WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN KWASA VEGETABLE GARDEN PROJECT IN PORT ELIZABETH

BY

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DECLARATION

I , Thandiwe Blauw 199207275, hereby declare that the treatise/ dissertation/ thesis for student qualification to be awarded is my own work and that it has not previously been submitted for assessment or completion of any postgraduate qualification to another university or for another qualification.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ACRONYMS

CPRC	:	Chronic Poverty Research Centre
DEA	:	Department of Environmental Affairs
DEDEAT	:	Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism
DRDUA	:	Department of Rural Development and Urban Agriculture
ECPGD	:	Eastern Cape Provincial Growth and Development Programme.
HDC	**:**	Human Dignity Centre
HSRC	:	Human Science Research Council
IDZ	:	Industrial Development Zone
LMH	**:**	Local Ministry House
KSTP	**:**	Kwasa Skills and Training Project.
NMBM	:	Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality
NMU	:	Nelson Mandela University
STASA	:	Statistics South Africa

ABSTRACT

Poverty is one of the major challenges faced by South Africa today, even after twenty three years of being a democratic country. A majority of South Africa's population still lives below poverty line and the most affected are women and children. The alleviation of poverty is one of the priorities for the government, and the communities where the poor live engage in projects that support poverty alleviation while on the same breath also helps with skills development and financial freedom. In this research study, the researcher has investigated the impact of women participation on urban agriculture project by means of a vegetable garden to alleviate poverty at Kwasa Project in Walmer Township. The research has followed a qualitative approach which included individual interviews using an interview schedule. To supplement the above, secondary relevant scholarly sources were consulted. The objectives of the research were outlined which include the investigation of the challenges facing the Kwasa Project in Walmer Township. In the final analysis, the researcher has provided recommendations with the view of resolving some of the problems discovered during the interviews.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

1.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the background of this research study as well as the geographical area of study (maps have been provided). Further, the motivation and problem statement are being outlined including the research aim, objectives and research question. The research methodology as well as the literature review relevant to the study has been outlined with the view of complying with the academic procedure. Lastly, it is a concluding chapter of the research project.

1.2 Background of the Study

Poverty is a growing global problem especially in Africa whereby a majority of its population is living under extreme poverty. Kane & Kirby (2003) distinguish poverty in two ways, one being absolute poverty and the other being relative poverty, and the absolute poverty is based on the fact that all humans beings require adequate food, clothing and shelter in order to sustain life. Kane and Kirby (2003) reiterated on this idea by quoting Rowntree's statement he made in 1901, he stated that "absolute poverty exists when total earnings are insufficient to obtain the minimum necessities for the maintenance of merely physical efficiency" which means it is about being able to carry the personal daily demands, which in simple terms means that a family is poor if it cannot afford to eat. People who live in absolute poverty lack means to produce or buy food and they are people that are not sure as to where and when the next meal will come from. Poverty has for many years created a rift between those who have and those who do not have; because of this in South Africa especially there is a need to re-think on the poverty reduction strategies and the efforts given to the poor performance of poverty alleviation projects around the country.

The issue of tackling poverty has been on the top of the agenda since South Africa became a democratic country in 1994, and back then poverty was viewed as an infringement of the citizen's constitutional right to a dignified life. To solve the challenges around poverty over the years a number of policies and strategies have been introduced, however the major question is whether these efforts have been effective in tackling the root causes of poverty or much effort has been applied in alleviating poverty. Khumalo (2013) has argued that "Unless we understand the historical reality of poverty in its totality we cannot reverse its oppressive course. The geographical, racial, gender and age dynamics of poverty can be traced back to the socio-political and economic history of the country". It is more than twenty three years since South Africa became a democratic country and yet some of the apartheid ills are still evident in the socio-economic landscape of the country. Despite the efforts of addressing poverty, the major challenges still suffice at the bottom such as apartheid, racism and inequality amongst citizens, and the majority of blacks remain in the poor category with women and youth being the worst affected.

Women in many parts of the world are not given a chance to lead especially when it is regarding the financial, commercial and other policies that are deem to be exceptionally important when it comes to running the affairs of the country. However, women are known to be the backbone of the economic development in many developing countries, as some of them are the primary care givers and breadwinners for their families. Even though women sometimes have a huge load while looking after their household in most cases without the help of a partner, as they combine economic activities with looking after the well-being of their families, a similar case being the women in this research study and another example is of a heated debate that is currently taking place in South Africa of the next president of the country being a female in the next presidential elections, however there are conflicting views regarding this as some people feel that the country is not yet ready to have a female President, because the general feeling is that females are too emotional and therefore will not be able to lead the country like South Africa with its challenges as she will likely to make emotional decisions which might be detrimental to the growth of the country. However, some feel that it is the right time to have a female President to prove not only to the African continent but to the world that women can also hold the highest

portfolio in the country and do a great job while at it. Powerful women have in the previous years paved a way and showed the world that a woman can become a President of a country, such as former president of Malawi President Joyce Banda. However, some just don't like the idea of being led by a woman, and this notion goes back to most African cultural beliefs that views women as weak and fragile and therefore cannot make proper decisions and decision making should be left with men because they are strong and wise.

It was necessary to take a step forward to introduce empowerment amongst the women for this research study in order to take the next step in assisting with the situation at the Kwasa Skills and Training Project. It has helped as a process whereby the women were given a chance to be proactive in addressing their situation and were able to control and improve their situation through their hard work and positive attitude. For these women empowerment has given them psychological power such as self-confidence and high self-esteem, as well as economic power such as income and entrepreneurial skills, social power such as community involvement and social inclusion which were lacking before the Kwasa Skills and Training Project was started.

The research focus of this study is therefore a group of women who are playing a major role by being involved in an urban agriculture project in a form of a vegetable garden within their community in order to alleviate poverty.

1.2.1 Area of Study

The research was conducted at Walmer Township affectionately known as Gqebera, a low socio-economic area in Port Elizabeth. The sample of the research is a group of ten women who are between the ages of 40 to 55 years who are running an urban agriculture project in a form of a vegetable garden which started as a community-based initiative with the aim of alleviating poverty in the community. The project was formed under the Local Ministries House, which is a house that is giving hope and future to the women who have experience some form of psychological, social and economic injustices due to their background. One of the entities which is under the Ministries House is the Kwasa Skills and Training Institute, which is running different

projects such as beading and sowing projects as well as a vegetable garden project amongst other projects within the Centre. The institute is a skills and training programme that is empowering women with skills that they can use to alleviate poverty and support their livelihoods.

The Ministries House was started in 2009, one of the branches within the institute was a Human Dignity Centre that formed a school, the school is a non-profit educational facility that is providing placement and teaching for early child development from ages 3 until Grade R. The school caters for children who are from Walmer Township and some of them have special needs such as emotional, social and physical and psychological vulnerabilities to learning, as well as children who are coming from devastatingly dysfunctional socio-economic households. The Centre then recognised the need to offer support and continued to offer welfare and development services to the community of Walmer Township by providing education, care, protection, empowerment and development to the children and to their families.

In addressing these needs it then reached out to women within the community to become active stakeholders of the organisation and its development tasks, and that is when the Kwasa Skill and Institute was formed by women from Walmer Township, and most of the women are mothers of the children that are placed at the Human Dignity School. In 2012, the women decided to start a vegetable garden as a means of ensuring that their children and them are able to get at least three healthy meals which is; breakfast, lunch and afternoon meal a day while at school since the meals that are provided at school are in most cases the only meals that the children will eat, as it is in most cases there will be no food when they go back home, and this was also a strategy that ensures a high number of attendance from students. The garden did not only provide food for the women and their children but because the women are unemployed the vegetable garden project also helps them in generating an income for their families and therefore is able to sustain their family's wellbeing economically. The women have a 60/40 agreement whereby for everything they sell they get 60 percent of the money and the 40 percent they plough back to the centre by donating the money to the school and the money is used to assist with paying for the teachers who are

teaching the school children and for any other needs that the school might have. The women grow vegetables such as cabbages, tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, butternut, and the garden also received donations in the form of nets and panel pipes, as well as the irrigation systems. The Department of Social Development in Port Elizabeth also assist in proving fencing around the garden to protect the garden from vandalism and stray animals. Even though the school gets donations from a food bank such as; porridge, soya, rice and bread, the women ensure the nutritious value of the food by assisting with vegetables in the meals that are prepared for the children.

The initiative has more than 40 families that are its beneficiaries, by mere fact of having their children enrolled at the school, each family receive food parcels almost every month and the women from the vegetable garden assist the families with vegetables in their food parcels. In many of the families there is no income at all, not even a child grant for the children. The vegetable garden is therefore playing a major role in securing food and nutrition for these families.

Some of the women in Walmer Township have fallen victims of the socio-economic collapse due to the economically disabling effects. It has resulted in them being socially excluded and destitute financially. The rate of unemployment is high, and the community does not have sufficient opportunities that generate employment for the many disadvantaged community members. This project empowers the women with a small business opportunity to be able to provide for their households and to have their dignity restored. However, even though the garden project is assisting in elevating the lives of the women involved, there are also challenges that sometimes hinder the progress of the project such as the lack of transportation when it is time to take the crops to the market and therefore resulting in lack of access to market areas. There is also no adequate stall container to run the business when in the market areas. Recently there have been a few cases of vandalism in the garden area and thieves have stolen nets and panel pipes and part of the fencing.

