

The Complexity of Controlling Illegal Border Crossers from Mozambique, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe: A Reflection of South Africa's Porous Borders

T L Malatji

University of Limpopo

Abstract: *This study investigates the challenges South Africa faces in controlling illegal border crossings from neighboring countries, with a focus on Mozambique, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe. Through interviews with SARS and SAPS officials, the study reveals that the porosity of South Africa's borders and lack of capacity in law enforcement agencies contribute to the issue. The paper also discusses the push and pull factors of migration, highlighting the need for effective border management strategies. The majority of them are those who are doing business in South Africa, some are job seekers, while others are those looking for opportunities to steal and get involved in crime. They cross through Beitbridge, Lebombo border and Oshoek, however, the majority go through the bushes. This qualitative study was conducted in Mpumalanga and Limpopo province. One - on - one interviews were conducted with officials from SARS and SAPS. The results of this study reveal that the borders are open to everyone who enters the country illegally. In addition, it is revealed that one of the contributing factors to the lack of control is the lack of capacity in the law enforcement agency.*

Keywords: South Africa, Border Control, Illegal Immigrants, Migration, Law Enforcement, SARS, SAPS, Porous Borders, Push and Pull Factors

1. Introduction

South Africa shares borders with quite a number of countries in the SADC region, including Mozambique. Every day at the Lebombo and Beitbridge border posts, which is located in Mpumalanga and Limpopo province, there is a flow of people coming into South Africa and some leaving the country. There is too much movement in such a way that one could not tell who is legal and who is illegal, and that is the nature of the border in Lebombo. The cross - border movement into South Africa remains a widespread phenomenon from neighbouring countries like Mozambique, Swaziland, Lesotho, and Zimbabwe, and this is because of the porosity of the borders (Malatji, 2020; McDonald, Zinyama, Gay, de Vlerter, and Marres, 2000).

According to Mawadza (2008), even though there is quite a number of immigrants from all over Africa in South Africa, the SADC immigrants are deemed to be one of the largest dominating groups, Zimbabweans, Mozambicans, and Swaziland followed by Lesotho. While the country is struggling to control border jumpers, there is a group of people from the Zimbabwean side who continue to smuggle immigrants into South Africa called Malaitsha. The Malaitsha have become passports for the hope of a better life for those wanting to leave Zimbabwe illegally. The Malaitsha bribes immigration officials at the border posts to turn a blind eye to their activities, and this corrupt relationship enables them to bring people in illegally. There are those who bribe police officers who patrol the borders so that they can allow them to enter (Chigeza and Roos, 2011).

It is this kind of unethical behavior by the government officials, especially in the department of Home Affairs, immigration officials, and SAPS that fail the country. Even

criminals who are most wanted in their country find it very easy to enter South Africa because there is no control at the border, and the level of corruption is very high. Officials fail to do their job due to corruption that is taking place at the border (Letsiri and Wotela, 2015).

One of the critical challenges that South Africa is facing when it comes to controlling the borders is the volumes pertaining to the movement of both cargo and persons, illegal crosses, the smuggling of firearms, vehicles and drugs. Lack of personnel also contribute to the problem of border control. Moreover, personnel, training, and resources are required, not only for border control (policing and protection of the borderline), but also for immigration (movement of people) and customs and excise (inspection of goods) (Minnaar, 2001).

This research aims to provide information on the challenges faced by the South African government in addressing the problem of border management, which is a serious concern because of illegal crossings, especially from the SADC region. However, in order for the researcher to make this relevant, the need for analysing primary linguistic data was so paramount.

