

## Analyzing Issues affecting food security in South African rural areas: case study of Limpopo province

Ms Noko Mokoele, Mr. Yves Mulongo

Faculty of Economics and Financial Science

University of Johannesburg, PO BOX 524, Auckland Park 2006, South Africa

[mmokoele@yahoo.com](mailto:mmokoele@yahoo.com), [yvesmulongo4@gmail.com](mailto:yvesmulongo4@gmail.com)

***Abstract:*** During the last decade, South Africa has been dealing with a serious food crisis. The reason of this food crisis has been largely attributed to the effect of climate changes, land availability and high food prices, which in return have caused an important damage to the lifestyle of many households, especially those living in rural area. In response to this backdrop, the South African governments decided to develop new strategies in order to create a future environment where households are not dealing with issues relating to food insecurity. One of the strategy put in place has been on empowering small farmers by giving them the necessary resources. Because, they believed that small farmers would contribute in reducing food crisis by increasing food throughput, as it this later is viewed as a serious challenge for many countries all over the world. However, this approach has not yet meet the expected result due to the fact that the trend of food crisis still growing at regional and national level. Therefore, the present research article aims at developing a model that can help to enhance food security in South Africa. The model focus on four keys such as food availability, poverty per district, intra-household food distribution, Land availability. Limpopo province was used as case study. The result show that the mitigation of food insecurity can increase employment and empower those who live in townships.

***Keywords:*** food security, poverty, agriculture, small-scale-farmers, climate changes, land availability, economic impact.