

The Third Chimurenga in Zimbabwe: Articulating the Achievements Attained and Challenges Faced by Female Beneficiaries of A1 Farms in Selected Districts of Midlands Province in Zimbabwe

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Abstract

From a gender perspective, this study was interested in establishing the achievements attained and challenges faced by female beneficiaries of A1 Farms in Selected Districts of Midlands Province Zimbabwe and the Social Relations Approach helped the study unpack gendered realities as they manifest in access and control of productive resources. The study population was made up of 8 districts in Midlands Region (100 female farmers and 30 extension workers), from these, a sample of three districts, 60 female farmers and 15 extension workers participated in the study which employed the mixed method design and data was gathered using questionnaires, interviews, document reviews and extensive literature review. Findings from the study indicated that among other things, female farmers achieved ownership of land, improved food security and bought additional farming equipment; and the challenges they face emanated from patriarchal bias in the dual nature of the Zimbabwe legal parameters and gender. The study recommends more affirmative approaches from funding organisations and from government which can help A1 and other females interested in farming to empower them for an all round increased participation in the agrarian reforms in Zimbabwe.