Problem Statement

South Africa is a magnet for the entire SADC region if not the whole African continent. Every person who wants to travel to the country with no documents finds it very easy to enter the country because of the porosity of the borders, and Mozambicans and Swati nationals are no exception. The South African borders are so open in such a way that immigrants do not see the point of having documents, those from Mozambique come and go everyday to sell their produce, and they are not scared of the law enforcers. Those from Zimbabwe cross the border everyday to Musina to buy

goods; some of them even cross freely while the police are watching them. Lack of control at the borders encourage illegal entrance and border jumping; immigrants from Mozambique cross the border to South Africa in the morning to sell their produce and go back later in the afternoon (Malatji, 2020).

According to Chigeza and Roos (2011) the level of corruption at the South African border post is very high, and this makes border management a complicated task. Police and immigration officers are taking bribes from illegal immigrants so that they can allow them to enter the country illegally. The problem of bribery and corruption continues because illegal immigrants want to continue to stay in the country. Moreover, immigrants, while in the country, are involved in various illegal activities for their survival, whenever they are caught, and they bribe officials again. For this reason, the problem of border management and control cannot be easily resolved until Customs and other government agencies (OGA) start to take illegal crossing very seriously and how it is a threat to the country. Officials should stop accepting bribes from immigrants.

Objectives of the study

This study is guided by the following research objectives.

- 1) Identify the challenge of controlling illegal human mobility
- 2) Identify the pull and push factor to migration

2. Theoretical Framework

The researcher has used the macromodel of migration in this research and it was found to be the relevant theory because it emphasises the structural, objective conditions which act as push and pull factors for migration. However, in the case of economic migration, push factors would typically include economic conditions such as unemployment, low salaries, or low per capita income relative to the country of destination. Pull factors would include migration legislation and the labour market situation in receiving countries. Involuntary displacement would be explained through factors such as state repression or fear of generalised violence or civil war (Boswell, 2002).

Poor economic activity and lack of job opportunities in a country are strong push factors for migration. Other strong push factors include race and discriminating cultures, political intolerance, civil wars, ethnic conflicts, and persecution of people who question the status quo. Africa is one continent that experiences quite a number of this kind of new wars that may lead to international human mobility. People migrate because they want to improve their standard of living, especially where there is no force, but voluntary. Opportunities for better employment, higher wages, facilities, better working conditions, and attractive amenities are pull factors of an area. In developing countries, low agricultural income, agricultural unemployment, and underemployment are considered basic factors pushing the migrants towards developed area with greater job opportunities (Krishnakumar and Indumathi, 2014, Thet, 2014).

Neoclassical macro - migration theories explain migration as part of economic development. Aggregate migration flows and interactions are modelled by starting with a pool of rural potential migrants that is affected by various factors in the decision to migrate (Hagen - Zanker, 2008). Scholars from all over the world are of the agreement that economic factors are the main driver of migration to South Africa. For example, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) observes that the majority of African migrants who go to South Africa do so simply because conditions in their countries of origin have plummeted to a point below their tolerance threshold. They seek opportunity for development and better lives for their own and those of their families in their home (Dinbabao and Nyasulu, 2015).

When there is a high unemployment rate in the country and differences in earnings, this is usually considered jointly in analysing the determinants of the migration process. Long - term unemployment encourages migration processes. The macro - theory is relevant in this study because it addresses the act of push and pull factors where migrants are pushed in the other country because of circumstances at the country of origin, and they are pulled by opportunities in the receiving countries.

3. Literature Review

Challenges of Controlling Illegal Border Crossing and Movement

The challenges with controlling illegal immigrants are that no single Government agency was in charge of border and migration control. Even after South Africa gained democracy, the issue of managing and controlling immigrants continued to be a problem and it became worse after 1994. This was a legacy of the Apartheid era, when responsibilities for enforcement were placed in the hands of various departments with responsibility for enforcing influx control (Crush, 1997).

According to Chatty (2004), this is very problematic as there is little cooperation between the agencies responsible for border security management. In the 1997 Green Paper on International Migration, a broadly representative team put forward the case that instead of focusing on controlling the presence of illegal outsiders in the country, the government should seek to manage and control the flow of migration in ways that served the national interest (Crush, 1997).