1.2.2 Geographical Area

The Eastern Cape Province is one of the nine provinces in South Africa, and is located in the eastern most part of South Africa. It is the second largest of South Africa's nine provinces. The Eastern Cape Province boasts of two of the most successful industrial development zones in South Africa, the East London and Coega IDZ, and both are ideally situated for exports to world markets. The province's economy is largely dependent on automotive sector and also has potential in areas such as manufacturing, green industries, petrochemicals and agriculture. However there are also challenges regarding education, health, rural development, land reform and food security, and the provincial government has made it a priority, and the growth of agriculture and agro-processing sector is strongly rooted in the Eastern Cape Provincial Growth and Development Programme. The duty of PGDP is to earmark primary production of food and food products, and the addition of value to primary production by processing, manufacturing and creating marketing of food products in major cities such as East London, Port Elizabeth and Bisho.

The Eastern Cape Province is also known to be rich in natural resources and culture. According to the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (2017) "the province is divided into six district municipalities and two metropolitan municipalities, and the province seat of government is in Bhisho, Buffalo City Metro. The population of the province is estimated at 6.6 million and dominated by Xhosa speaking South Africans at 79% followed by Afrikaans speakers at 11% and English speakers at 6%". The province has a very strong and distinct culture and heritage, a rich history from the vibrant and timeless Xhosa traditions. It is also known as the home of legends and the birth province of many globally recognised and respected liberation struggle icons like former President Nelson Mandela, former President Thabo Mbeki, Arch Bishop Desmond Tutu, Steve Biko, Robert Sobukwe and many more.

Within the Eastern Cape, there are two Metropolitan Municipalities and one being the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. According to StatsSA (2011) "In 2001 the NMBM

was formed as a administrative area covering Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage and Despatch and the surrounding areas", however, the first immigration structure in Port Elizabeth was erected by the British in 1799, in order to guard the landing place and water supplier at Algoa Bay. The township of Port Elizabeth was laid out in 1815 but the developments were only executed around 1820 when British Settlers arrived in the Eastern Cape". Its main tasks was to serve as a service centre and to handle and process materials passing through its harbour, however by the 1860's it had overtaken Cape Town as the colony's premier port. By the 20th Century numerous manufacturing industries began to be established locally, including a number of motor vehicle assembly plants, which later created widespread employment opportunities, and because of this and the increasing rural poverty the region attracted many workers to the town to the point that until around 1960 Port Elizabeth was South Africa third largest urban centre.

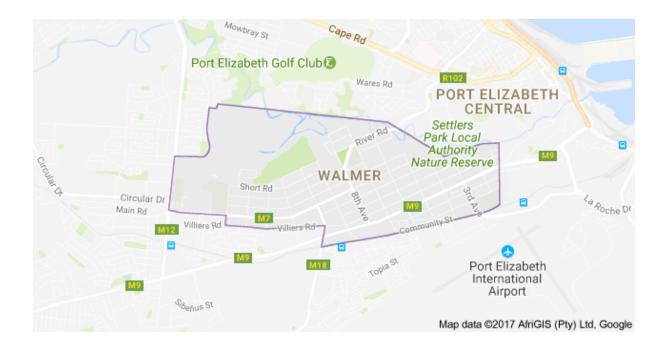**Figure 1.2 Map of Port Elizabeth**

The early population of Port Elizabeth consisted of white people as well as "coloureds" and back then economic status was related to skin colour, and white people were given high paying jobs and could afford better housing in areas that were physically removed from other groups and segregation was the norm. Since the early 1900 a

number of black workers began to relocate to Port Elizabeth to seek for employment and then a number of locations began to be established on the outskirts of white suburbs such as New Brighton and Walmer. Those who could not afford to purchase property were housed by their employers at the back of their houses. South End was one of the prime areas in the city because it was in close proximity to the city centre, to the beachfront and to the harbour. There were four major cultural groups namely: Chinese, Indians, Blacks and "Coloureds", many families depend on fishing to support themselves and their families. In 1965 the government introduced the Group Areas Act, which enforced the removal of people, and there was huge loss of businesses and homes. Enforced removal continued for over ten years and all non-whites were moved to different locations within Port Elizabeth. Chinese people were moved to Kabega Park, the Indians to Malabar, the 'Coloureds" and Muslims to Gelvandale and Bethelsdorp and the blacks to New Brighton and the Red Location. However, Port Elizabeth is currently the largest city in the province and it plays a vital role in the economic activities. It boasts a fresh-water port, as well as Coega IDZ. The other major contributor is Uitenhage which is an important motor vehicle manufacturing hub.

During the 1960's, the era of Group Areas Act, where citizens were separated and removed to other areas based on the colour of their skin, affluent suburbs were reserved for white people with the necessary infrastructures and townships for black people without the necessary infrastructures Black people were located very far from the city centre where most of them had to travel to work every day. However one township that has a unique history is Gqebera, which is commonly known as Walmer Township, its history is unique in the sense that the township was formed because white owners and households wanted their black workers to live closer to their place of work, because of this Walmer Township is easy to access and is the only township that is closer to the city centre than other townships.

Figure 1.2 Map of Walmer

Walmer Township in Port Elizabeth still remains one of the poorest townships, there are many socio-economic challenges that are evident in the area such as high rate of crime, unemployment, alcohol and drug abuse, poverty and illiteracy. The area is surrounded with shacks and some residents are still using the bucket system and it is not uncommon for children to be orphaned, or have parents who suffering from HIV and AIDS and teenage pregnancy is also a commonality amongst teenage girls. Some of these social ills have been blamed on the lack of recreational facilities being the root cause amongst other things.

1.3   Significance of the Study

This study will be beneficial to the participants and the Kwasa Skills and Training Institute as it will provide insight regarding the undertaken research study. The Department of Social Development in Port Elizabeth can also benefit from this research by gaining insight about how poverty and other social challenges are affecting low socio-economic areas such as Walmer Township and how these challenges can be resolved. Furthermore, this study might also be beneficial to other

government entities such as Department of Rural Development and Urban Agriculture in developing a community development framework that will help in ensuring the community projects are sustainable and therefore achieve more desired outcomes.

1.4   Problem Statement

The majority of residence in Walmer Township lacks the necessary education background that is needed in order to be efficient and productive. However this research study identified that Walmer Township is introducing community development through agriculture projects and training and development to the community members in order to eradicate poverty.

This research study is chosen due to an interest and to bring awareness about the state of poverty in low socio-economic urban communities, and also to highlight the importance of urban agriculture projects that are in progress in these communities with the hope of eradicating poverty. This research study envisages determining whether women's participation in the implementation of urban agriculture projects contributes towards meeting the challenges of alleviating poverty. The purpose of this research is to assess whether urban agriculture projects managed by women in urban areas are sustainable.

1.5 Research Aim

The primary aim of this study is to assess whether an urban agriculture project has resulted in poverty alleviation amongst women in Walmer Township.

1.6   Research Objectives

The objectives of the study are as follows:

❖   To investigate the impact of urban agriculture projects on poverty alleviation in Walmer Township.

❖   To contribute scholarly within the Development Studies as a discipline particularly with reference to urban agricultural development.

❖   To come up with the recommendations with the view of addressing some of the problems pertaining to poverty in Walmer Township and the Eastern Cape Province.

1.7   Research Question

This study seeks to answer the following research question "Has urban agriculture project resulted in poverty alleviation amongst women of Walmer Township".

1.8   Research Methodology

This research has followed a qualitative approach which included individual interviews using an interview schedule. The main focus is to investigate, analyse and understand the concept of poverty alleviation, and how a community project in Walmer Township is assisting in curbing poverty within the community. As a researcher, the data collection process was conducted by firstly doing observations for the study, and data was collected by means of using interviews, and a focus group session and after that data was analysed. The overall reason for using qualitative approach is to understand urban agriculture as a tool for community development as well as sustainability within the community of Walmer Township

According to Burrell & Morgan (1979) there are four paradigms of the analysis of social theory. The research paradigm embedded in this research study is a combination of Radical Humanist and Interpretive Paradigms, the research is based on the two

mentioned quadrants because as a researcher I feel that they overlap each other and they are both linked to the purpose of the study. As a researcher I used the interpretive approach to understand the meaning and terminology, the environment and the setting of the study, the social interactions amongst my participants.

For this research study various data collection instruments were used to collect data, such as in-depth unstructured interviews. The reason for using such instead of structured interview was to ensure that the conversation flows and for the ability to be able to move the conversation to any direction without being restricted by a set of pre-planned questions. As a researcher I wanted to have a broad platform to cover all the themes that need to be discussed. The second one is the direct observations, as a researcher I have observed the project and participants while conducting interviews.

1.9   Literature Review

For many decades, scholars have conducted research on poverty have many meanings to many people and it has always been defined according to the conventions of the society in which it occurs, for example, Francis., Kanji and Braathen (2001) have defined poverty as the lack of income and basic services while others argue strongly for a multi-dimensional view of poverty which includes the lack of economic, social, political and environmental assets and resources. Further, Kehler (2001) reiterates the meaning of poverty further as the inability to attain a minimum standard of living, which according to the World Bank is measured in terms of basic consumption need or income required to satisfy those needs. In other words, poverty is basically an inability of individuals, households or community to have sufficient resources to satisfy a socially acceptable minimum standard of living. South Africa is classified as one of the upper middle class countries, however despite this the reality is that the majority of South African households are either living below poverty line or are slowly heading towards being poor. And this is evident in the number of households who do not have access to basic needs such as clean water, food and shelter as well as not having essential benefits such as adequate health care and cannot afford to get good education.

