugarcane farmers. It also brings clear how various scholars have proposed on the objectives of this research. It gives the views of other writers about the various challenges faced by resettled farmers; the solutions to the problems and it also give the views of some scholars pertaining why the fast track land reform was done in Zimbabwe together with the critic.

2.1 Land reform

According to Adams et al (2004), land reform is the redistribution of land, remodelling of land rights and improvement of land administration in a system that fits the demands of the political system promoting the reform. Adams et al (2004) also argued that there are three major land reform initiatives that is

- Actions involving direct redistribution for productive use.
- Land policy reform that strengthens tenure security.
- Actions that improve the efficiency of the land market

Adams et al (2004) again defined land reform broadly to include reforms that increase the ability of the rural poor and other socially excluded groups to gain access to land and to exercise full control over land. Land reform also defined by Berstein (2002) as the statutory distribution of agricultural land and its re-allocation to the landless people. Land reform consists of measures aimed at a more equitable and fair distribution of agricultural land for sustainable use. Matunhu (2011) also added that In Zimbabwe the land reform programme

was considered a way of redressing the colonial imbalances in land holding at the same time serving as a barometer for empowering blacks to fight poverty and underdevelopment.

Prosterman and Hanstad (2003) added that land reform beneficiaries in developing countries can generally be grouped into 3 categories that is (1) rural households who lack ownership to the land they cultivate in traditional less developed countries. (2) Rural households who live on state or collective farms in communist or formerly communist countries. (3) Rural households who occupy public lands or indigenous lacking demarcated lands. Prosterman and Hanstad (2003) also believe that for land reform to be successful it should be of sufficient scope and universality to reach most potential beneficiaries.

Land reform in Zimbabwe was driven by two major models that is the A1 and A2 Models. According to Mabaye (2005) The A1 model was government's top priority. Its reason was to resettle people from the overcrowded communal farm areas on to acquire farm lands. Mabaye (2005) also described the A2 model as a model designed to establish small to medium sized commercial farms operated by black indigenous people. Thus according to Mabhena (2010) A2 Model was more of commercial farming while A1 in some cases do subsistence farming.

Moyo(2004) argued that land reform in Zimbabwe is said to have addressed, to some extent, the country's worrisome legacy of historic injustice and social and racial inequities and broadened the base of economic participation that existed between the black majority and the white Minority.

2.3 Why land reform programme was done in Zimbabwe.

Neil (2003) argued that land reform in Zimbabwe can be justified for both ethical and economic reasons. Neil (2003) added that not only is it right to redistribute land to the dispossessed, but experience of earlier programmes in Zimbabwe and countless others around the world demonstrate the potential for major agricultural improvements through such reforms. Hence land reform in Zimbabwe was influenced by the success of reforms held in other countries.

Zimbabwe Embassy (2003) reported that Consistent with previous policy pillars, the framework for the Fast Track was based on the compelling national economic and social imperatives, of poverty eradication and faster economic development. With agriculture as the base of the country's economy, land was therefore regarded as the catalyst for economic growth, as per the popular slogan, "land is the economy, and the economy is the land". Thus land reform was implemented to promote economic development.

The business tribune Zimbabwe (2004) argued that the move to target the Large Scale Commercial Farming (LSCF) sector for resettlement emanates from the study commissioned by the World Bank in the 1990s. The study showed that only 30% of this sector was utilized and could potentially absorb further settlement by small-scale farmers. It implies that small scale farmers can produce more than large scale farmers hence the need for land reform in Zimbabwe was to increase production.

Mabhena (2010) argued that one striking feature of all the above debate and many other contributions to the discussion on land reform in Zimbabwe is that land reform is often seen as synonymous with agrarian reform, namely the extension and consolidation of crop production. In this scheme, improved crop production has been seen as the main plank for rural development.

2.4 The challenges faced by newly settled black farmers under land reform.

Land reform in Zimbabwe has got its own challenges and limitations towards success thus Adams et al (2004) argued that it is important to note how quickly the benefits of land redistribution can be reversed. The failure of United Kingdom and Zimbabwe to reach agreement on the refinancing of the land redistribution programme between 1990 and 1999 has had serious ramifications for poverty in Zimbabwe. The price paid by the people of Zimbabwe for the cessation of an orderly land redistribution programme has been huge. Long overdue land redistribution has now occurred in an anarchic and violent manner with immense damage to the economy and indifference to human rights and the rule of law. It has resulted in an unprecedented humanitarian crisis, farm unemployment and widespread poverty. The challenges vary from place to place.

2.4.1 Droughts and lack of skills and knowledge

Matunhu (2011) argued that Masvingo is a drought prone province with some of its parts falling under farming region 5 and this to some extent complicated production by new resettled farmers who both lack resources and education/skill to surpass the droughts thus farmers settled under the fast track land reform are facing challenges from droughts which reduces their yields. He further explained that some of the resettled farmers lack the knowledge to do farming under those drought conditions like what the former white farm owners were doing. Rukuni and Wyckoff (1991) also supported that low/ uncertain rainfall and frequent droughts makes farming a risky and low return venture in some areas. Thus resettled farmers in Zimbabwe faced challenges from recurrent droughts which led to poor production in resettled areas. . A research by Muchara (2010) shows that most of the farmers were settled in farm areas without considering the knowledge and skill base of a person but rather on a 'first come first serve' bases such that most of the farmers lack skills and knowledge.

2.4.2 Poor roads and infrastructure

More so poor roads and infrastructure is a challenge in resettled areas. Mutema (2012) argued that poor road networks in newly settled areas is a challenge to local economic development since it makes the places inaccessible thereby complicating development in the area since Infrastructure development is a key component in local economic development. He also added that resettled farmers are poorly resourced leading to poor production and low income such that new farmers fail to pay taxes. This goes in line with the business tribune Zimbabwe (2004) which argued that most important causes for the slow uptake of both A1 and A2 plots has been tenure insecurity and lack of infrastructural development. Most of the resettled people in the A1 model have bemoaned the lack of basic and essential infrastructure needed in new areas of human settlement, such as boreholes, schools, clinics, shops, roads and dip tanks. Most Fast Track beneficiaries have cited the lack of these infrastructures.

According to Charumba (2010), road condition is a critical factor in agricultural commodity marketing thus he states that in his research in Mwenezi district scotch carts remain the basic transport in the resettlement and rural areas which are normally constrained by poor roads and transport thus poor road networks and poor transport is a major challenge in resettlement areas.