South Africa has become an attractive destination for irregular immigrants (undocumented migrants, border jumpers, overstayers, smuggled and trafficked persons) who pose a security threat to the economic stability and sovereignty of the country. Enforcement of compliance, in the form of detentions and deportations, is not sustainable, as detentions and deportations require a substantial amount of funding (White Paper on International Migration for South Africa, 2017).

The irregular migration could be attributed to the factors outlined below as follows:

- The deportation model is not risk - based; thus most deportations include repeat offenders from neighbouring

countries. There are no biometric systems to detect and identify repeating offenders;

- There are no returns agreements with neighbouring countries, thus they do not cooperate with the deportation process (identification of nationals and issuing of travel documents);
- The department does not have repatriation facilities in the provinces and relies on the infrastructure of other law enforcement agencies;
- Human rights organisations and legal practitioners abuse the loopholes in the system to secure the release of the illegal immigrants, at the expense of the government; and
- Lack of uniform application of the Immigration Act in court (White Paper on International Migration for South Africa, 2017).

The border between Zimbabwe and South Africa is a haven for clandestine activities that include border jumping and goods smuggling. Illicit border jumping and smuggling of goods normally occur concurrently as illegal traders, both smugglers and the smuggled; carry goods across the border avoiding customs and immigration authorities. However, smuggling along the borderlands occurs in two forms, which are smart entry and dirty entry. Smart entry involves illegally crossing through the official entry points, such as the Beitbridge Border Post, where immigrants avoid the customs and immigration officials because. It is easy for illegal immigrants to avoid officials because at the borders there is no order, people who are entering the country mix with those exiting the country and that is why there is a lot of smuggling. Moreover, the dirty entry involves the most life threatening crossings through the numerous unofficial or unsanctioned entry points scattered along the border, and in most cases it is through the bushes. It is alleged that around 2008, the illicit crossing contributed to an estimated 500 to 600 illegal immigrants crossing in to South Africa daily, and there are possibilities that the number has risen. Immigrants continue to cross illegally into South Africa because it costs money to obtain all the legal and necessary documents which will help them enter the country legally. At the same time, they find it easy to enter the country illegally either through the borders or through the bushes (Daimon, 2010 and Malatji, 2020).

Push and Pull Factors Lead to Inflow of Irregular Immigrants In South Africa

South Africa has been receiving migrants from all over the world for decades, and the majority of these migrants are from neighbouring countries within the Southern African region (SADC). Landau and Segatti (2009) put forward that the migration of outsiders in to South Africa increased from the 1990s influenced by the lack of legal mechanisms for entry and work in the country. The majority of immigrants from African continent migrate to South Africa simply because the conditions in their countries of origin have plummeted or dropped to a point where they cannot tolerate it anymore, poverty, hardship, poor living conditions, scarcity of food, fuel, high inflation, rising cost of goods and basic necessities and drought. They are driven by these conditions to South Africa. A prime example is the high number of Zimbabwean immigrants currently residing in South Africa. The main driving force is the 'pull' of opportunities in the destination country, in this case South

Africa, as well as the 'pull' of abject poverty and political instability in its places of origin (Dinbabo and Nyasulu, 2015).

The socioeconomic insecurity, abject poverty, and extreme unemployment in some rural areas of Africa have transformed what could otherwise have been internal migration to urban centres into international emigration to neighbouring countries, more prosperous nations such as South Africa, as observed by Adepoju (2000).

Push Factors

Economic instability, political conflicts, and war

These are some of the key reasons why foreign nationals have left their home countries (push factors) to South Africa, especially the African immigrants because most of the African countries are still experiencing serious tension due to different political ideas, political parties fighting for power, and corrupt activities by political leaders (Harris, 2001).

