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The Political Dynamics of Food Security and Land Reform in Zimbabwe: 2000 and Beyond

Fulton U. Mangwanya¹ and Charity Manyeruke²

Faculty of Social Studies, University of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe E-mail: '-{upfusnr@gmail.com>, '-{nevanjicm@gmail.com>}

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ABSTRACT There are mixed opinions regarding the impact of the Zimbabwe Fast Track Land Reform Programme (FTLRP) on food security. It began in earnest in 2000. From year 2000, food security in Zimbabwe has been affected by a number of issues, which include drought, lack of expertise, un-availability of capital, inadequate and inappropriate equipment and related infrastructure (such as dams and irrigation equipment), policy inconsistency and conflicts. This paper seeks to analyse the political dynamics affecting food security in Zimbabwe since the implementation of the FTLRP. The concept of politics is analysed in relation to food security in Zimbabwe. Definitions of politics such as those provided by Lasswell, Easton and Hobbes are examined in relation to their applicability on the subject. This paper, therefore, attempts to answer the political questions of who, what, when and how with respect to food security. Data was gathered through documentary search, key informant interviews and observations.