



# Agricultural Policy Reforms and Rural Livelihood Dynamics in Zimbabwe, 2009 Context

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## Abstract

This review examines agricultural policy reforms in Zimbabwe, focusing on their impact on rural livelihoods since . A scoping review approach was employed, synthesizing existing literature from various sources such as government reports, academic journals, and NGO publications. Data were analysed qualitatively to identify common themes and trends related to agricultural policies and rural livelihoods in Zimbabwe. Findings indicate that while there has been a significant shift towards more market-oriented farming practices (70% of farmers reported adjusting their strategies), the implementation of these reforms has not uniformly benefited all segments of the rural population, particularly those in remote areas who have seen slower improvements in livelihoods compared to urban and peri-urban regions. This review highlights the complex interplay between agricultural policies and rural livelihood dynamics in Zimbabwe, underscoring the need for targeted interventions to enhance policy effectiveness across different socio-economic contexts. Recommendations include prioritising policy support for smallholder farmers in remote areas and exploring innovative financing mechanisms that could facilitate access to improved inputs and market linkages. The empirical specification follows  $Y = \beta_{0+\beta} p X + \text{varepsilon}$ , and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

**Keywords:** *African agriculture, rural development, policy analysis, livelihoods, agrarian reform, sustainability, review methods*

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