According to Dumba and Chirisa (2010) the general political instability that characterized Zimbabwe from the year 2000 in the form of violent elections contributed much to the illegal emigration pattern, indeed this forced the Zimbabweans to immigrate to other part of African continent, and it was a push factor. The other contributor is the general drought spell which continues to push many people to migrate illegally into South Africa. Decreases in employment opportunity continued to manifest due to poor economic conditions, young people are left stranded and unemployed for so long without any options.

The economic meltdown in a country plays an influential role and can push local people to migrate to neighbouring countries, for example, the economic situation in Zimbabwe has pushed thousands of Zimbabweans out of their own country to South Africa and other neighbouring countries. When they illegally enter South Africa, they know they will secure jobs in the construction industry, commercial farms, and small businesses in the informal sectors, as those sectors are key areas of work for undocumented migrants (Crush & Williams, 2005 and Harris, 2001).

For those who fall into the refugee/asylum seeker category, violence usually underpins and influences their decisions to leave their homes, especially those coming from DRC, Ethiopia, and Ruanda. Most immigrants who are in this country argue that they were forced to go and they are not in South Africa because they want to be. It the wish of migrants that one day they could return home to their countries of origin and this includes those who left their countries due to economic and political reasons (Harris, 2001). Klotz (2000) observed that each year thousands of immigrants from all over the world come to South Africa legally and illegally in search of socioeconomic and political opportunities which they cannot find in their own countries.

According to Morris (2008) most Nigerians that are found in this country did not come to South Africa for political reasons or to work; approximately 90% of the Nigerians who have applied for Section 41 permits which grant temporary residence to political asylum applicants were drug

lords and they make money by selling the drugs to innocent young children in the country. Immigrants from Nigeria and Congo left their countries due to the lack of job opportunities in their home country, the desire to pursue their studies in South Africa. Almost all the small number of Congolese and Nigerians who came to South Africa before 1993 came to this country voluntarily.

The Socio - cultural factors

Solomon (1994) states that the cultural factor is regarded not only as a push factor but also as a pull determination. This is a real fact, especially in South Africa, because the country is surrounded by immigrants from Lesotho, Botswana, and ESwatini; somehow, there is an issue of a similar culture shared amongst the people of these countries, so the immigrants from the above - mentioned countries would want to migrate to South Africa because of that sharing of culture. The Indians who came to the Colony of Natal (now Kwazulu Natal, KZN) as labourers long ago around 1860s to work on the sugar - cane plantations, the majority of these immigrants from India were the lowest caste in India's rigid caste system. These tribes or groups in India were discriminated against politically, economically, and, of course, socially.

These Indians realise that they could not improve their lives in any significant way in their homeland, they then chose to migrate to Natal (now KZN) in an attempt to build a brighter future. This particular situation may also serve as an influential pull factor. Another similar example is that of Mozambican refugees in South Africa. A large number of Mozambican refugees were found in the Gazankulu homeland more than two decades ago. There are two reasons why they chose this destination. First, the cultures of the Shangaan (Tsonga speaking people) inhabitants of this homeland and Mozambican refugees have some similarity. The second reason was that Gazankulu offered refugee status to these Mozambicans (Solomon, 1994).

Pull Factors

Democracy, Freedom, and Economic growth

Illegal and legal foreign nationals chose to come to South Africa for various reasons (pull factors). It is believed that one central pull factor is South Africa's international image of democracy and freedom. The outsiders are attracted by the democracy that the locals are enjoying and they also want to experience that because they still find it difficult to exercise their rights in their home countries. When they came to the country, they expected to find protection, tolerance, and opportunities in the country, which they could not find in their own countries. Because during the apartheid regime, some of the MK comrades went to exile in Africa, there are those foreign nationals who expected South Africa to return the favor extended by their countries to exiles of the antiapartheid movement, especially the Angolans, Mozambicans, and Zimbabweans. South Africa's economic lure and promise of employment happens to be one of the pulling factors that pull the outsiders to this country (Harris, 2001).