Marx (2009) is of the view that the formalisation of informal land markets can reduce urban poverty, and the potential to reduce poverty lies in the ability of the state to introduce forms of formality and the intrinsic abilities of markets to generate wealth. The relationship between informal urban land markets and poor people is continued because of the view that suggests that it has an obvious potential to reduce urban poverty. Informal land markets can account for the main way in which poor people access urban land in many cities in the developing world. According to Marx (2009) countries with well-functioning land markets tend to generate more wealth.

Further, StatsSA (2015) states that females are more impoverished than males in South Africa, with poverty headcount of 58, 6% as compared to 54, 9 % males. Various research conducted in the previous years have shown that women continue to live in extreme poverty in South Africa due to lack of socio-economic development and infrastructure, as well as the lack of opportunities for employment and limited education skills especially for women living in rural area. However, the same challenges that are experienced in the rural areas in South Africa are also experienced by women in urban areas who are facing the challenges of urban poverty, due to the fact that a number of women from the rural areas relocate to cities seeking for better lives and job opportunities, only to experience the same poverty in urban areas that they were running away from the rural areas.

According to Eldralin (2015) poverty alleviation poses the challenges of transforming the physical and social context in which the poor lives. The living standards of the poor are usually declining, causing hunger and starvation, alongside other forms of deprivation. Eldralin (2015) stated that poverty alleviation takes the form of either livelihood protection or livelihood promotion. The former reduces the vulnerability of the poor while the later increases income, productivity, and employment prospects. Poverty still remains one of the worst misfortunes all over the world and South Africa is one of the countries in Africa that is battling and trying to reduce the level of poverty in the country. And poverty alleviation has been mentioned and talked about by a lot of policy makers and leaders of the country for many years.

An interest in urban agriculture took place in the developing world in the early 1980's, and the main objective was to find ways of eradicating urban areas of unemployment and food security. Urban agriculture was introduced as an alternative source of income for those who had no access to formal wage income. In South Africa during the course of the country's development a large number of people moved from rural areas and moved away from the agricultural activities within their areas and rather became involved in industrial activities in the urban areas, even though the idea was not embraced well at the beginning stages and urban agriculture was viewed as a rural and backward way of living and had no place in urban areas. Since extensive research has been conducted and many researchers have destroyed the negative perceptions that have been showed towards urban agriculture, by researching and highlighting how agriculture can have a positive and progressive benefits in urban areas and one of the progressive good example is the Kwasa Garden Project in Walmer Township.

1.10   Conclusion

In this chapter the background of this research study as well as the geographical area of study and the maps have been provided). The motivation and problem statement are being covered as well as the research aim, objectives and research question. The research methodology as well as the literature review relevant to the study has been covered.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter present an in-depth conceptual overview of the research study by briefly discussing the meaning of poverty and by also by looking back at South African History in order to understand the background of where poverty emanates from. The chapter also highlights the concepts that are linked with poverty in trying to understand the thread. Causes of poverty are highlighted and literature on urban agriculture and its benefits is explored. The study also examines poverty alleviation strategies and ways in which they can be utilised to curb poverty.

2.2 Understanding the Meaning of Poverty

The term poverty has previously and is currently being used to describe a situation where people lack basic needs that are available to the average citizens such as food, water and shelter, and in most cases it is due to low income in the household. However poverty is not only about not having enough money, it is also unacceptable conditions where human beings are deprived of not only adequate resources but of human dignity as well.

According to May, Woolard & Klasen, (2000: 5), absolute poverty is the one that is easy to identify as it define what is lacking and what is threatening lives, and because of this absolute poverty can be eradicated unlike relative poverty which is challenging to identify due to its measurements. Therefore the level of poverty is generally defined as the inability to attain a minimum standard of living, which according to the World Bank, is measured in terms of basic consumption needs or income required satisfying

those needs. Poverty in its narrow definition can be understood to be as a reflection of the inability of individuals, households or entire communities to command sufficient resources to satisfy a socially acceptable minimum standard of living.

Further, Kane & Kirby (2003) defines poverty in two ways; one being absolute poverty which refers to the set standard of living in order to sustain lives, which is the inability of the poor to afford basic and minimal necessities such as food and shelter, which basically means that absolute poverty exists when citizens do not have adequate basic needs such as food, water and shelter and clothing in order to survive and sustain their households and facing a constant struggle to put food on the table. The other being relative poverty which refers to the terms of the society in which the individual lives, it is about a certain level of standard of living for every member of the society. Kane & Kirby (2003) reiterate further by defining relative poverty in relations to be a generally accepted standard of living in a specific society at a specific time and goes beyond basic biological needs. The process of relative poverty includes the comparing of the standard of living of those who are considered to be poor with that of non-poor members of the society. Relative approaches are based on the notion that certain standards of living are desirable for everyone in a given society at a given time. So in simple terms relative poverty is the inability of individuals to access welfare aspects that are important for their wellbeing.

Even though a distinction is made between absolute and relative poverty, as well as identifying other types of poverty such as seasonal and chronic poverty, Kane and Kirby (2003) also introduced a measurement of poverty, and they called it Capability Poverty and they explain that it is an ability to live a life characterised by qualities that cannot be measured in monetary terms, such as healthy life, an informed and knowledgeable life, a feeling of personal security and the ability to participate actively in society. They also believe that providing opportunities and increasing capacities for the poor is a sustainable strategy to eradicate poverty. For example, poverty is highly predominant in rural areas whereby people are also facing high levels of unemployment due to lack of education and basic skills. Because of these factors people living in poverty are prone to crime, abuse and diseases which will later affect

their overall well-being. Poverty is one of the major factors hindering human development and it affects the people socially, psychologically and emotionally as they are deprived of opportunities such as a better education and employment and therefore resulting in economic instability. In South Africa the basic measures of poverty are the Minimum Living Levels and Subsistence Living Level which are published annually by the Bureau of Market Research, and they measure the amount of money necessary to provide a household with the basic necessities such as food, water and shelter to stay alive. However, since they both used data collected from the in-house surveys of South African cities and urban areas there is a shortcoming in the research due to the fact that, it excludes rural areas and that is where most poor people reside. Secondly they are race-based and therefore questionable. Nevertheless, it is important to note that poverty is defined differently by different people, the understanding of poverty has evolved from materialistic perspectives, such as the lack of income and wealth, to include multidimensional deprivation of the means to enhance basic human requirements such as health an education (CPRC, 2005). Even though South Africa is an upper middle income country the majority of its people live in poverty.

Furthermore, the relative definition of poverty allows for the community to be flexible in addressing pressing local concerns and worries, while the absolute definition of poverty allows for tracking of progress and comparing one area to another (Khumalo, 2013).

However Khumalo (2013) took a different perspective by identifying other two forms of poverty, one being transient poverty which is identified as seasonal poverty, because this kind of poverty happens under seasonal conditions and will throw the citizens in a state of sudden poverty due to its severity and it happens due to natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, volcanoes, for example on the 26th of December 2004 the whole world was in shock when we saw the Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami destroying everything and some of the most affected and hardest hit areas were Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand, the disaster killed thousands of citizens and tourist and destroying the entire continent and its

neighbours, and during that devastating time the citizens lost everything due to that natural disaster. Khumalo (2013) also identify another form of poverty as chronic poverty, and it occurs when generations after generations live under a vicious cycle of poverty, it is also significant that one-half of the population of South Africa is trapped in chronic poverty and a good example would be the majority of black families in South Africa who have had their great grandparents living in poverty, and have seen their grandparents and parents living the same fate and now are currently living the same life of lacking necessary basic needs, which is the same people who found themselves poor during apartheid and found themselves in the web of poverty that seem to get worse in a democratic South Africa.

2.3 The Historical Background in South Africa

South Africa's challenges of alleviating poverty are shaped by its own historical background. The current situation of poverty in South Africa is rooted in a history of systematic oppression, discrimination and disadvantaging of other groups by the Apartheid regime. The Apartheid government separated people according to race, where unfortunately black people were subjected to less human deprivation and less human conditions of living compared to their white counterparts. Due to this, the majority of black South Africans are poor with women and the youth being the most vulnerable. Khumalo (2013) points out that the main problem facing South African is the problem of black poverty, the country has the dubious distinction of being the most unequal country in the world and things appear to be getting worse for the poor. The inequalities have highlighted that poverty in South Africa follows a racial line with blacks being the poorest, and therefore inequality can be viewed as one of the issues that is the result of poverty.

The political transition in South Africa in 1994 was regarded as a great accomplishment, but unfortunately democracy did not come with economic growth and policies that could lead to a better quality of life and acceptable standard of living for those who were formerly oppressed by the system, and due to this the majority of people in South Africa are still leaving in poverty. However, poverty is a growing global

problem particularly in the African countries where over 50% of the people live in extreme poverty, even in South African though it is a middle-income country, it still has a large proportion of its population living in poverty and on top of that South Africa is also characterised by high levels of inequality and unemployment. The eradication of poverty is one of the key priorities for the government and various other sectors within the society, undertaking poverty have been at the top of the agenda since the democratic transition in 1994.

