



Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Department of Development Studies

**AN INVESTIGATION IN TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF
URBAN AGRICULTURE AS A SOURCE OF
LIVELIHOOD IN MATSHOBANE.**

BY

NTANDOYENKOSI NGWENYA

L0150673A SUPERVISOR: DR. O. SIBANDA.

**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT THE
REQUIREMENTS OF A BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE SPECIAL
HONOURS DEGREE IN URBAN MANAGEMENT STUDIES IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AT LUPANE STATE
UNIVERSITY**

MAY 2016

ABSTRACT

Urban agriculture is a strategy that can be adapted by low income households in Matshobane to meet their food and monetary requirements. The practice is a basis upon which poor families can enhance their incomes by producing part of their food needs, hence saving money for use on other livelihood obligations. This study discusses the importance of urban agriculture as a method easily available to low income families residing in Matshobane to access food and incomes. Urban agriculture is examined in the context of poverty alleviation. A descriptive and quantitative assessment of the salient variables of the practice in the area is attempted in order to give an insight of the potential role the sector can play in eliminating poverty and enhancing incomes. The study shows that participation in urban farming can impact significantly on poverty conditions and improve livelihoods. Findings from this research outline that the practice of urban agriculture can be used as an instrument of poverty alleviation. Moreover, from the research findings, it is evident that women are the ones playing a major role in the practice.