2.4.3 Poor education and health facilities

Mutema (2012) argued that distanced and poorly resourced schools are a threat to sustainable development in resettled area since education is a critical component of sustainable development when considering the Millennium development goals. He also added that poor health facilities in resettled areas is a threat to local economic development since the few clinics in the areas are poorly resourced and distant from other people and to him health is a key component of development. Thus poor education facility is a challenge in resettlement areas.

2.4.4 Insecurity of Tenure

The World Bank (2003) argued that in many developing countries insecure land tenure prevents large parts of the population from realising the economic and noneconomic benefits, such as greater investment incentives, transferability of land, improved credit market access, more sustainable management of resources among other things. This is another challenge faced by resettled farmers since some farmers still hold caretaker letters waiting to receive their offer letters. This is most common in A1 farms where double allocation still exist.

2.4.5 Lack of resources

Mutema (2012) listed lack of inputs (seed and fertilizers) as a major challenge facing resettled farmers in Fairfields farm. He also added that even schools and clinics are poorly resourced in resettlement areas thus lack of resources for farmers is a threatening challenge. Berstein (2002) argued that resettled farmers are poorly resourced leading them to fail to undertake necessary activities at their farms. This again strengthens the view that lack of resources is a major challenge for resettled farmers.

2.4.6 Lack of support from government and private organisations

Berstein (2002) also cited issues of lack of education, skills and resources as major challenge towards the success of new farmers. He argued that the farmers are poorly resourced to undertake necessary activities in the farms. This is also strengthened by Scoones (2009) who cited that NGOs pulled away from resettled areas for political reasons thus many farmers rely on their own connections, enterprise and labour. Weideman (2004) added that NGOs and World Bank influenced land reform in South Africa during policy formulation, staff support and funding thus the pulling out of NGOs in Zimbabwe situation was a threat to the programme. Thus Mlambo (2006) argued that agricultural finance also makes it possible for the appropriate amount of labour and other resources to be deployed at the right time for optimal agricultural production. Thus again making it clear that lack of financial support is a major challenge for resettled farmers.

According to Scoones (2009), resettlement areas in Masvingo were largely for cattle ranching with limited infrastructure, low levels of employment and only a few arable pieces of land that are irrigated low veld areas. He also added that the poor without start up assets have been unable to develop and they continued to live in poverty and rely on support from friends and relatives. This is because they lack support from government and private organisations leading them to rely on support from relatives and friends. Mutambara et al (2013) also supports the view saying that private public partnerships which assisted economic growth and development were disturbed following the displacement of former Large Scale Commercial Farmers

Charumba et al (2003) argued that the fast-track resettlement process has been criticised in coruscating terms by the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) as well as by the independently owned press, almost all Zimbabwe's former donors, at times the ZFU(Zimbabwe Farmers' Union), ICFU (Indigenous Commercial Farmers' Union), many NGOs, and some chiefs. It is too hasty, incoherent, haphazard, unsystematic, chaotic, and lacking in rigour. Charumba et al again added that the criteria for settler selection has been untransparent, vague and subject to cronyism and there has been frequent and sustained criticism of the 'dumping' of people on land without adequate infrastructure (roads, shops, clinics),and with insufficient provision of inputs, credit and marketing assistance and agricultural extension advice.

2.4.7 Underutilisation of land

Mabhena (2010) noted that most households depended on seasonal labour in the former commercial farms to enhance food security and financial support and currently have no source of income thus they suffer from food shortages especially during the drought years. He further argued that thus land reform was a necessity to safeguard national 'sovereignty', 'freedom' and 'democracy' at the expense of productive utilization of land.

2.4.8 Political environment

Berstein (2002) is of the view that though land reform in some sense was meant for development purposes, it is also important to know the political influence of the programme considering the time and environment in which land reform in Zimbabwe was done. Scoones (2009) added that land allocation during the process was affected by political manipulation especially in rich areas where political muscles were used to get land. This was done without considering the capability of the people to be resettled. It is the purpose of this study to find out the challenges faced by sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine Estate.

2.5 Opportunities from land reform

According to Scoones (2009), fast track land reform is not only associated with failure and chaos but it has also elements of success. Land reform was given a bad image by the media. According to him this major restructuring of course had knock on consequences for agricultural sector as a whole since any radical reform will of course have a transitional phase as markets, production system and trading priorities adjust. Thus in this way there are also opportunities from land reform in Zimbabwe.

2.5.1 Land ownership

The fast track land reform is to some extent argued to have opened opportunities for resettled farmers. Matunhu (2011) argued that fast track land reform brought a series of relief to rural people in Masvingo because some of the people didn't have enough and fertile land to do their subsistence farming and this left them under extreme poverty. With the coming of fast track land reform they now own their pieces of fertile soil and this enabled them to produce beyond expectations with some of them turning to even commercial farming. Thus Mabheba (2010) argued that economic development also entails eradication of poverty and creation of employment among other things.

Shumba (1999) argues that some of the former farm workers in the area now are land owners with their own pieces of land with offer letters given to them by the government and he sees it as a better reflection of development compared to previous landless peasants. This is supported by Posterman and Hanstad (2003) who argued that agriculture land still constitute the primary source of income, status and security for over half of a Billion families outside the developed world. Thus land is critical for development. According to the World Bank (2003), land for most of the poor in developing countries is the primary means of gathering livelihood and a main vehicle for investing, accumulating wealth and transferring it between generations.

FAO (1999) argued that Land is a symbol of wealth, status, power, autonomy and a key factor for sustainable development thus land is crucial for development. Moyo (2011) pointed out that 1 million hectares of Masvingo province (18.3% of the province) remains as large commercial farms including large conservancies and estates in the low veld which are in production.

Bajaj (2013) argued that farmers expressed great satisfaction with the land reform programme after earning a bumper harvest in the 2013 farming season with hope to develop into fully equipped commercial farmers. Thus land reform improved the yields earned by local people. Also Manheru (2014) reported that the scheme by government to give A1 famers offer letters to access loans from banks is a great step towards the success of the land reform programme since farmers lacked capital to boost their production from the beginning of the programme. Mabhena (2010) also argued that some beneficiaries in his research claimed that access to additional land had greatly enhanced their livelihoods.

2.5.2 Employment opportunities

Posterman and Hanstad (2003) argued that “ land reform has generally not led to increased crop production and improved nutrition for the poor but it also produce other crucial benefits

like reduced urban migration in search for jobs...grassroots empowerment...creation of wealthy.” Meaning that land reform have created farming as a major form of employment in society.