Unemployment, inequality, lack of education, crime, drug and alcohol abuse are some of the issues linked to poverty. The South African government has also experienced a growing pressure to deal with poverty issues with some communities blaming the government for their state of affairs. And living in worsening poverty, and it is a common sight to see community members in some areas of South Africa going on the street to protest and demand for the government to come with solutions of eradicating poverty in their areas. A plea for proper housing to be built, for access to clean water and electricity and it is unfortunate that most of the people have been waiting for these basic service needs for their entire lives and still no progress from the government side to provide for the people. However, it is unfortunate that during these protest action more damage is caused by protestors who have a tendency to destroy the little infrastructure that is available at the time which make it even more difficult to resolve the situation. The worst thing is that sometimes innocent people even lose their lives and this was unfortunately the case no so long ago in Vuwani in Limpopo and the Northern Areas of Port Elizabeth while there was a shootout between the police and the residents who were protesting. The 2014 South African Social Attitude Survey conducted by HSRC, found out that "after 23 years of democratic rule the majority of black African still perceive themselves as lacking enough food, shelter and income to meet all their household needs", compared to other race groups in South Africa. These challenges and living conditions with unemployment being high are very worrying against a background of major socio-economic investment since the democratic elected government in 1994.

2.4 Poverty and Inequality

Scholars who have conducted research on poverty and inequality include among others, May et al, (2000: 21) who have argued that poverty and inequality are measured in different ways. Poverty and inequality are conceptualised and measured by using, on one level, objective social indicators such as income levels, consumption expenditures and housing standards, together with subjective indicators, such as attitudes, needs and perception of social conditions, can be used to determine levels of poverty and inequality.

Graaf (2003) identified a serious problem regarding measuring absolute poverty and it is the fact that it does not take into account the expectations, norms, values and customs of particular communities in which people live. Due to this reason social scientists differentiate between absolute poverty from relative poverty and the difference being that relative poverty consider people's perception of how poor they feel and also consider the fact that poverty is not just a physical phenomenon rather it means that people suffer many more wounds than just the physical, and that poverty is a state of vulnerability. Based on this Graaf (2003) reiterate further that poverty is not a simple scenario as it has economic, political, cultural, emotional, and psychological dimensions to it.

On the other hand Kane & Kirby (2003) define poverty as the gravest insult to human dignity and it is the scar on human's face. This notion is echoed by other sociologists who argued that poverty is a problem that is unlikely to disappear in the foreseeable future in many countries due their economic and political situation. An example of this is currently unfolding in South Africa where there is an influx of foreigners who left their countries of origin for several reasons such as civil war, unrest, political differences, genocides and many more reasons. Because of these problems the ordinary people from the ground are the worst affected in those countries mainly in Africa and they found themselves being poor and losing hope in their own countries due to not being able to make ends meet. These cases have shown and are a true reflection of the fact that if the government is unstable then inflation will be uncontrollable and therefore

poverty is likely to be on the rise and it will continue to exist and unfortunately the most affected will be the ordinary citizens of that country. Even though South Africa may seem to be better off than other African countries, the current volatile political deviations in South Africa such as unexpected and shocking cabinet reshuffles, the country's being in junk status and its economic instability, a call from a lot of political parties and business stakeholders for President Jacob Zuma to step down as the president of the country, are making a lot of citizens nervous about the future.

Further, Nleya (2008) argued that the level of poverty is basically the incapability to attain a minimum standard of living which is measured in terms of basic consumption needs or income required to satisfy those needs. However the understanding of socially acceptable standard of living as well as indicators differs from country to country. For example, South Africa has been listed as one of many countries which have the highest level of inequality and white colleagues still earn more than blacks, and men also earn more than females and hence a continuous struggle for black people to live a better life since the apartheid years, even the former president Thabo Mbeki in his speech in 1999 claimed that South Africa is a country divided by inequality and poverty and today in 2017 the same statement still remain true, as South Africa in its process of transformation is battling with overcoming the burdens of race, class, gender-based inequalities inherited during the period of colonialism and apartheid. The transformation process includes the socio-economic development and growth, as well as the enhancement of the standard of living, and most importantly the empowerment of the historically disadvantaged people, particularly women and the poor.

According to Nleya (2008: 272) poverty and equality in South Africa are often linked to past policies of segregation and apartheid, which prompted active dispossession of assets such as land and livestock while simultaneously-by restricting access to markets, infrastructure and education, and by so doing denying black people the opportunity to develop. While South Africa has made tremendous progress on many fronts in the democratic era, poverty still remains a challenge to this day.

2.5 Women, Children and Poverty in South Africa

Some of the scholars who have conducted research on women, children and poverty include among others, Kehler (2001) who states that women are facing poverty due the fact that there are few opportunities for employment due to lack of education and necessary skills needed. In both urban and the rural areas there is also a lack of socio-economic development and infrastructure and because of this there is no human development amongst the people and those who are mostly affected by this are women. Furthermore, these areas are demarcated by the lack of access to basic services such as water, electricity and sanitation. The lack of basic services also causes health and safety hazards for women. South Africa has failed to create sufficient employment opportunities and to address poverty especially for women. President Zuma in his state of the nation address in 2013 talked about the triple challenge that is facing South Africa and that being; unemployment, poverty and inequality and women and children were the most affected by these challenges despite all the efforts that has been done to eradicate these challenges.

Despite South Africa rectifying women and children' rights, and having one of the most admired constitutions in the world, the dilemma of women and children after 23 years of democracy is still grim, because South Africa is generally a conservative and patriarchal society characterised with high levels of violence and gender-based violence. What is currently happening and has been trending news for the past few months is that in the first two weeks of May 2017 alone, there has been more than 15 reported cases of women and children dying in the hands of males they trusted in their lives, since the story of Karabo Mokoena, a 22 year old female who are murdered by his boyfriend and who later then burnt her body. A lot more similar cases came to light of women who experienced some form of abuse from loved ones. (Bower, 2014: 106) felt that the progress towards the full realisation of the rights of women and children has been unacceptably slow, given the extent of available resources and the commitment the country has made in its own legislation. Violence against women and children is widespread, with over 200 cases of rape reported every hour of every day. According to statistics, four women die every day at the hands of their male partners

and more than two children are murdered every day. According to (Bower, 2014: 108) argued that the patriarchal nature of South African society has an enormous impact on the lives of women and children, contributing significantly to perceptions of the roles and rights of women and children, to the high levels of sexual violence, and to the poverty and inequality that characterise their lives. In general South Africa has high levels of inter-generational poverty, and poverty impacts most negatively on women and children (Bower, 2014: 112).

Furthermore, Bower (2014) argues that the reality in South Africa is that the majority of the citizens are either living below the poverty line or are slowly heading in the direction of being poor and a large number of those classified as living in extreme poverty are women and children. Statistics has showed that more than 52% of South Africa's total population is women and almost half of them are living in rural areas, the problems of women remains in many respects grim especially in the rural areas even after more than 23 year since South Africa was declared a democratic country.

2.6 Unemployment

According to a research done in 2010, the unemployment rate in South Africa increased by 4.3 million in 2010 and this mostly affected women as the unemployment rate on women was higher than the national average because of this, children are also affected as more than 30% of households in South Africa are headed by women in particular those in rural areas than in urban areas. Nearly 67% of South African children live in poverty, and 35% of all children live in households where there is no employed adult, and 43% of female-headed households do not include a single employed person (Bower, 2014: 115).

The above mentioned lack of adequate income impacts on the health of women and in addition the high levels of unemployment impacts on children and their access to services. These statistics are more appropriately so for women headed households in rural areas in South Africa as the women in rural areas are heading homes with a

larger number of children than women headed households in urban areas. However, due to a lack of resources in the rural areas women have resorted to moving to urban areas with their children to seek for a better life and because of this the number of women headed household in urban areas is slowly reaching the same proportions as those in rural areas, and the situation has now become known as urban poverty.

2.7 Urban Poverty

There was no literature written about the poverty in the cities until Illiffe's (n:d) ground-breaking research in 1987, according to Illiffe (n:d) poverty existed in both rural and urban areas, and this realisation came to be because of the similarities and differences in the causes of poverty. In the early years the urban areas were seen as the engines of progress and development and people living in urban areas were healthier and better nourished than the people living in rural areas. People from the rural areas migrated to urban areas in large numbers seeking for better opportunities and they frequently maintained their rural farming under the management of the wives who were left behind to look after the children while the husbands stay in urban areas to earn money in order to improve the living conditions back at home, however in 1940, immigration outstripped the capacity of the economy to provide jobs and the authorities could not ignore urban poverty. Even the working class were poor and things got even worse with inflation as the years progressed things got even tougher, this scenario has come in full circle especially in South Africa as this is currently the situation and lot of a working class citizen are losing their jobs and therefore uncertain about the future, and one of the current major financial blow was the announcement by General Motors, a motor manufacturing enterprise that the company will be leaving the country and handing over its plant to Isuzu, which is another motor manufacturing enterprise, but the unfortunate part is the announcement that was made that one thousand five hundred workers will lose their jobs due to this restructuring. Cases like these are evidence that urban poverty is a worldwide phenomenon that has worsened significantly in recent years.

Beall, Crankshaw & Parnell (2000) through their research found out that one half of the people in urban areas live in absolute poverty. Due to this, five years later a new research was conducted by Parnell (2005) and through his research also come to a conclusion and reiterate further that "South Africa has not escaped the problem, notwithstanding the implementation of several policies aimed at tackling urban poverty in the post-apartheid country. According to Nleya (2008) argued that a large proportion of urban poor people live in informal settlements with limited access to housing, water, and sanitation among other essential services and there is also growing evidence that rural to urban migration is the major cause of urban population growth.