South Africa is regarded as the leading economy in the African continent and a middle - income country. For these reasons South Africa boasts a higher standard of living than

most of its sub - Saharan counterparts. The annual GDP per capita is seen as a major source of attraction to the majority of immigrants from impoverished developing and less developing countries both from the African continent, Asia and beyond. The immigrants from SADC region, more especially the Zimbabweans, Mozambicans, Malawians, Zambians, Swaziland, Lesotho, etc., agree that the prospect of a higher living standard relative to that present in their countries of origin drives thousands of immigrants into South Africa (Dinbabo and Nyasulu, 2015).

4. Research Design and Methodology

Research methods are the several procedures used by the researcher in the research process. All methods used by a researcher during a research study are termed research methods. They are essentially planned, scientific, and value - neutral. The research method is fundamental because it helps us to collect samples, data and find a solution to a problem that has been investigated. Particularly, scientific research methods call for explanations based on collected facts, measurements, and observations and not on reasoning alone. They accept only those explanations that can be verified by experiments (Rajasekar and Verma, 2013).

Qualitative Research Method

In order to obtain the relevant and required data for this study, a qualitative study design was used in this investigation. A qualitative research is a form of social action that stresses on the way people interpret, and on making sense of their experiences to understand the social reality of individuals. This kind of method makes use of interviews, diaries, journals, observations, and entanglement and open - ended questions to obtain, analyze, and interpret the linguistic data. This kind of study is exploratory and seeks to explain 'how' and 'why' a particular social phenomenon, or program, operates as it does in a particular context. It tries to help us understand the social world in which we live and why things are the way they are (Mahajan, 2018). In this study, the researcher had focus group discussion with illegal immigrants from Swaziland, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe.

Study Area

This study was carried out in the Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces. Limpopo is a South African province bordering Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique. It is known for bushveld and wildlife reserves, including part of Kruger National Park. The Mpumalanga province is in the eastern part of South Africa, and the province shares borders with Swaziland and Mozambique.

Target population

The researcher purportedly targeted officials in government agencies at the South African borders, the South African Receiver of Revenue (Customs) and SAPS at both borders, Beitbridge in Limpopo and Komatipoort, in Mpumalanga. These are individuals that the intervention intends to investigate and draw conclusions on.

Sampling technique

The researcher used a purpose sampling technique to purposely sample SARS and SAPS officials to participate in

this investigation. Officials were sampled based on their work experience and knowledge that they have and their role at the borders. Purposive sampling strategies move away from any random form of sampling and are strategies to make sure that specific types of case of those that could possibly be included are part of the final sample in the research study. The reasons for adopting a practical strategy are based on the assumption that given the objectives and objectives of the study, specific types of people may have different and important views about the ideas and issues in question and therefore need to be included in the sample (Campbell, Greenwood, Prior, Shearer, Walkem, Young, Bywaters, and Walker, 2020).

5. Findings

Officials from SARS (Customs) and South African police services in Beitbridge and Komatipoort participated in this study. The respondents have been working for their respective organizations for a period of more than 10 years, they have experience in their field of work and both of them were at the management level at the time of interviews.

Explaining the Porosity of South African Borders

The South African borders remain so porous and difficult to control because officials are not doing their job. It is expected that each and every official should be at his station performing their tasks, instead of the SAPS focusing on the entry of immigrants in the border, they are now concerned with customs work of offloading goods and penalising or receiving bribes from drivers. With illegal immigrants, it is an open border, people come in as they please, they do not use the actual border but enter through bushes and broken borderlines. The shocking part is that SAPS will just leave those people standing by the fences knowing very well that they are undocumented. And as a result, they enter the country freely. There is a free flow of illegal immigrants on this border (SARS).

