

**“This Good Land is not for Elephant”. Poverty, Migration and
Development in the Binga District of the Zambezi Valley,
Zimbabwe**

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ABSTRACT Migration has always attracted the attention of scholars, some of whom have argued that it results in the improvement of host communities. In contrast, this paper argues that migration gives rise to underdevelopment and poverty among host communities. It uses the example of Binga, a district in northwestern Zimbabwe occupied by the Tonga, a marginal ethnic grouping. It is to this area that one of the country's most powerful ethnic groups, the Ndebele, are flocking to pursue commercial agriculture on land set aside for a safari hunting operation by the Tonga. While the Ndebele prosper from commercial agriculture, the Tonga, the owners of the land, sink into poverty. They watch how immigrants usurp their land and threaten Campfire, a wildlife management programme that is starting to benefit them.