2.5.3 Provides the basis for industrialization

Land reform in some cases set the base for industrial development. The World Bank (1993) states that by redistributing land rights to the most important rural assets, East Asia’s post war land reforms did much to reduce poverty in the country side. At the same time, land reform helped to set stage for rapid industrialization that could be labelled as ‘the East Asian miracle’. The World Bank also added that the links between land reform and industrialisation are that farmers will be able to send their children to school and those children will acquire the knowledge to drive industrialisation. This Study therefore seeks to establish the opportunities created for resettled sugarcane farmers under the fast track land reform programme in Mkwasine Estate.

3.6 Solutions

2.6.1 Adapt to new technology

Matunhu (2011) argued that Masvingo district is a drought prone area and is the major challenge facing the resettled farmers in Masvingo. According to Rukuni and Wyckoff (1991) in order to boost agricultural productivity there is need to adopt new technology like crop and seed diversification in drought areas. Mlambo (2006) also added that, agricultural research, comprising the generation of knowledge and information and the development, testing and adaptation of new technologies, is critical in achieving increased agricultural production.

2.6.2 Expansion of irrigation schemes to resettled areas

According to Rukuni and Wyckoff (1991) seasonal rain fed agriculture is a challenge for house hold members to earn income throughout the year thus there is need for irrigations for consistent water supply. Matunhu (2011) highlighted that Masvingo province is a drought

prone province and these droughts are leading to low produce from resettled farms thus there is the need for expansion of irrigation schemes to those resettled areas.

2.6.3 Increased government support

Mlambo (2006) argued that the government can support the farmers through research, extension, marketing and credit and these are critical to sustainable agriculture and development. Mlambo (2006) added that in agro based economies like Zimbabwe, the government have to support the agricultural sector. This can enhance the performance of the economy in a positive way.

2.6.4 Reengagement with international organisations for support

To prove the importance of these international organisations such as World Bank and International Monetary Funding (IMF), Saturnino et al (2009) argued that a closer examination of the World Bank's land reform and land-related policies and projects can contribute to a better understanding of the agency's role in land property rights reforms and rural development initiatives in the country. Weideman (2004) also argued that NGOs and World Bank influenced the land reform in South Africa through assistance during policy formulation and through staff support and funding. Thus it is important to reengage with those international organisations.

2.7 Research gaps

The literature covers most of the solutions to the challenges faced by resettled farmers and major focus is given on the need for government and private organisations support but the literature ignores much about the representation of resettled farmers in at various levels. There must be farmers' associations in every line of production so that farmers are fully represented at international markets especially those small scale commercial farmers. Trade unions like Commercial Farmers Union (CFU) are failing to represent all the farmers from

various divisions like cotton farmers, sugarcane farmers and Tobacco farmers. Thus representation of farmers through unions and associations must be strengthened.

Also the literature ignores the issue of farmers' commitment towards improved production. Major blame is given to lack of resources and lack of knowledge for affecting productivity in resettled areas but in some cases resettled farmers lack commitment to farming because some areas are lying idle because the owners of the land are also employed in other organisations where they are committed to thus due to lack of commitment by the resettled farmers there is low production in resettled areas.

2.8 Summary

The chapter provided views from other scholars in complimenting the main issues contained in the research. Various definitions from scholars were cited defining issues like land reform and local economic development. The chapter went deep into the explanation of the research objectives and questions by using the views proposed by other scholars in order to make the objectives clear. Citations in this literature review were drawn from books, journals, unpublished dissertations, internet publications and newspapers among other sources. The completion of this chapter paves the way for the researcher to venture into the next chapter that is research methodology.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter looks at research methodology. The chapter also discuss research design, it reveal the target area and target population. Sampling is also highlighted in this chapter covering sample design, sample size and sampling techniques. The chapter also include sources of data, research instruments, data collection procedure and presentation.

3.1 Research Methodology

Various scholars have given various definitions for research methodology. Baird (2003) is of the view that research methodology constitute research activity, how to proceed in research, how to measure progress and success. According to Bell (2001) it includes various methods used in data collection and analysis in trying to show how the objectives of the research were achieved. The researcher adopted the definition by Tsvere (2008) that research methodology is a criterion in which facts are elicited and structured in respect of possible sources and in a meaningful and clear manner that will enable the researcher to achieve the goal of data analysis. He added that it is a systematic way of solving research problems and making sure that methods and techniques used are relevant.

3.2 Research design

Research design was defined by Maree et al (2007) as a plan or strategy that moves from philosophical assumptions to selection of respondents, data gathering techniques and analysis to be done. In simple terms research design involve planning and designing of data gathering. Creswell (2003) viewed it as a plan of action that links assumptions to specific methods. The research used both qualitative and quantitative designs.

3.2.1 Quantitative research design

It is defined by Selltic et al (1962) as a research technique in which scientific and numerical data is statistically gathered and analysed. Quantitative method is more reliable or efficient because it deals with quantifiable data. This simply means that in quantitative research there is use of measurable data like percentages and other statistical data. This method was used to determine the sample size by calculating about 10% of the total population to represent the whole population. Measurements were also done in relation to yield obtained per year by sugar cane farmers allowing to make comparisons and make judgements on the numerical data. Also calculations were done in obtaining the number of farmers affected by a same challenge in their resettlement area and converted into the percentage of total number of farmers.

3.2.2 Qualitative research design

Qualitative design is defined by Luck and Rubin (2005) as a descriptive approach to research that give the results in a descriptive interpretation. Morgan (1980) argued that it shares the theoretical assumption of interpretive paradigm. It interprets the views of the society in a descriptive way. That is to make research findings understandable through description. Leedy and Omrod (2005) argued that qualitative methodology is a methodology that is used to answer questions about the complex nature of a phenomenon with the purpose of describing and understanding the subject from the views of the participants. Ngulube (2009) argued that qualitative research seeks to understand how and why things came about, for example in the research it helps to understand why land reform resettled sugarcane farmers are failing to develop and what can be done to enhance productivity.

The major strength of qualitative research is that it provides in depth information and intimate details about the case being studied. In the research it provide in depth information on the challenges faced by resettled sugarcane farmers or it provides information on the success

recorded by resettled sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine Estate. However it is regarded to be time wasting since it needs time to analyse data and relate it to the theory, the researcher adopted it because of the fact that it gives descriptive and in depth data which allowed him to describe the situation and environment in sugarcane farming industry and compliment in explaining the statistical data.

3.3 Study population

Study population is described by Frenkel and Wallen (1996) as all the individuals that the research intends to get information from and make conclusions.

Table 1: study population distribution.