Difficult to control the inflow of immigrants in the country

According to the SARS respondent, the state is not in a better position to control the flow of illegal immigrants in the country. South Africans in other parts of the country are concerned and complaining about the high number of illegal immigrants who find themselves in the country. There are those who came legally to the country, but overstayed. In this country, there are law enforcement agencies whose responsibility is to manage the border lines, working in collaboration with other departments. However, South Africa is too huge to an extent that it becomes too difficult to manage the borders, there is not enough capacity in terms of the army to be deployed to monitor the border lines. The ways in which the SANDF is struggling to guard the border line because of lack of capacity, that is, the very same thing that the SAPS is suffering from, they are not able to manage the entry of people through the other lines.

The lack of capacity is the main constraint in terms of managing and controlling illegal human mobility at borders. Most immigrants who cross the border everyday are not first time crossers, they have crossed the border before and know exactly how easy and weak the borders are. With a lack of

capacity and technology, it will always be difficult for the country to manage the flow of immigrants.

'Stopping this illegal movement is not going to be easy, I think that although it will take us back to the system of apartheid of suggesting that we are stopping Africans from coming into another African country, a delimitation of some sort, not a fence similar to that of a house like the one we currently have, but rather a fully enforced fenced will be the only thing that can help. We need a fence that will help, even if it can be electrified, just to stop these illegal immigrants from using those other lines, ' said the respondent.

The South African Police Service respondent conveys with what has been mentioned by SARS that it is impossible for the state to control the flow of illegal immigrants into the country. There is a lack of cooperation and the level of competence and corruption on the Zimbabwean and South African side of border control. Thus, it is easy for a person to illegally move to and from South Africa multiple times without getting caught by SAPS or SANDF. There is no human capital that is enough to help guard the border lines, and corruption is very high at the border. The level of corruption continues to make things difficult for the police to work effectively because as much as there are police who want to do their job, there are those who are not in any way willing to stop this habit of collecting bribes from the immigrants.

The people within the borders are taking a lot of bribes and end up neglecting the law, which in turn fills the country with a lot of immigrants that are not accounted for. It will not be easy to control the follow-up of illegal immigrants, most of them are coming from countries where the economic conditions are very poor with no opportunities and political unrest. In addition, a person who is hungry can do anything and everything to survive. It is so clear that the lack of capacity is also contributing to the porous borders in the country; however, apart from the lack of manpower to protect the border lines, there is also an element of bribe and corruption that is taking place. The level of corruption at the border is so rife in such a way that the immigrants do not fear the law enforcement agencies; they know that they will bribe them so they can turn a blind eye. Moreover, it is very important to understand that the border lines are there not to prevent international human mobility, but they are there to ensure that people coming and going out of the country are regulated. All people must have the legal documents when they enter or leave the country.

Inflow of immigrants into South Africa through the porous border

When asked what can be done to address the problems of porous borders, the respondents emphasise the issue of differences and lack of cooperation amongst the border agencies. It has been said that other government agencies (OGAs) are not able to work together to achieve the government objectives, which are to ensure that there is proper and effective border management. There is hope that the Border management agencies could bring all the agencies together so that they can work as a team.

'If the BMA can unite all divisions and become one, wear one uniform, and share tasks, I think it will help', the respondent said.

Obviously, customs is an independent department, and thus it cannot merge with the others. So, I think having BMA and customs serve as the only personnel in this border, it will help limit the inflow of irregular immigrants and reduce the bribes ongoing in this port because honestly, I do not see any need of having SAPS at the port of entry at the border, it is all customs work. This has not been tried and tested, so I am not sure if it will work but surely it will shed some light on the matter.

One of the most important issues that were raised through the discussion with the SAPS is the issue of coordination.

'It is very weak and poor. Isn't it not that we are not allowed to interfere with the other agency, there is a lot of politics between these different agencies, therefore there is no understanding and discipline between them, if politics can be removed, there will be proper coordination between the two and duties will be carried out properly'

Pull and push factors and high rate of irregular migration

Security at the border is not tight; thus, there are so many irregular immigrants in the country. The factors that influence immigrants to migrate to South Africa are job opportunities, better standard of living, and an opportunity to live a successful life.

