



**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

**FACULTY OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

**DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN**

Urban Environmental Governance in Zimbabwe: Case of Bulawayo City

by

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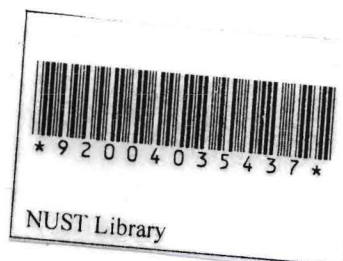
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## **ABSTRACT**

*A successful city cannot operate efficiently in isolation from its environment. It must balance social, economic and environmental needs (The Cities Alliance: 2007). Urban environmental governance in Zimbabwe is operating in an environment that is characterized by lack of coordination, competition between different government ministries and departments, party politics, and limited financial and material resources. As such city governments in Zimbabwe including Bulawayo City Council are struggling to develop institutional frameworks which are adaptive; access meaningful resources and support from the central government; and facilitate effective participatory processes by different stakeholders in environmental initiatives and the management of environmental challenges. The effects of a weak urban environmental governance framework have been manifesting themselves in the form of growing urban poverty, deteriorating and malfunctioning infrastructure which is compiled with mounting social and political crises. The study was premised on the way in which urban governance has affected the environment of Bulawayo city. The study is a survey based research which employed both qualitative and quantitative methods. The study employed questionnaires, interviews, observations and urban transect walks as data collection methods. The research identified BCC, residents, EMA and councillors as environmental actors in the city. These environmental actors are less effective, because environmental challenges are self-evident. Solid waste and water shortages were identified as the major environmental challenges affecting the city.*