CATEGORY	TOTAL NUMBER	SAMPLE SIZE
Sugar cane farmers (A2 Farmers) in Mkwesine	238	20
Mkwesine Estate company managers	12	5

Source: research data 2014

3.4 Target area

Target area has been described by Best and Khan (1993) as a geographical area which is described by its boundaries and also important is that its activities are relevant to the research. In this case the target areas were Mkwesine Estate where sugar cane farming is done and have also affected by land reform.

Table 2: target area and description.

TARGET AREA	AREA DESCRIPTION
Mkwesine Estate	This is a sugarcane Estate totally affected by fast track land reform

Source: research data 2014

3.5 Sample

Sampling has been described by Ngulube (2009) as a way of selecting members of a group to represent the group. It is difficult or impossible in some sense to collect data from every individual in the research area since it is costly in terms of both time and resources thus there is need to use sampling techniques to properly select representatives in the community.

According to Morgan (1980) sample is a group of subjects from which the researcher collected information. Sampling involves selecting number of people from a population so that by studying and analysing the data from those people it will give a general impression of the total population. In the research samples were taken from sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine Estate and officials from Mkwesine Administration offices.

3.5.1 Sample design

Zikmund (2000) referred sample design as an outline of criteria used to select research respondents. According to Churchill (1995) it involves selection of respondents and determining sample size. In this research respondents were chosen from farmers and officials from Mkwesine administration offices.

3.5.2 Sample size

Kumar (1999) argued that sample size can be determined by using statistical techniques. That is calculating sample size using certain percentage of total population. Kumar (1999) argued that at least a sample of 10% to 20% of the target population is feasible for results accuracy.

the sample size feasible for the study has been:

10% of the targeted population

That is 10×250 divided by 100

25 respondents

3.5.3 Sampling Methods

The research adopted two sampling methods which are probability sampling and non-probability sampling.

Probability sampling

According to Churchill (1995) probability sampling is whereby each member of a population has a known chance to be selected and included in a sample for example simple random sampling where respondents are randomly selected from the population. Probability sampling includes simple stratified, clustered and systematic sampling. This method has a strength that it gives equal opportunities for every person to be selected and it gives equal opportunities for groups in the society to be represented. The research utilised simple random sampling and clustered sampling under probability sampling.

Simple random sampling according to Summers (1995) this is where by respondents a randomly picked from the population and it does not give concern to issues of society groups like gender and age and occupation. Summers (1995) added that clustered sampling is whereby the sample population is grouped into clusters and representatives are selected from

every cluster. In the research the researcher acquired all the names of the farmers in Mkwesine and put name tags in a hat and 20 tags were picked from the hat and were the selected respondents. On clustered sampling, the researcher created 2 clusters from the target population that is Sugar cane farmers from Mkwesine and officials from Mkwesine administration offices.

3.6 Research instruments

These are data gathering tools used to collect information from samples selected. These include interviews, questionnaires and group discussions. Manian (1994) views research instruments as tools used by the researcher in finding solutions to a related problem. The researcher used questionnaires, interviews and observations to get information.

3.6.1 Interviews

It involves oral questioning of respondents for collecting information. Ngulube (2009) argued that interviews are in a better position to gather accurate information since the interviewer is able to see if respondents understand the questions and help to correct them and this minimize disadvantages. In this research, 5 officials from Mkwesine were interviewed since they were the ones capable to elaborate on the situation before land reform and the current situation in relation to their operations.

- *Advantages of interviews*

More questions can be asked and this brings about accurate information since the researcher can ask questions seeking for clarity. For example in the study the researcher can have a chance to ask for clarification on the relationship of fast track resettled sugarcane farmers and Tongaat Hulleets.

It is good in explanatory research where also behaviour of respondents can be observed for example the researcher can observe if he/she is not asking on confidential information especially on issues of previous records by Mkwasi Estate.

- ***Disadvantages of Interviews***

Sometimes personal interviews are time consuming as in this case the managers maybe responding to questions checking in their records thus more time will be needed.

3.6.2 Questionnaires

A questionnaire is also a common tool for data collection. Cohen (2000) argued that questionnaires are set of questions designed by the researcher to collect data from a sample. The researcher also used questionnaires and they were distributed by hand to the farmers in Mkwasi Estate. The researcher interpreted the questionnaire to the respondents. Both open end and close end questionnaires were used and were written in simple English. In closed questions, the respondent have to choose from predetermined answers and in open end questions the researcher is allowed to give their own responds and explanations. The assumption by the researcher was that all farmers were literate to respond to the questionnaires.

- ***Advantages of Questionnaire***

It keeps the respondent on subject since the respondent will be answering questions provided on the paper giving no room for unnecessary discussions.

There is no need for skilled interviewers because the researcher can personally distribute the questionnaires and wait for respondents without oral questioning.

Privacy in questionnaires encourage more accurate information because there are no names at questionnaires thus people can respond well since their privacy and security is secured.

- *Disadvantages of Questionnaires*

Respondents may fail to understand the requirements of the questions leading to irrelevant information.

It can be costly in stationary where 20 questionnaires including a number of pages have to be printed.

3.6.3 Observations

Observations were also used by the researcher in different situations. Some observations were used on road conditions and infrastructure, the researcher also made observations from respondents' homesteads especially on farm equipment and resources. Also observations in this research can be made on the utilisation of land in the farms whereby the presents of more idol land mean there is underutilisation of land. The main advantage with observations is that the researcher got to see the situation on the ground in person and there is no pretence.

3.7 Sources of Data

Primary and secondary sources of data were used.

3.7.1 Primary data source

This is the most reliable source of data since it originate its data for the study at hand. This source includes data from questionnaires, observations and interviews. These are the primary sources used in the research. Bryn and Bell (2000) referred primary data as the original data that is obtained in the study at hand.

3.7.2 Secondary data source

This involves information that has been previously used for other purpose but the researcher can use it to supplement the current study. This source was also used by the researcher by extracting relevant literature from library, journals, newspapers and internet publications. Also some sources from Mkwasi Estate administration offices were used.

3.8 Data collection procedure

This refers to the steps taken in the process of collecting data. The steps taken were as follows, questionnaires were distributed in hand by the researcher and the respondents were given the whole day to respond and again the researcher collected the questionnaires. The researcher made appointments with the selected officials for interviews and the interviews were scheduled for 2 days and were done in person no phone calls or email conversations were used.

3.8.1 Data presentation

The researcher quantified the data, analysed it and it was presented on pie charts, graphs, tables and narrative descriptions. This was done for it to be easier to understand, compare and pass judgement. Actual frequencies and percentage distributions were used for comparison.