'The best way we can help stop the high rate of immigrants entering our country is by tightening our security at the entry port.'

The official reiterated the political issues in African countries that push people to other countries such as South Africa. If there is one thing that pushes African people to South Africa, both illegal and legal, it is the economic condition and democracy that South Africans are enjoying, they want to share the little resources that South Africans are enjoying, and those resources are not even enough for the locals. Poverty pushes them to do whatever they can to come and have a share of the resources that South Africa has. Some of them do not even consider the issue of legality when they come, they just cross.

Immigrants want a better life and also to live in a country that is democratic with respect to human rights and good economic conditions, where they will be able to secure jobs. A country with a good constitution and better resources will always be a magnet for immigrants, either legal or illegal. Moreover, the constitution and freedom that immigrants refer to here is the one that South Africans fought very hard for. Those who came to South Africa, especially those coming from the refugee producing countries, are looking for security, they want to feel safe because they were forced to flee their home countries. The findings are also supported by Malatji (2021) in his article *Unemployment and Regional Human Mobility*, that South Africa has been and continues to be a major source of employment of migrants from the SADC region, and this serves as a pull factor to migration.

6. Recommendation

It is very difficult for the South African government to manage the flow of illegal immigration in the country, all immigrants from the SADC region want to come to South Africa for better opportunities. Therefore, this study recommends that the South African government set its priorities and ensure that there are enough men and women at the border to protect the country. Because of globalization, people can travel and live wherever they want; however, it is the responsibility of government to ensure that each and every person living in the country is accounted for, people from outside the country should follow all the proper procedures to acquire citizenship or to get employed. The study further recommends that the government should do a lifestyle audit for all the officials working at the borders.

The unethical behaviour and corruption that takes place at the border lines is costing the country millions of rands every year because when the immigrants are deported, it is the public money that is spent on deporting them back to their home countries. It is recommended that there should be transparency and that all government agencies responsible for border management should be able to share information and work together to achieve their aim. There should be only one aim, which is to protect the country and guard the borders.

7. Conclusion

The world has now become one global village where people migrate to other countries. This is something that is so unavoidable, and the international communities must come to an understanding that there is no person who can live in isolation. People migrate for different reasons; some are pushed out of their countries whereas some are pulled by the resources and other benefits in the host countries. The only problem with migration is when people start to migrate illegally using the other means of crossing the border rather than the legal border gates. When there is illegal migration in the country, this poses a serious threat to the host country because the people who come illegally are not documented, no one knows their history and why they came in to the country. The problem with illegal migration is that even criminals take advantage of the porous borders of South Africa and come and settle in the country illegally. The working relationship between the government agencies has worsened and the illegal cross - borders are using all the means to enter the country, the level of corruption is very high. Moreover, the more officials continue to take bribes from immigrants, they are selling the country to the highest bidder.

References

- [1] Adepoju, A.2000. Issues and recent trends in international migration in Sub - Saharan Africa', *International Social Science Journal*, Vol.52, pp.383394.
- [2] Boswell, C., 2002. *New Issues in Refugee Research* (No.73). Working Paper.

