

**THE CHALLENGES FACED BY GROWTH POINTS IN THE  
PROMOTION OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT: A CASE STUDY OF  
MAGUNJE GROWTH POINT IN MASHONALAND WEST PROVINCE**

BY

SHAKA KENY BOB

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**APPROVAL FORM**

The undersigned certify that they have supervised the student BOB SHAKA KENY's (R13261Q) dissertation entitled **The challenges faced by growth points in the promotion of rural development: A Case study of Magunje Growth Point in Mashonaland West Province** submitted in Partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree in Development Studies 4<sup>th</sup> year at Midlands State University.

...../...../2015

**STUDENT**

**DATE**

...../...../2015

**SUPERVISOR**

**DATE**

...../...../ 2015

**CHAIRPERSON**

**DATE**

...../...../2015

**EXTERNAL EXAMINER**

**DATE**

## **DEDICATIONS**

I dedicate this work to my mother.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Of importance to this achievement is my father, Mr. Frank Simon Bob Nkomo, who desired to see the end of my academic journey. He constantly reminded me that success is my 'middle name'. I attribute a great deal of my success to his input in my life. He did not spare anything to support, care, and nurture and educate me. My achievement is his achievement; my success is his success.

Likewise my mother, Mrs. Catherine Bob, who stood by my father to ensure my success, needs to be acknowledged. She has indeed stood her ground in good and bad times; in season and out of season, to support me through this long academic journey since I began primary school. May the Almighty God bless her with long life and energy to see and experience that which He has kept in store for her, in addition, I owe gratitude to my brothers and sisters, who were there for me, supported me and encouraged me to reach this far. May this work be of benefit to their sons and daughters and the entire dynasty of our family. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution and mentorship of my older sister Busisiwe Bob, she showed me what a true meaning of family can be, and may the Lord richly shower her with blessings in her life.

## **ABSTRACT**

*The intent of this research was to expose the challenges which growth points have faced in the promotion of rural development, a case study of Magunje Growth Point in Mashonaland West Province. A sample of 40 people was selected as respondents. Semi- structured questionnaires, and interviews were used to collect the information from the respondents. The research results were based on the data captured in the questionnaires and from the qualitative face to face interviews. Growth points have faced a number of challenges in the promotion of rural development. These challenges are mostly external factors which end up affecting the local economy within the growth points. Central to blame in the underdevelopment and stagnation of growth point is the central government because it is the institution which continued the inherited policy from the previous colonial regime without evaluating its effectiveness in bringing about any meaningful urbanisation to these growth points.*

## **LIST OF ACRONYMES**

AMA	Agriculture Marketing Authority
BTF	Boka Tobacco Floor
BOT	Build Operate and Transfer
COTTCO	Cotton Company of Zimbabwe
CSC	Cold Storage Commission
CSO	Central Statistical Office
ESAP	Economic Structural Adjustment Programme
EU	European Union
GMB	Grain Marketing Board
GoZ	Government of Zimbabwe
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MDCs	More Developed Countries
NSSA	National Social Security Authority
PASS	Poverty Assessment Study Survey
PTF	Premier Tobacco Floor
RDCs	Rural District Councils
SFYNDP	Second Five Year National Development Plan
UAE	United Arab Emirates
USA	United States of America
ZHDR	Zimbabwe Human Development Report
ZIMASSET	Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation
ZIMPREST	Zimbabwe Programme for Economic and Social Transformation
ZINARA	Zimbabwe National Roads Authority
ZTA	Zimbabwe Tourism Authority

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