3.9 Summary

The chapter looked at the research methodology used by the researcher. It highlighted the research design and the information gathering tools used by the researcher. This chapter also noted on the advantages and disadvantages of research tools like interviews and questionnaires. Also not to be side lined in this chapter are the sources of data that is the primary source and secondary source.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter covers questionnaire response rate, interviews response rate, overall responds rate of both interviews and questionnaires. Observations are also included in the chapter. The presentation of results and analysis of data is also covered in the chapter based on the research objectives. In this research data was collected from Mkwasine Estate and was divided into two segments, Mkwasine resettled sugar cane farmers and Mkwasine Estate officials. Also covered is the comparative discussion and analysis of the results obtained.

4.1 Questionnaire response rate

The response rate for the questionnaires distributed was as follows

Table 3: Questionnaire response rate.

Respondents	Sample size	Male informants	Female informants	Returned questionnaires	Responds rate %
Sugar cane famers	20	15(3)	5(1)	4	80%
total	20	15(3)	5(1)	4	80%

Source: Research data 2014.

Key: (number) = returned questionnaires

From the above presented results it shows that 20 questionnaires were distributed to sugar cane farmers and from those 20 questionnaires 15 were completed and 5 were returned. 3 of the returned questionnaires were from male respondents and only 1 was from female side. It shows that responds rate for the males was 80% and for female was 80% giving an average

response rate of 80%. The similarity in the response rate for male and female can reflect that they have a same level of understanding and were both given adequate chance to participate.

Also the table shows that male respondents were more than female respondents with 15 males and 5 females. This is a reflection that males dominates more land than women and also can reflect that commercial farming is associated with males than females thus Boyce et al (2005) argued that land reform can affect disparities between male and female From these results the response rate of 80% provided with reliable data and this gave credibility to the research.

4.2 Interviews response rate

Interviews were contacted in Mkwesine Estate and the response rate is evidenced in the table below

Table 4: Interview response rate

strata	Targeted respondents	Interviewed respondents	Response rate
Mkwesine estate managers	5	3	60%
total	5	3	60%

Source: research data 2014

From the table, interviews were done with the managers from Mkwesine Estate Company. 5 informants were targeted but only 3 informants were interviewed. All the 3 informants were males. This presents a 60% response rate from interviews. Purposive sampling was used in selection of interview respondents since the researcher assumed that the positions they occupy enable them to give relevant information about the research.

4.3 Overall response rate for questionnaires and interviews

The overall response rate was as follows.

15 questionnaires from 20 targeted representing 80% + 3 interviews from 5 expected representing 60%.

80%+60%

140/2

= 70% overall response rate

The 70% response rate validates the research findings as a full representation of the challenges and opportunities for resettled sugar cane farmers in Mkwasi Estate. This agrees with Crouch et al in Gudyani (2013) who argued that valid data for research should be at least above 10% of the research information thus for this research 70% is guaranteed a valid data for research.

4.4 Field observations

Data gathered through questionnaires and interviews was complimented with field observations. The observations made reflect that only 10% of the visited farmers had adequate farm equipment for sugar cane farms like tractors, haulage trucks, rippers, cranes and ploughs among other equipment. Also it was observed that only 70% of visited farms were in full utilisation. It was also observed that there was continuous decline in the hectares of fallow areas (land not in use) which have been rising since the start of the fast track land reform programme. The following graph shows the pattern in which fallow hectares have been fluctuating in Mkwasi Estate MMG division since 2001 and were observed during the interviews at Mkwasi Estate administration offices.

Fig 1: fluctuations in fallow hectares

Research data 2014

Fig 2: sugarcane under maintenance and scattered sugarcane bundles



Plate 1: Sugarcane under maintenance



Plate 2: Scattered sugarcane bundles

From the above graph it can be observed that at the beginning of the fast track land reform more land was being utilised because most of the land by then was being used by white farmers under the brand Mkwazine Estate. As the time goes on the fallow were rising because most of the new farmers lacked equipment needed for sugarcane farming thus they were failing to utilise their land.

The picture 1st picture shows sugarcane being maintained and it shows the cutting stage and matured sugarcane ready for harvest showing that the sugarcane was being properly maintained. The other picture shows a poor harvest in a sugar cane field with scattered bundles spaced between 30 to 40 metres rather than the expected 10 to 15 metres showing that there is poor production.

4.5 Data presentation and Analysis

(a) Challenges faced by resettled sugar cane farmers in Mkwesine

Data collected from sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine and the Estate managers proves that sugarcane farmers are facing many challenges. The first challenge faced by farmers is lack of farm equipment and resources, from the research it was noted that sugarcane farmer must have key equipment such as haulage truck, tractor, disc plough, ripper and a crane. Most of the farmers do not possess such equipment thus they rely on hiring leading them to lose more money due to overcharging. The graph below shows the distribution of farm equipment among sugar cane farmers in Mkwesine.

Fig 3: Distribution of equipment among farmers

Source: research data 2014

From the graph only 10% of the farmers own haulage trucks and cranes meaning that there will be challenges in the transportation of sugarcane from farms to the mills in Triangle Estate and Hippo Valley Estate since most farmers have to use hired trucks or the train which is slow. The unavailability of tractors, disc ploughs and rippers which are low to the

highlighted percentages again implies that cane maintenance and ploughing is a difficult task for most farmers who have to hire rippers and ploughs to plant new cane. This goes in line with Mutema (2012) who argued that resettled farmers are poorly resourced leading to poor production and low income.

The other challenge noted from the research was that of distanced schools and health facilities. Mkwasi secondary school is the only secondary school in the Estate thus students from areas like Gurudzi village, Gomboi village and Tafara village have to travel more than 10 kilometres to access education. There is also 1 clinic in central Mkwasi that is Mkwasi clinic. This again reflects that farmers staying in villages like Eland and Tafara have to travel over 10 kilometres to access medication. Mutema (2012) again argued in support of this view saying that distance and poorly resourced are a threat to sustainable development in resettlement areas. Thus the issue of health and education facilities is a challenge to farmers in Mkwasi Estate as they are distanced from other farmers.

The research data can also verify that poor road infrastructure and communication is another great challenge for sugar cane farmers in Mkwasi Estate. The researcher observed that most of the roads are now in bad condition with pot holes all over the roads. Also from the interviews the researcher learned that the road linking section 13 farms with the cane loading Zone have been closed due to its bad condition after the 2013 excessive rains. This has led tractors carrying sugarcane to the loading zones to use longer routes. This is strengthened by Charumba (2010) who argued that road conditions is a critical factor in Agriculture commodity thus farming cane be affected by road conditions. Also some remote sections of the Estate have limited access to networks like Econet and Netone For example section 11 farms which are located to the northern outskirts of the estate where network is limited and only found limited for Econet users. Thus road infrastructure and communication impose a challenge to some sugarcane farmers.