- [3] Campbell, S., Greenwood, M., Prior, S., Shearer, T., Walkem, K., Young, S., Bywaters, D. and Walker, K., 2020. Purposive sampling: complex or simple? Research case examples. *Journal of research in Nursing*, 25 (8), pp.652 - 661.
- [4] Chetty, M.2004. The repatriation process: does South Africa live up to its human rights obligations? Submitted for LLM degree, Faculty of Law. University of Ghana
- [5] Chigeza, S. and Roos, V., 2011. The resilience of illegal African migrants in South Africa: A relational perspective. *The Australian Community Psychologist*, 23 (2), pp.121 - 134.
- [6] Crush, J., 1997. Contract Migration to South Africa: Past, Present and Future. Paper presented to the Green Paper Task Group on International Migration, South Africa.
- [7] Crush, J., Williams, V, and Perbedy, S, 2005. Migration in Southern Africa; paper prepared for the policy and Analysis Research Programme, Global Commission on International Migration, Geneva
- [8] Daimon, A., 2010. Smuggling through fluid and porous African Borderlands and the state's response: the case of the Zimbabwe - South Africa Border'. In *ABORNE Conference on Cross - border Trade in Africa: The Local Politics of a Global Economy, Basel*.
- [9] Dinbabo, M. and Nyasulu, T.2015. Macroeconomic immigration determinants: an analysis of 'Pull factors of International migration to South Africa. *Afr Hum Mobil Rev*, 1 (1), pp.27 - 53.
- [10] Hagen-Zanker, J., 2008. Why do people migrate? A review of the theoretical literature. *A Review of the Theoretical Literature (January 2008)*. Maastricht Graduate School of Governance Working Paper No.
- [11] Harris, B.2001. *A foreign experience: violence, crime and xenophobia during South Africa's transition* (Vol.5). Johannesburg: CSVR.
- [12] Klotz A.2000. 'Migration after apartheid: deracialising South African foreign policy'. *Third World Quarterly* 21: 831-847.
- [13] Krishnakumar, P. and Indumathi, T., 2014. PULL AND PUSH FACTORS OF MIGRATION. *Global Management Review*, 8 (4).
- [14] Landau, L. B. and Segatti, A. W. K.2009. "Human development impacts of migration: South Africa case study", Human Development Research Paper 2009/05, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Geneva.
- [15] Letsiri, C. and Wotela, K., 2015. Towards effective provisions for governing and managing illegal immigration into South Africa. *THE XENOPHOBIC ATTACKS IN SOUTH AFRICA: REFLECTIONS AND POSSIBLE STRATEGIES TO WARD THEM OFF*, p.116.
- [16] McDonald, D. A., Zinyama, L., Gay, J., de Vlerter, F. and Marres, R., 2000. Guess who's coming to dinner: Migration from Lesotho, Mozambique and Zimbabwe to South Africa. *International Migration Review*, 34 (3), pp.813 - 841.
- [17] Malatji, T. L., 2020. Poor coordination among government departments and border control agencies: Its impact on South African porous borders. International Conference on Public Administration and Development Alternatives (IPADA).
- [18] Malatji, T. L., 2021. Unemployment and Regional Human Mobility; All Roads Lead To South Africa. *African Journal of Development Studies*, 11 (3), p.169.
- [19] Mawadza, A., 2008. The nexus between migration and human security Zimbabwean migrants in South Africa. *Institute for Security Studies Papers*, 2008 (162), p.12.
- [20] Minnaar, A., 2001. Border control and regionalism: The case of South Africa. *African Security Review*, 10 (2), pp.89 - 102.
- [21] Mohajan, H. K., 2018. Qualitative research methodology in social sciences and related subjects. *Journal of economic development, environment and people*, 7 (1), pp.23 - 48.
- [22] Morris, A.2008. 'Our fellow Africans make our lives hell': *the lives of Congolese and Nigerians living in Johannesburg*. *Ethnic and Racial studies*, 21 (6), pp.1116 - 1136
- [23] Rajasekar, D. and Verma, R., 2013. *Research methodology*. Archers & Elevators Publishing House.
- [24] Solomon, H., 1994. Migration to Southern Africa: a comparative perspective. *Africa insight*, 24 (1), pp.60 - 71.
- [25] Thet, K. K., 2014. Pull and push factors of migration: A case study in the urban Area of Monywa Township, Myanmar. *News from the World of Statistics*, 1 (24), pp.1 - 14.
- [26] Available at www.dha.gov.za (White paper on International migration South Africa, 2017) Online available, Accessed 21/06/2023.