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NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE ACQUISITION AND DISSEMINATION OF
INFORMATION ON THE LAND REFORM AND RESETTLEMENT
PROGRAMME (LRRP) BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RECORDS
CENTRE IN BULAWAYO.

BY

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ABSTRACT

The investigation of the acquisition and dissemination of information on the Land Reform and Resettlement Programme (LRRP) by the Department of Agriculture Records Centre in Bulawayo sought to gather, present and analyse information on the techniques adopted so as to be able to exhume the challenges faced by the centre and then put forth suggestions for improvement.

A review of literature related to the LRRP, information acquisition and dissemination techniques was undertaken so as to provide a theoretical framework to the study. Twenty respondents were part of the sample randomly selected to answer questionnaires for data collection. Twenty-two questionnaires were retrieved and analysed. Two staff members of the centre were interviewed according to a set guide whilst visits were made to carry out observations and physical assessments of stock. The findings of all these research tools were then summarised, coded and then tabled. From the findings it was established that most users were not satisfied with the manner in which the centre dispatched information on the LRRP to users although the paper-based records were much appreciated. The centre was exposed as having problems in storing the information as paper used up a lot of space and deteriorated fast.

The centre was encouraged to harness the emerging technologies to improve information storage and dissemination, especially electronic means that are efficient and relevant to the current trends. The staff of the centre was also advised to try and schedule their work efficiently so as to be able to spread the workload among the few members and avoid wasting users' time.