Urban poverty is constantly high in South Africa due to migration of people from rural areas to urban areas with the hope of finding employment. Marx (2009) believes that the formalisation of informal land markets can reduce urban poverty, and Brown-Luthango (2010: 123) agrees with this statement and take it further by explaining that growing informality and poverty in urban areas, driven to a large extent by urbanisation, necessitates greater concerted action around land use management in urban areas to ensure more equitable, environmentally and socially sustainable use of finite land resources. The operation of the urban land market has been identified as a significant obstacle preventing the urban poor from accessing affordable land; this topic has been a debate in South Africa for many years with stakeholders having different views. Like many developing countries, South Africa has experienced high rates of growing urbanisation and the state has been unable to keep up with the provision of serviced and regularised urban land despite the impressive housing programmes. According to the 2014, State of the Cities Report, South Africa's urban population has grown rapidly in the past 20 years and is increasing faster than the national population. Despite this rapid urbanisation, urban land issues have received very little policy attention and land reform has been largely focusing on rural land Brown-Luthango (2010). A number of people have settled informally in a variety of urban environment from informal settlements to backyards shacks in established townships. One of the proper examples to this is the small community of Walmer Township which is a population sample for this research study. The majority of the community members in Walmer are people who are originally from the rural areas around the Eastern Cape but due to poverty back at home and the will to find jobs in

order to sustain their livelihoods and to feed their families the women decided to take a challenge of starting a vegetable garden and growing vegetables which provides a nutritious values to their families and also to sell at the produce at the flea market as a source of proving income and sustaining their livelihood. However, the issue of land is still a critical one in post-apartheid South Africa, due to historically biased land distribution patterns in the past together with growing informalities and poverty in urban areas, due to a large extent caused by urbanisation, necessitates a new thinking around the land use management in urban areas.

2.8 Urban Agriculture

Urban agriculture manifests itself in a lot of poor urban communities in a form of community gardens. According to Hollard (2004) a community garden is a green space managed and developed by a neighbourhood community in which agricultural activities take place, and a community that engages in these kind of activities achieve a number of benefits such as improved health and nutrition due to consumption and having healthy food to eat, reduced vulnerability to food security, creation of cash income due to selling of products and therefore earning extra cash and as well as poverty reduction. This resonates with the research study whereby women of Walmer Township came together and started a vegetable garden and because of that the garden has improved the health and nutrition of their households and has also become a means of generating an income. Urban agriculture has also proven to be an important tool for developing a sense of belonging as well as a sense of community cohesion that facilitates exchanges with the community, and community members involved in the community garden projects get a change to share their lives, concerns and give each other advice especially those who are from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds such as the members of Kwasa Project in Walmer Township who are group of this research study.

According to Duchemin, Wegmuller & Legault (2008) urban agriculture improves economic conditions as well as the health of poor and vulnerable families and, more specifically, women and children. It combines agricultural issues with those of related

to city development, and it has a direct and indirect impact on the various aspects of the community's quality of life". Further, Duchemin et al. (2008) explains that urban agriculture is in line with the fight against food insecurity experienced by vulnerable, and often poor, urban populations, with food justice and with the creation of a viable city by offering practical and applicable solutions to the problems raised by the urban context. Certainly the urban agriculture projects have also assist in food expenditure savings as well being a source of improved nutritional value of food consumed. Therefore is it important to consider the urban agriculture projects as being one of the many possible ways to alleviate hunger and poverty in poor urban communities and it provides both economic and social relief.

De Bon, Parrot & Moustier, (2010: 22) identified three characteristics of urban agriculture: (1) the social role of urban agriculture in relation to the urban population growth. And according to the World Urbanisation Prospects (2006) argued that by 2030 more than fifty per cent of the African population will be living in cities. To this day the social impact of agriculture is still predominant because agriculture has remained a necessary contributor to the livelihoods of many people due to the lack of formal employment opportunities from other sectors of the economy and other industries. Therefore the social impact of agriculture is very crucial. (2) The economic functions of urban agriculture and the emergence of its multi-functionality; for example urban agriculture contributes fundamentally to the livelihoods of the urban poor and it is sometimes a source of food in terms of self-consumption and purchasing the product. (3) The constraints and the risks of developing an urban agriculture for human consumption. This basically means on top of playing a part as a source of urban food supply, urban agriculture also plays multiple roles as environmental, social and economic functions.

Among the most widely cited definitions of urban agriculture is by Rogerson (2011: 183) who states that "it represents an industry located within, or on the bridge of a town, a city or a metropolis, which grows and raises, processes and distributes a diversity of food and non-food products, re-using large human and material resources, products and services found in and around urban areas, and in turn supplying human

and materials resources, products and services largely to that urban area". The population living in cities is increasing especially in developing countries and the situation is worsened by poverty, which is due to immigration from rural areas and unemployment and inadequate food supply, and urban agriculture is used around the cities and towns to alleviate the levels of poverty.

Tembo & Louw (2013) painted a picture back that is not too different to the current situation and it is the fact that these communities have similarities such as lack of community facilities, housing shortages and to add on that there is also abuse of alcohol and drugs, high levels of HIV infected and affected community members, unemployment, lack of education and these social conditions have made community urban agriculture a possible and reasonable livelihood strategy in these areas in order to assisting in improving the living conditions and fighting poverty and the social conditions and challenges that the community is facing on a daily basis. Urban agriculture projects in most poor urban communities in South Africa are established to fight extreme poverty and starvation, and these kinds of projects are developed to mainly improve access to food, nutrition, income and to ultimately alleviate poverty.

2.8.1 Benefits of Urban Agriculture

According to Battersby & Marshak (2013 : 450) the urban agriculture in a form of garden projects has proved to have certain benefits, such as: firstly, the individual benefits; as it provides a sense of self-worth and self-confidence, psychological security and well-being due to its way to being able to create a sense of place and stability for the immigrant population. It also has a way of alleviating some of the distancing aspects of modern lifestyles especially for people from rural areas. Secondly, the community benefits; as it provides opportunities of connecting people and places, it is known to change people and places and people's relationships with the spaces in which they live as it raises community development through the use of shared spaces, experiences, tools and skills. In many communities it is used to create empowerment amongst its members as it has the power to transform communities and neighbourhoods by enhancing neighbourhood pride and change the way community

members feel about their community and environment. Thirdly, the social benefits; urban agriculture can also serve a purpose of enhancing the social life of the community members as they become important social centres where people can come together for social events, make friends and discuss their problems and concerns or discuss new ideas. Fourthly, the safety benefits; it also has a means of improving urban safety by providing a safe place especially for women and children, whereby children can play and be away from the harsh and dangerous realities of street life especially in low socio-economic environments. And due to these benefits urban agriculture, in a form of community garden project is viewed as a potential powerful development tool to use, to understand how poor people survive in urban areas. And most importantly if urban agriculture projects can play a pivotal role in poverty alleviation by improving household food security and nutrition, and economic development by providing economic activities that can contribute to job creation and income generation.

2.9 Poverty Alleviation

According to Martin & Hulme (2003) poverty alleviation takes the form of either livelihood protection or livelihood promotion, while the former reduces the vulnerability of the poor and the latter increases income, productivity and employment aspects. The South Africa's urban population has grown rapidly in the past 23 years and this is partly due to the results of high rates of both natural growth and rural to urban migration amongst South Africans. The rural to urban migration is a natural process in which labour is withdrawn from the rural sector to provide the labour need to urban industrial growth. Literature has revealed that rural to urban migration is one of many major factors that are contributing to the urban excess of unskilled labour, which continue to worsen the already serious problem of urban unemployment.

Poverty alleviation in South Africa is one of the primary objectives of social welfare policy. There have been a lot of discussions related to poverty alleviation and eradication due to its complexity. When the living standards of the urban poor are declining, when there is usually hunger and starvation amongst those who are

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affected, projects for alleviating poverty are implemented. According to Edralin et al. (2015) poverty alleviation poses the challenge of transforming the physical and social context in which the poor lives.

2.9.1 Ways to Alleviate Poverty

Poverty alleviation projects generally in South Africa are spoiled by the lack of active participation by the people that are affected by poverty the most. This has been partly due to the poor handling of involvement of affected communities and participatory development by government.

Alleviate Poverty through environmental protection. The poor people are the most affected by the environmental issues, because of desperation for employment the poor are mostly exposed to unhealthy working environments. And because of the fact that they do not have choices of where to live as they cannot afford to live in affluent environments they end up staying in an environment that is prone to floods, fires and polluted air and water. Due to their living conditions they are bound to get sick as their health deteriorates and making it even harder to seek employment.

Basic income. An income does not necessarily improve the quality of life; however it can help a household to fend for themselves. Unfortunately the economic growth is South Africa has failed to address the issue of inequality income which stems from the apartheid era were white people were considered superior and were paid more that black people, instead the government has introduced social grants to substitute for the dropping down of wealth through economic growth.

Improving basic services. The government should provide basic services to the urban poor such as water, sanitation and energy; however this has proven to be a disaster in some areas of South African due to the fact that the government decided to privatise these services and privatisation has pushed up the cost of services and therefore made to be too costly and unaffordable.

There was a time when economic growth meant more jobs, however things have slightly changed due to the fact that economic growth is mostly generated by industries which are not labour intensive, simply due to the fact that most of them are mechanised and sometimes require small numbers of highly skilled people to run them. The creation of more employment opportunities is not regarded as the solution to the problem of poverty, however providing more work and sharing available work more widely can go a long way towards poverty alleviation. Motloung & Mears (2002) states that employment creation is an essential ingredient of any poverty-focused development strategy.

Poverty is primarily about a lack of power. Therefore poverty alleviation should be about addressing the situations in which some people have few opportunities to exercise their rights. Rather than thinking of the poor as needy people waiting for handouts, and recognise their basic rights to common resources.