The data from the questionnaires also reflects that lack of knowledge on sugarcane farming is another challenge faced by resettled sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine. Research data reflects that most farmers have not done any form of workshops or learning about sugarcane production with Agriculture Extension (Agritex) officers and Zimbabwe Sugar experiment Association (ZSA) being reliable for this service of assisting farmers with knowledge. The chart below shows the percentages of farmers assisted by Agritex, ZSA and those who had received no education assistance.

Fig 4: Farmers assistance in capacity building

Source: research data 2014

From the pie chart it can be noted that ZSA and Agritex officers managed to assist 30 % Of the farmers with ZSA assisting 18% and Agritex assisting 12%. The other 70% of the farmers received no assistance meaning they are lacking knowledge about sugarcane farming. Hence with this ratio of 30% with knowledge and 70% with no knowledge it can be witnessed that lack of knowledge is a challenged faced by resettled sugar cane farmers. thus Matunhu (2011) supports the view arguing that resettled farmers in Masvingo lack knowledge to cope with droughts which affect the province thus they lack knowledge on farming in the new conditions.

Unfair market is also another challenge faced by resettled sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine Estate. The research established that Tongaat Hullets is the miller of sugarcane from Mkwesine farmers thus Tongaat Hullets is the only buyer of sugarcane from Mkwesine, the company is also the only miller of the cane and the farmers expressed that this monopoly and

lack of competition have led them to suffer from high milling charges and also have found their sugarcane being lowly priced and their sugar cane selling price being reduced in the recent years. From the interviews with Mkwesine Estate managers it was learnt that in the year 2011 sugar ended the year being sold at US\$720 per tonne, 2012 it ended at US\$920 per tonne and a major fall in 2013 ending US\$520 per tonne thus this monopolised industry of sugarcane have proved an unfair market for resettled farmers who had a single customer. Farmers again reflected that Mkwesine Estate company which provides services for farmers like accounts for revenues, ordering of inputs, domestic water provision and record keeping is a branch of Tongaat Hullels and this further extends the dominance of Tongaat Hullels in sugar industry thereby creating an unfair market environment for resettled farmers considering that Tongaat Hullels previously owned large parts of those resettled farmlands leading them to sabotage new farmers. This is being done through high milling charges, lowering of sugarcane buying price and over charging of services like haulage of sugarcane and ordering inputs.

Also lack of support from the government and private sector is another challenge faced by resettled sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine. The research established that the government had little interference in helping sugarcane farmers since the launch of the fast track land. This is further strengthened by Scoones(2009) who argued that NGOs pulled away from resettled areas for political reasons leading many farmers to rely on their own connections, enterprise and labour. The major contribution to sugarcane farming by the government was during the Agricultural mechanization programme in 2009 when tractors were given to sugarcane farmers but only 20% of the farmers benefited. The following chart represents the impact of the mechanisation programme in sugarcane farming.

Fig 5: Impact of agriculture mechanisation programme

Source: research data 2014

The statistics on the chart reflects that the support by government through the agriculture mechanisation programme was not enough since only 20% of the farmers benefited excluding a large number of farmers. Farmers sited the reason that in 2009 when the mechanisation programme reached their district only a few farmers had offer letters for their farms and they were the ones eligible to access the help by government by that time. This evidence proves that there is lack of support in sugarcane farming comparing to other sections like Tobacco farming. Thus it is also a major challenge faced by farmers in sugarcane industry.

Farmers also stated droughts as a major challenge they are facing in their business. Mkwesine Estate is located in Chiredzi district thus in farming region 5. In support of this view Matunhu (2011) argued that Masvingo province is a drought prone province and this complicate production by resettled farmers. Since Mkwesine is a drought prone area they rely on irrigation and the water is drawn from Zaka district that is from Manjirenji dam. Farmers stated that since 2008 when excessive droughts affected the whole country the water levels in the dams lowered leading to the lowering of their water allocation. Records from Mkwesine administration offices proved that in 2012 Manjirenji dam water capacity lowered down to 12% and farmers normal allocation was cut by 90% meaning that if a farmer was allocated 500 mega litres of water a day he/she was getting 50 mega litres a day. This was a clear reflection that droughts impose a serious challenge to sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine Estate.

(b) Opportunities and successes from fast track land reform

Fast track land reform brought some opportunities to the resettled sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine. The most important opportunity established by the research was land ownership. Farmers in Mkwesine expressed their satisfaction with their land tenure and security of the land since 90% of farmers now hold offer letters (99 year lease agreement) to support their land ownership. They have been allowed to develop structure on their farms. Only 10% of the farmers are still using caretaker letters. The chart below represent land ownership titles among resettled farmers.

Fig 6: land ownership for farmers

Source: research data 2014

90% of the farmers have already signed the 99 year lease agreement with the government and most farmers explained that this type of land ownership is a great opportunity to them since it creates development chances for them. Thus the World Bank (2003) argued that land for most of the poor in developing countries is the primary means of gathering livelihood and for investments thus land ownership provide many opportunities for development.

Also interviews with the managers of Mkwesine Estate company has reflected that farmers now have access to loans from banks and they provided a table with the farmers on loan with various organisations.

Table 5: Organisations supporting sugarcane farmers

Organisation	Number of farmers on loan
Banc ABC	40
CBZ Bank	18

Susco organisation	53
Clarion	12

Source: research data 2014

In total 123 farmers managed to access loans from the above organisations. Banc ABC assisted with loans to buy tractors and pay employees for new farmers, CBZ Bank assisted with cash for farm development, Susco provided loans for ploughing and cane maintenance also offered loans for inputs like fertilizers and sugarcane seed. Clarion offered loans for farmers to pay school fees for their children and other home expenses. The explanation being that those organisations have assessed the outcomes from those farmers and are sure they will be able to pay their loans. Thus in this case land reform had brought an opportunity for sugarcane farmers to access loans for development purposes.

To sugarcane resettled farmers land reform had brought an opportunity for investments. Most of the resettled farmers reflected that since they started sugarcane production they have been able to buy and build houses and small shops in Chiredzi town. This support the view by the World Bank (2003) that land is the primary means of gathering livelihood and a vehicle for investing. From the questionnaire response and observations the researcher noted that about 80% of the visited households have a family vehicle and at least a house in town. This again strengthens the view by FAO (1999) that land is a symbol of wealthy, status, autonomy and key for sustainable development.

