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

BY

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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 4th year at Midlands State University.

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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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