Education and capacity building. Education and training must help the unemployed, the under-employed and youth at risk to move from being unskilled to be able to contribute productively to a new economy based on social justice and sustainability. What is also important is capacity building for government departments which must deliver on poverty alleviation reduction and development. According to World Bank (1990) & Motloung & Mears (2002) educating a child of the poor can greatly improve their changes of escaping poverty, and thy reiterates further that the youth training schemes can also make a meaningful contribution to combating poverty, provided that employment opportunities are available or that entrepreneurial skills are further developed.

According to the research done by Boaduo et al (2009), they had an unconventional approach regarding the solutions about alleviating poverty, their approach was to look at the potential that the old people can have in helping reducing poverty, they looked at the contribution that the senior citizens being branded as people who have exhausted their economic and social worth and knowledge and skills and therefore have no role to play in towards the social and economic development within a society.

Literature has revealed that several senior citizens' entrepreneurial programmes are at a disposal and have successfully assist in empowering senior citizens to make positive contributions towards sustainable social and economic development in the country. Countries like Japan, China and the United States of America have been a few that have implemented this idea and has been utilised successfully and the question is, why this cannot be done in South Africa? Because if it works for other countries then there is no reason why it should not work for a country like South Africa. The contributions that senior citizens could still make towards alleviation of poverty are important through their expertise, wisdom and knowledge. Therefore senior citizen should be given the recognition they deserve within the society to be able to continue to make a contribution towards development, and this can be achieved by promoting active participation of senior citizens in community development by acknowledging them as experts within their specialised role with the necessary skills and knowledge needed and in this way can contribute towards alleviating poverty.

Another different approach that was researched by Hlahla, Goebel & Hill (2016) was the adoption of green economy to alleviate poverty and sustainable development. They looked at how green economy can be used to alleviate poverty and protect the environment at the grassroots levels. This project was started by women in Pietermaritzburg and it has helped them in generating income, improving their livelihoods and has also contributed to the sustainability of the environment. Green economy is in some ways addressing the gendered social and environmental externalities of urbanisation.

According to Hlahla et al. (2016), the green economy aims to address the underlying problems of unsustainable development by producing a new economic growth model that improves human well-being and social equity while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. It is expected to contribute to poverty alleviation effort through the creation of green jobs and the protection of ecosystem goods and services that the poor depend on their livelihoods. Hlahla et al (2016) explains further that the concept calls for social change strategies that link people to their surrounding environment, allowing for a symbiotic relationship. The fact that

South Africa is highly dependent on fossil fuel resources such as coal for electricity, and also facing the challenges of water scarcity and poor quality, food insecurity, high levels of unemployment and extreme poverty in both rural and urban settings, these social challenges motivate the search towards approaches that could create employment, alleviate poverty, provide educational opportunities and addressing other environmental problems.

2.10   Conclusion

This chapter has covered the various comprehensive definitions of poverty and the historical background of South Africa. The concept of urban agriculture was discussed including the benefits of urban agriculture. Poverty alleviation was also discussed in this chapter.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter present the research approach and the research instruments and techniques in the process of collecting data and the methods used to achieve the objectives of the research study. Included in this chapter are also details of the research paradigms, methodology with reference to measures of trustworthiness and ethical considerations. In chapter one, the researcher raised the following question; has urban agriculture project resulted in poverty alleviation amongst women of Walmer Township? And the research question assists the researcher in selecting an appropriate methodology. The purpose of this chapter is to provide, and explain the research design and restate the objectives. The researcher is interested in exploring the lives of women and how their lives have changed since joining the Kwasa Project. The researcher visited the project site at Walmer Township to get in-depth information about the Kwasa community development Project.

3.2   Research Design

According to Gray (2009) research design is the overarching plan for the collection, measurement and analysis of data. It describes the purpose of the study and the kinds of questions being addressed, the technique to be used for collecting data, approaches to selecting samples and how data is analysed.

3.3 Research Objectives

This research objectives are as follows:

- ❖ To investigate the impact of urban agriculture projects on poverty alleviation in Walmer Township.
- ❖ To contribute scholarly within the Development Studies as a discipline particularly with reference to urban agricultural development.
- ❖ To come up with the recommendations with the view of addressing some of the problems pertaining to poverty in Walmer Township and the Eastern Cape Province.

3.4 Research Question

Has urban agriculture project resulted in poverty alleviation amongst women of Walmer Township?"

3.5 Research Methodology

This research has followed a qualitative approach which included individual interviews using an interview schedule. The main focus is to investigate, analyse and understand the concept of poverty alleviation, and how a community project in Walmer Township is assisting in curbing poverty within the community. As a researcher, the data collection process was conducted by firstly doing observations for the study, and data was collected by means of using interviews, and a focus group session and after that data was analysed. The overall reason for using qualitative approach is to understand urban agriculture as a tool for community development as well as sustainability within the community of Walmer Township.

3.6 Research Paradigms

Burrell & Morgan (1979) identified four important paradigms to analyse social theory and Maree (2007) defines the research paradigms as a representative of how we perceive the world to be. Gray (2009) reiterates further that a qualitative research is guided by highly abstract principles and an interrelationship exists that combines the beliefs of ontology, which according to, Du Plooy-Cillier, Davis & Benzuidenhout (2014: 23) is the theory of being, existence or reality, and includes the assumptions that are made about certain phenomena. The theory influences how we see ourselves in relation to others and to deal with questions regarding what reality and truth is in a research study. Cosmology is the theory about one world's view and epistemology is the theory of what it means to know and provide a philosophical background for deciding what kind of knowledge is legit and adequate, and therefore epistemology literally means the study of knowledge (Du Plooy-Cillier et. Al, 2014) and in a nutshell methodology is a theory of how things are done (Gray, 2009). These theories are very crucial in shaping the qualitative research, and ontology, cosmology and methodology are viewed as the paradigm of interpretative framework and also referring to the researcher's mind frame when conducting the research study.

For this study the research paradigm used is combination of Radical Humanist and Interpretive Paradigms. These are used to understand the background and social actions of the participants and have a critical understanding of the population sample for the research study in order to formulate a plan for transformative action.

3.7   Population Sample

The research study was conducted at Walmer Township, a low socio-economic area in Port Elizabeth. The total sample for the research is a group of women selected from a community project , and who are involved in community projects with an aim of alleviating poverty. The total research population for the research is Walmer urban agriculture area and Walmer Township was chosen from other urban agriculture

projects around Port Elizabeth because it is easily accessible in terms of infrastructure and geographical location. The Kwasa Garden Project was chosen because it is very much active and involved in alleviating poverty in the area.

3.8 Ethical Considerations

Ethical Approval for this research was requested and approved by the Head of Department, the Supervisor and Ethics Committee. The researcher then proceeded with the research study by visiting the project site to collect data and ensured that ethical considerations were addressed with the participants in this research. And the main ethical principles were explained and clarified to the participants such as the following:

- ❖ The researcher produced a consent form which had detailed information about the purpose of the research and it fully informed the participants about the nature of research.
- ❖ Participation was voluntary and participants had the right to withdraw any time at any stage of the research study.
- ❖ The participants were informed about the principles of confidentiality, anonymity and transparency that would be carried throughout the process of the research study.
- ❖ Protection of the privacy and sensitivity of all the participants by not revealing their identity.

3.9 Interviews

Interviews are used to develop a detailed, subjective understanding by drawing on people's knowledge, memories and perceptions (Hammett, Twyman & Graham, 2015). Data was collected by means of conducting in-depth unstructured interviews, the reason was to ensure that the conversation flow and to be able as a researcher to move the conversation in any directions without being restricted by pre-planned questions and it also allowed the researcher who is also the interviewer the freedom

to follow up on unexpected responses and an ability to explore different meanings and understandings. The structure of the interviews was set up so that participants are allowed to talk freely around the theme being discussed. The researcher was an active and focused interviewer and the main role was to contribute only when rephrasing the answers for clarity.

3.10   Observation

Data was also collected by means of direct observations. The researcher collected data by visiting the project site and observing the participants and recording the occurrences and behaviours and also identified patterns of behaviour relevant to the study research. The observer intermingles but did not interact with the participants to protect the trustworthiness, reliability and ethics of the research study. Hammett et.al (2015) clarifies that direct observations involves the recording of interactions, thoughts, reflections and behaviours to build up a picture of everyday life.

3.11   Data Analysis and Interpretation

According to Struwig & Stead (2001) data analysis enable the researcher to organise and bring meaning to large amounts of data. Henning, Van Rensburg & Smit (2004) further reiterated that data analysis involves a process of converting raw data to final patterns of meaning. For this research study, the data collected by the researcher from the interview transcripts was typed verbatim and not rephrased. The data collected from the field notes through direct observations and logbook from the focus group was also typed. The information was then grouped into themes by using codes and then grouped together into categories that contain related codes, which were interpreted into context in relation to the study research.

The interpretation of the data was done in relation to giving insight to the information that was not necessarily obvious at a glance and therefore also reflected the aim of the research study which is the need to assess whether urban agriculture project has

resulted in poverty alleviation in amongst the women Kwasa Project in Walmer Township.

3.12   Conclusion

This chapter explained the research design and the research overall approach of the study research. The research paradigms are identified. The population sample is explained. The ethical considerations principles are layout for the study. Data collection techniques such as in-depth interviews, focus group and direct observations were utilised to collect data and the collect data was analysed and interpreted.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND RESEARCH FINDINGS

4.1 Introduction

The emphasis of this research was on the participation of women in a Kwasa Project as a means of alleviating poverty in Walmer Township. The study mainly focused on a Vegetable Garden, which is one of many projects within the Kwasa umbrella. This chapter is a summary of the research project and its findings.