More so fast track land reform in Mkwesine Estate has created employment opportunities for both the farmers and their relatives. From the research only 70% of the farmers reflected that they rely completely on sugarcane farming as their carrier. 30% reflected that they are employed in other organisations and farming came as a chance.

Fig 7: previous employment status for sugarcane farmers

Source: research data 2014

From the analysis of that chart it is clear that land reform created employment opportunities for resettled sugar cane farmers in Mkwesine Estate. Also 60% of the farmers have recruited their relatives as their employees at farms and others at investments achieved thus land reform brought employment opportunities. Thus Posterman and Hanstad (2003) argued that land reform did not only increase crop production and nutrition but also reduce urban migration in search of jobs meaning that farming create employment for rural populace.

(c) Solutions to challenges by resettled sugarcane farmers

The research established that farmers in Mkwesine must form one strong association or union to represent them in their market. The research established that resettled sugarcane farmers are operating in an unfair market and expressed that there is poor representation. The research established that there are many sugarcane farmers associations in Mkwesine Estate representing sugarcane farmer and in this way they do not form a unified force against Tongaat since there is lot of bribery from Tongaat to convince some association leaders to support motions in favour of Tongaat Hulleys. The following table illustrate the farmers' association and their representation among farmers.

Table 6: Farmers' associations and farmers represented

Association	Number of farmers represented
ZSDA	54
Mkwesine Sugarcane farmers Association	30
Chipiwa Mill group Association	27
ZSFA	38

Source: research data 2014

This implies that there is unjustifiable number of associations leading to struggle for power since those associations may have various objectives and initiatives leading to divergence of efforts in their representation hence there is need for farmers to form one strong association to represent them.

Also there is need for increased support from the government and private sector. This idea came from the assessment made on the yields pattern of Mkwasiine MMG division and analysing the reasons behind the increase and decline in yields, fallow hectare and harvested hectares. The following table represent the production pattern of Mkwasiine MMG division from 2004 up to 2013

Table 7: Mkwasiine MMG division production series

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Allocated land	4880	4880	4880	4880	4880	4880	4880	4880	4880	4880
Hectares harvested	4087	2369	2410	2011	2041	2636	2636	2601	2820	3675
Tonnes harvested	303839	203589	194456	94236	81263	92456	95600	106876	183669	235530
T/Ha Harvested	74.3	85.9	80.7	46.9	39.8	35.1	36.3	41.1	65.1	64.1
Fallow area	793	2511	2470	2869	2839	2244	2244	2279	2060	1205
No of Farmers	184	193	228	228	238	238	238	238	238	238

Source: research data 2014

From the interviews with the Mkwesine Estate managers it have been explained that from the early years of land reform that is from 2004 tonnes harvested were high, fallow area was small and the tonnes per hectare were high. The explanation was that during that time some land still belonged to Mkwesine Estate company who were equipped and well financed thus production was maximised. Later on all those high tallies deteriorated as more black farmers occupied more land. The resettled farmers lacked equipment and finance to maintain the cane thus fallow hectares increased and total harvests decrease. From 2010 a slight increase started to be noticed in tonnes harvested and harvested hectares mainly because some farmers had benefited from Agriculture mechanisation programme. In 2012 major improvements in tonnes per hectare, harvested hectares and total harvest were witnessed due to the support from Banc ABC and SUSCO. This is a clear reflection that there is need for support from the government and private sector to enhance sugarcane production in Mkwesine Estate. Thus scholars like Mlambo (2006) argued that in agro based economies like Zimbabwe the government have to support agricultural sector.

4.5 Summary

The chapter focused on data presentation and analysis and it have been noted that from the research data sugarcane farmers are facing challenges of lack of resources, poor health and education facilities and lack of knowledge among other challenges. Farmers also have employment, investment and development opportunities. Solutions to the challenges are also presented in this chapter. The completion of this chapter provides the researcher with opportunity to proceed to chapter five.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter gives a summary of the research, major conclusions that can be made from the research and also give some recommendations to the problem under study.

5.1 Summary

The research examined the challenges and opportunities for resettled sugarcane farmers under the fast land reform using the case of Mkwesine Estate as the study area. Background of the fast track land reform was provided together with the farming background of Mkwesine Estate. The objectives of the study were to find out the challenges faced by sugarcane farmers, opportunities for sugarcane farmers and solutions for the challenges faced by resettled sugarcane farmers. Research questions were derived from these objectives. The research was also not without limitations thus the research limitations were also highlighted. Research significance was also included showing the importance of the research.

Literature review was also provided, that is the literature provided by other scholars on the study components. The literature was provided using the research objectives thus in this research, the literature was given relating to the challenges and opportunities for resettled

farmers and also on the solutions to the challenges faced by resettled farmers. Literature was also provided on the concept of land reform and why it was done in Zimbabwe.

The research methodology was also highlighted with research design also being outlined. Quantitative and qualitative designs were used. Sampling was also discussed with sample population, sample size and target area clarified. Sampling methods utilised include probability and non-probability sampling where by samples were taken using both judgemental and random sampling used. The research also used data collection instruments namely questionnaires and interviews, field observations were also taken into account. The research also used both primary and secondary data sources.

Data presentation and analysis also constituted part of the research. Data from interviews, questionnaires and observations was presented and analysed in relation with the study. Graphs and tables were used to interpret the data. Findings from the research were presented and analysed answering the objectives of the research.

5.2 Conclusion

The research has been focusing at the challenges and opportunities faced by sugar cane farmers settled under the fast track land reform programme. The target area was Mkwesine Estate in Chiredzi district. The research was guided by three major objectives which are:

- To find the challenges faced by resettled sugarcane farmers in Mkwesine Estate
- To find out the opportunities and successes derived from land reform by resettled sugarcane farmers.
- To find out the solutions to the challenges faced by resettled sugarcane farmers.

Evidence from this study established that sugarcane farmers resettled in Mkwesine are facing various challenges which vary from economic, social, political and environmental challenges.

The chief challenge identified in this research is lack of equipment and resources. When the former white farmers owned the land, they had enough equipment at their farms and this include tractors, rippers, crane loaders and ploughs among other key equipment in sugarcane farming. only a few resettled farmer have this enough equipment and this is affecting sugarcane production in Mkwesine Estate since farmers are facing challenges in planting new sugarcane because of lack of equipment. Lack of resources especially financial resources goes in hand with the lack of equipment. Most farmers are lacking financial resources thus they are failing to fund for their farm maintenance and development. Though farmers seem to have access for loans in the banks, the loans offered to them are not enough to fund for all farm operations. Hence the challenge still exists.