The researchers' aim in this study was to investigate the role that women played in the urban agriculture project in a form of a vegetable garden, and also to assess whether the project has resulted in poverty alleviation amongst women in Walmer. This study also looked at the role that poverty alleviation project has played in terms of community and economic development with the establishment of skills and training to empower women that are involved in the Kwasa Project.

The research used for this study is qualitative and the participants were women involved in a garden project. In-depth interviews, observations and an informal focus group session were conducted with the aim of getting in-depth information from the respondents.

4.2 Research Objectives

The research objectives of the study are:

- ❖ To investigate the impact of urban agriculture projects on poverty alleviation in Walmer Township.

- ❖ To contribute within the Development Studies as a social science discipline particularly with reference to Walmer Township.
- ❖ To come up with the recommendations with the view to solve some of the challenges faced by members of Kwasa Project.

4.3 Data Presentation

The researcher visited the project site to get an in-depth understanding of the project and to get an opportunity to sit with the women and watch and get more information about what the project is about. The researcher had an opportunity of interviewing, observing and had an informal focus group session with the women of the Kwasa Project.

The researcher started the interviews by firstly reading the Ethical Considerations and Principles of the research study which are as follows: respect for each participant, confidentiality, anonymity and transparency. Then the participants were asked to fill in a consent which clearly confer that the participation to the research study is voluntary, and participants have the right to withdraw at any time and at any stage during the research, and their privacy will be protected at all times. English was used as a language of choice; however when a need to use isiXhosa was voiced in order to gain clarity and understanding the participant was accommodated.

The interviews took place at the project site where the women work from Mondays until Fridays, and sometimes on Saturdays when the need arise. Ten participants were interviewed, which was a group of females over the age of 40 years. The family dynamics of the participants are as follows: 4 women are married with children, 2 are divorced and share a house with their children, 3 are not married but staying with their partners and have children and then 1 is coming from a single parent household and raising her child alone with no partner.

The interview session was designed in such a way that it will be an unstructured session and the reason was to ensure that the researcher is not restricted by pre-planned questions, but rather let the interview flow and move in any directions and to give the participants a broad platform to cover all the themes that needed to be discussed. The interviews were held in English, with and a few words explained in Xhosa by the researcher due to participants not understanding the meanings of the words. The interview session was divided into five sections, each with a theme and questions relating to the theme. Firstly the participants were asked to complete a biographical questionnaire, in order to help the researcher to know more about the participants.

4.4 Layout of the Participants

Participant One, is a mother over 50 years of age, married with two daughters who are staying with her and her husband. The husband does not have a permanent employment and sometimes will go without getting any job for months and the daughters are also not working. She joined the project to learn any skill as a means of self-empowerment and to keep busy. She is talkative and willing to share any information that is asked of her. Participant one is a woman who is a breadwinner and works hard to provide for her family. She responded with integrity to the research questions asked, one of her responses when she was asked:

"I am grateful for the opportunity that the project has given me and my friends here, the project has helped in making me to forget about the troubles and worries of not having enough and not living the life that one wanted to live due to not having money, and struggles of having a husband who is struggling to find a job. The hardship have also made me to be strong and trust in God that one day things will change for the better"

Participant Two, is 41 years old and the youngest of the group, she is also married and she was recruited by one of the women to join the project as she was unemployed

at the time and needed money to feed her family. She is shy and soft spoken. She has a graceful demeanour and takes her time to put her point across almost as if she does not want to talk but her responses were well thought and informative.

What resources are available to help with the execution of the project? And her response was as follows:

"*Thank you mam for the question, to answer your question we have help from many people, such as the municipality and people from government in other departments, we have donations of fencing and poles put in, irrigation pipes and nets for safety, sometimes those of us who have husbands and those who have big boys at home will call them every now and then when needed to assist with the garden. Otherwise most of the other things that needed to be done we do ourselves*"

Participant Three, is 45 years and is a single mother who is raising a child by herself with no help from a partner, her child is attending a day-care with is also one of the Kwasa projects. She was also more than willing to participate in the research project. She is strong and a fighter, she was willing to share her story and the love for her daughter is what is keeping her alive and pushing her to work hard as she will do anything to better her and her daughters' lives.

Do you think the project contribute to the poverty status of the community? And How? And her response was as follows:

"I am married for over twenty years *ndingakwazi ukufumana umntwana* (could not conceive) and eventually *uThixo wandibabala sendincama* (God gave me a child when I was about to give up). I was happy *ngokuba nomntwana oyintombazan ekugqibeleni, xa enenyanga ezisibhozo utata wahlaselwa bangantu ababe –toyi toya esiya emsebenzeni waswelekela esibhedlele emva kwentsuku ezimbini engenisiwe esibhedlele* (I was happy to have a baby girl finally, but when she was only eight months a tragedy strike as her dad was killed by a mob during a strike protest and he

was admitted at hospital and he died two days after he was admitted in hospital. After his death as a mother I needed to stand and look for money to feed my child, then I joined the project and so to answer the question the project does help a lot of us and help with the situation of poverty what we find around our location".

Participant Four, is 43 years, a very quiet and aloof participant, she was distant and only spoke once spoken to and had nothing extra to add except for the questions that were asked.

Do you have the market for the project? And please explain.

"Yes we do, okay I think we have the market but it not enough. When we go out on the streets and on the market space to sell, people are always willing to support. Sometimes I even wish we had a farm with a big space so that we can have a big garden that will bring us more money".

Participant Five, is 47 years, has the same personality as the participant one, they were the two talkative and sometimes overpowered the other participants during the focus group session and the researcher had to manage them by ensuring that they give others a chance to speak. She spoke well and with confidence and she is very opinionated and has something to say about everything.

What challenges have you/are currently experiencing?

"We have a problem with criminals stealing and destroying our hard work which is making us sad. Just the other day we had to run after them while they were stealing the stuff that we are using in the project, the wheelbarrow and other things were found in the bushes behind us. At night when there is no one around they come back to steal the fence and the nets. It is sad for us every time they do that".

Participant Six and **Participant Seven**, had a similar story, they were both living a good and well-off life and married, however once they got divorced things fell apart and they found themselves living at Walmer Township, unemployed and with no money in their name and with children to feed. They were both recruited by a friend to join the project and they both took the opportunity as it provided them with projects to keep them busy and forget about their struggles back at home.

How do you overcome the challenges you are experiencing currently?

"Honestly it is through prayer and supporting each other. When one person is down we help her to pick herself up and give her space to deal with whatever is making her feel down. We also get hope from people around us who support us like family, outside support whether is a person coming in to donate any staff (like wool, fabric) to help us carry on with our work, maybe be busy with sewing mats and table cloths just to keep us busy".

And one of the question posed to participant seven is as follows:

What do you think need to be done in order to make sure that the project is running smoothly and effective?

"For my side I would say, the management must be open about everything to us so that we know what is going on. Some of us are not happy about the 60/40 split of the money and we feel that it is not fair on us"

Participant Eight, is 42 years, lost both parents at a young age and had no proper opportunity to further her studies, even though she managed to finish matric. She got married very young and had to raise kids even though she wanted to get a tertiary qualification but due to financial constraints she never went to the university. She joined the project to gain skills and to make money.

Do you see the project becoming sustainable?

The response was as follows:

"The project has a potential to grow bigger and bigger if the resources were always available all the time, but because there are challenges such as *ukubiwa nokumoshwa kwezinyo esisebenza ngazo* (vandalism and stealing of equipment that we use) we sometimes wonder if it's worth all the hard work if at the end some tsotsis (criminals) will reap from our hard work"

Participants Nine, is 43 years and knew more about the projects and the running of the business because she has been there longer than the other participants, she is there one who manages the place if the manager is not there. She provided more in depth responses to the research questions as she has been involved with the projects since its inception.

Does your involvement in the project also benefit your family and How?

"Yes the project benefits me and my family and even my extended family members. I benefit by getting skills I now can sew, knit and have started my own small vegetable garden at home, oomama apha bandifundise izinto ezininzi (women here have thought me a lot of things). My family benefits from the food parcels we get and I sometimes share my food with neighbours and family members.

Participant Ten, she is popular one amongst her peers; everyone wants her to be around and talk to her. She is everyone's friend, and always wants to help.

What are the successes related to the project?

"As a parent it is nice to see your family eat a healthy meal and going to bed with full stomachs. On the days we go on the market to sell the products is always one of the

success story because we always come back happy and with money. It is also nice to know that you are not only assisting your family but neighbours as well. It's a nice feeling when everything is going well".

After collecting the information from the participants, the sessions revealed that the majority of women in the project are Xhosa speaking, over 40 years of age, married with children, with no formal schooling, however, they were conversant in English. Due to lack of education the overall running of the project is handled by the founder and the manager of the projects. Major decisions such as financial decisions are decided by the top management and the women get involved in deciding how to do the project, where and when to sell the produce from the garden. Women also keep busy by making beads, Mats, knitting winter hats and scarfs. There is also a 40/60 agreement between the management and the women, whereby 40 percent of income made goes to management to invest it back to the project and 60 percent of the income goes to the families and community at large, and the income helps the families to buy food and electricity. However some women are not happy about the 40/60 split as they feel that they deserve to get a higher percentage since they do all the work and since the money is never enough for their big families. Due to their demanding family financial needs some feel that the projects are not reliable and consistent and therefore sometimes live then needing money to feed their families. Vandalism has also affected their progress and has stolen a chance and moment to make more money due to the damage that was caused by thieves and therefore delaying the harvesting process. The setback has caused the project not to be effective at times and lack of support from management when times are tough is discouraging the women.