The assessment of data from interviews and questionnaires also reflected that farmers are affected by lack of knowledge on sugarcane farmers. The research discussed that a few farmers managed to attend workshops on sugarcane farming thus farmers are facing this challenge of lack of knowledge on fertilizer application, herbicides and irrigation. Also from this research it have been learnt that sugar cane farmers are operating in an unfair market system which is monopolised by Tongaat Hullels whereby Tongaat Hullels is the miller, service provider and also gazette sugarcane price. Due to this reason Tongaat Hullels controls every step in sugarcane production industry making resettled farmers more like employees of Tongaat Hullels.

The other challenges noted in this research are of education and health facilities. Resettled farmers and their families are travelling long distances to receive medication or to access education. Schools and clinics in Mkwesine Estate are distanced especially from the peripheral areas thus posing a big challenge for sugarcane farmers. This challenge also extent to road and communication infrastructure which is in its worst conditions as noted in the research. These are some of the challenges unfolded by the research.

However, resettled sugarcane farmers also have promising opportunities in the industry. Sugarcane production embrace them with an opportunity to invest since they now own their own pieces of land thus they have land to invest on and also they got some income from the cane and this cane enhance investments as established by the research that farmers had invested in residential stands, houses, vehicles and some small businesses.

The other opportunity for sugarcane farmers reflected in this research was that farmers now have the opportunity to acquire loans from banks and other financial institutions as noted by the research that Banc ABC and CBZ bank offer loans to farmers. It is important to conclude that the opportunity to access loans bring about more opportunities like investments and industrialisation opportunities for farmers.

Also from this research it can be argued that challenges facing farmers have various solutions to overcome them. The main solution is government commitment to sugarcane industry. Government must help farmers by enhancing a competitor for Tongaat Hullels in order to do away with the market problems faced by sugarcane farmers. Government must also provide farmers with sugarcane farming manuals giving information and procedures from maintenance to harvesting. This will help to boost production by the resettled farmers in the sugarcane industry.

Also there is need for intermediation to facilitate reconciliation between the former white farmers (Tongaats Hullels shareholders) and resettled black farmers. This will help to do away with sabotages from these Tongaat stakeholders and create a fair market environment for the resettled black farmers who are facing challenges of sabotages from Tongaat Hullels. Also on the case the government must support farmers through policy making and representation in the meetings with the Tongaat Hullels directors.

Also with this research it becomes clear that resettled sugarcane have to form their own strong association to represent their needs. The research sited the weakness in their own representation making it difficult for farmers to overcome those challenges. Thus in this sense sugarcane industry needs commitment by both farmers, government and private sector organisations.

5.3 Recommendations

From the research findings some recommendations can be made to improve production and enhance sugarcane industry for fast track resettled sugarcane farmers. These recommendations include

- There is need for government commitment towards the sugarcane industry. The government have to represent resettled sugarcane farmers in their struggles against sabotages from former white farmers but this needs an intellectual approach rather than forcing those former white farmers to adopt and agree with government policies.
- There is need for farmers to form one strong association to represent their wishes rather than having many associations like the current situation. Those association leaders will turn their focus towards fighting for the dominance of the association rather than representing the farmers.
- Farmers in Mkwazine Estate have to find or hire a new service provider rather than relying on Mkwazine Estate Company which is a subsidiary of Tongaat Hullets and this is extending the monopolisation of sugar industry in Zimbabwe.

- Chiredzi rural district council have to cooperate with the resettled farmers so that they pay taxes and council charges so that council will service their roads rather than relying on Mkwesine Estate company which is involved in the sabotaging farmers.
- Farmers must also form their own pressure groups to engage the government to help them in their struggles with Tongaat Hullets to enhance a fair market for new black farmers.
- The government can also initiate for a competitor for Tongaat Hullets by giving a sugar milling licence to another private organisation. This will give farmers an option to find a better market for them and this will mean that Tongaat Hullets will adjust some policies so as to lure customers and suppliers. Hence it will create a fair environment for farmers
- Also more reserve dams for sugarcane farms must be created in Zaka and Bikita districts so as to do away with water shortages and droughts because sugarcane need enough water for good yields.
- The government also have to focus on infrastructure development in all resettlement areas not only in sugarcane areas because there is need to construct more schools, hospitals and construction of roads and bridges to enhance accessibility and social life in those resettlement areas.
- Agritex officers and other voluntary organisations must be deployed in resettlement areas to teach new farmers their line of production. These private organisations may be asked for funding through low interest loans and grants so as to enhance development of resettled black farmers.

- Direct link between farmers and input providers like Omnia fertilizer producers, ZFC and other chemical producers in order to reduce costs of inputs because if Mkwasine Estate Company ordered the fertiliser from those companies some charges will be added to the commodities making them expensive for farmers.
- The government must also find favourable conditions to reconcile with the former white farmers in order to do away with sabotaging of local sugar at international market.

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LIST OF APPENDICES

MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

LOCAL GOVERNANCE STUDIES

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SUGARCANE FARMERS

My name is Munjanja Murombo, an undergraduate student at Midlands State University currently studying towards attaining a Degree in Local Governance studies. In partial fulfilment of this programme, I am carrying out a research on the challenges and opportunities for resettled sugarcane farmers using the case study of Mkwesine Estate. Please note that your responses will be treated confidentially and no names will be attached to any information provided. Indicate your response by inserting a tick in the respective box and also fill in the dotted lines provided. Your input will be greatly appreciated.

- Sex?

Male	
Female	

- How many hectares are you occupying?

5-10	
11-20	
21-30	
Over 30	

- How long have you been occupying the land?

1-5 years	
6-10 years	
ears	

(a) I received training in the best sugarcane production methods?

Disagree	
Agree	

(b) If your answer is yes what were you trained in?

.....

.....

.....

(c) If the answer is no explain why you were not trained?

.....

.....

(d) which organisation have assisted you with the training?

- (a) Do you receive adequate financing?

7. (a) What are your average tonnes per hectare?

(b) How many tonnes do you harvest per year?

8. (a) Before being resettled what was your occupation of survival strategy?

(b) Are you a full time farmer? Yes No

(c) If you are not a full time farmer have you employed a person with know-how of sugarcane farming?

9. Because of income from sugarcane farming I am able to?

Pay school fees for children	
Buy equipment	
Buy cars	
Pay hospital bills	
Pay employees	
Pay employees in time	

Pay council bills	
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