4.5 Research Findings

❖ The researcher found that the participation and involvement in the project was open to all residents from the community of Walmer Township. This information was revealed to the researcher through the information gathered from the interviews, when the project started there were few men who were part of the Kwasa Projects, however since the major of the projects are focusing on jobs

that are most likely to be done by women such as sewing, knitting a number of men involved in the projects has decreased however, every now and then men come into the projects to help when they are needed in projects such as in the vegetable gardens, and assist with planting the seeds, cleaning and taking care of the weeds and any jobs that might require physical strength of men.

❖ The researcher also discovered that a lot of women join the project due to high levels of unemployment within the community of Walmer; they joined the Kwasa project as it promised to alleviate poverty and for economic development and freedom. The vegetable garden has helped with providing financial independence and has also provided the women with an opportunity to put "bread of the table" and has helped in a lot of households to eliminate the financial burden and the project also to some women is a catalyst of escaping unemployment as it ease the frustration of not knowing where the next meal will be coming from.

❖ Some women joined the project in order to gain training and skills that will later help them to establish and grow their own individual business ventures. Since the Kwasa hub is involved in a few projects the women are given a chance to learn new skills by receiving training, there are other projects such a beading, knitting and sewing, and at the site there are beautiful display of beads, mats, and winter scarfs that are designed by the women who were taught the skill through being involved in the Kwasa Projects. Some women during their spare time make bracelets, belts, necklaces made from beads and then sell the finish products to the community at large for extra cash on the side.

❖ There was a sense of feeling empowered and being knowledgeable about skills that they would have not have known of if they have decided to stay at home and not join the skills and training programmes.

❖ The research also revealed that the women, their families and the community at large is benefiting from the projects as they receive food parcels and fresh vegetables and also provide financial freedom through the money received as a source of income for all the produce that are sold from the vegetables stalls.

The vegetable garden produces vegetables such as potatoes; cabbage, carrots and the garden also help with providing some nutritious value to the families who are benefiting from the project. By being part of the project the participants there are benefits such as improved health and nutrition intake due to eating healthy food.

❖ Some participants are fulfilled by being part of the project because it brings a sense of belonging and community support. However, even though the women has shown diligent and hard work throughout, the project has not been without challenges, and the major one being theft and vandalism, the project suffered a major setback due to severe theft and vandalism on numerous occasions whereby fencing, irrigation pumps, nets, storage containers and working material were stolen and anything that could not be stolen was vandalised such as the concrete poles that were used to support the fencing , and produce from the garden has been stolen overnight by the thieves.

❖ Due to the above mentioned problems, there has been a lack of assistant from the local municipality based on the fact that every time they donate something to the project, the thieves visit the site and steal or vandalise the property and therefore causing the municipality to run out of funding.

❖ Some of the challenges have left the women feeling despondent and discouraged after working so hard in the project. Due to these challenges the project is starting to show signs of collapse. The morale is down and the women are not even motivated to do any work due to the obstacles encountered, the enthusiasm and the drive to make a difference is no longer visible to many of the women when they speak about the project.

❖ In the light of the above, the major setbacks is that the projects has no proper structures to run as a profitable entity even though it has all the necessary tools to be successful , because there are no elected members to ensure the smooth running of the business. The vegetable project is handled by one person who also manages the other projects within the umbrella of Kwasa, the women are too reluctant to take a leadership role and assist the manager, they expect her

to do everything herself and this is partly due to the fact that the women do not have any formal schooling, and therefore not confident to take a leadership role which requires financial knowledge.

❖ There is no executive committee or elected members to help the manager and she is taking all the tasks and responsibility of overseeing the smooth running of the projects with a little help from the founder.

The Kwasa Gardening project was initially started as a means of helping the community to curb poverty and it was initiated as a skills and development programme which involves community projects to empower women, because of the kind of projects that was being done such as sowing and beading, the projects did not have any men who are involved full time in the project, however men are sometimes asked to help when needed in the vegetable garden, especially when men power is needed, men were also helping with putting the irrigation system and fencing around the vegetable garden. Initially water was not a serious problem due to the irrigation pipes, however due to vandalism and damage to property water sometimes becomes a challenge. The project has leaders who are responsible for the running of the projects, the main leader being the founder of Kwasa Skill Training Project who is working hand in hand with the manager, who looks after the Kwasa building and is responsible for the day to day running of the projects and she is a middle-men between the founder and the women involved in the Kwasa projects. Meetings are held whenever there is a need or an issue that needs to be addressed between the manager and the women involved in the projects, and the manager reports back to the founder and owner of the Kwasa Projects.

4.6 Conclusion

This chapter has outlined and presented data from the interviews conducted during the fieldwork. Further, this chapter has outlined the research findings research study revisited the research objective of this research study to ensure that the research question is addressed.

CHAPTER FIVE

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Introduction

This chapter present the recommendations with the view of addressing the challenges that were discovered during the interviews and through the researcher's observation at the field. This chapter also provide a brief summary of the five chapters within this research project. Lastly, it is the conclusion of this chapter.

5.2 Recommendations

The researcher has the following recommendations to make with the view of addressing some of the challenges faced at Kwasa Gardening Project:

- ❖ It is highly recommended that security upgrade and installation of electric fence be effected as a matter of urgency with the view to protect the area and to minimize the amount of stealing from external forces.

- ❖ There were no clear written professional roles, for example: financial management, procurement and marketing strategies and therefore was a free for all with no clear systems to follow. So there is need to set up proper structures by establishing an executive committee that will ensure that there is a chairperson, deputy-chairperson, a secretary and the treasurer. The above executive committee will come in handy in terms of running the daily activities of the project.

- ❖ The community and the women participating in the project were not part of the decision-making processes and sometimes they were not even aware of why

certain decisions were made. Therefore, it is necessary for them to be involved in decision making of the project in order to understand how the projects are managed and how decisions are made.

❖ To maintain sustainability, it is highly recommended that the Kwasa project recruit young people and empower them with the necessary skills because at some point the current members will get older and no longer have power to continue with the project.

❖ Further, it is highly recommended that the project also introduce few men to balance its membership. There are men out there who are interested in sewing and this can benefit the Kwasa project as well as the community of Walmer Township.

❖ Skills development is desperately needed to empower the members of the project, for example, basic time management skills courses including courses such as how to take minutes taking for the secretary, how to handle meetings for the chairperson and the deputy chairperson. Further, basic financial courses for the treasure on how to budget and other financial skills is highly recommended.

❖ The local Municipality need to come on board with some assistance on issues such as providing seeds, proving enough water for the project so that they can increase vegetable production.

5.3 Summary of Chapters

In chapter one, the key question in which the research study seeks to answer is as follows: has women participation in an urban agriculture project resulted in poverty alleviation? The research aims were as follows: to investigate the role that women play in an urban agriculture project and to assess whether and urban agriculture project has resulted in poverty alleviation amongst women in Walmer Township. Furthermore, the research objectives of the research were outlined which included the following:

to investigate the impact of urban agriculture projects on poverty alleviation, the investigating the problems and successes pertaining to urban agriculture projects and to come up with recommendations that could be utilised to resolve the problem.

In chapter two, the research study gave a conceptual framework by highlighting the various definitions of poverty as well as the theoretical framework of the study area. An overview of poverty alleviation in South Africa has been discussed, and the aim and objectives of the research study are explained.

In chapter three, the research study indicated how the researcher gathered the information by means of research approach used, and explained the research instruments and techniques used by the researcher to collect data, and the methods used to achieve the research objectives of the research study. In chapter four, the data presentation of interviews has been presented as well as the research findings and in chapter five, the recommendations has been outlined with the view of assisting the members of the Kwasa Project to resolve their challenges.

5.4 Conclusion

The recommendations has been outlined in this chapter with the aim of resolving some of the problems identified during the interviews. Further, this chapter has outlined the summaries of the five chapter entailed in this research project.

GLOSSARY

Absolute poverty is the inability to sustain a household due to lack of basic needs such as food, water shelter.

Conceptual Framework is a concept used in research to understand the topic from the theoretical point of view.

Cosmology is a theory about one's world view, who we are, where we come from, where we are going and how we got here. How the world came into existence

Data Analysis is to use certain analysis techniques to analyse the research data gathered from interviews.

Development: To change a situation to become better, bigger or to improve.

Economic Development: An improvement on the financial status.

Empowerment is to provide individuals or groups with skills to improve.

Epistemology is a theory of what is accepted as knowledge based on evidence.

Gender is a state of being a male or female.

Gender Inequality is a state whereby there is an imbalance based on whether one is male or female.

Infrastructure refers to a solid structure being built within a particular environment.

Interview Schedule is a document containing a set of questions prepared for an interview.

Migration is a moving from one place to settle in another, it can internally or externally.

Poverty: A lack of basic needs such as food, water and shelter.

Poverty Alleviation is the way or strategy of fighting poverty.

Relative Poverty is the inability to access welfare aspects which are important for wellbeing.

Rural Development is the improvement of social standing in rural areas.

Rural Poverty is the lack of basic needs and resources in rural setting.

Sustainability: To maintain a situation so that it does not get destroyed.

Urban Agriculture is a process of cultivation in the cities and towns.

Urban Poverty is the lack of basic needs in towns and cities.

Vandalism is a process of destroying property or anything else.

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