

The Institute of African Studies presents

The Role of Women in Urban Food Security in the Informal Settlements of Windhoek, Namibia

WITH

Ndeyapo Nickanor, PhD candidate, U. of Cape Town

When: Wednesday, 21 November, 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: The History Lounge, 433 Paterson Hall, Carleton*

Abstract: More than ever before, food security and poverty have increasingly become problems of the urban, informal settlements, for cities in Southern Africa this situation is intensified by the continued rapid urbanization particularly from the rural areas. This influx combined with high levels of unemployment, high food prices, climate change issues and extreme levels of poverty have made food insecurity in urban areas a concern. In urban areas the poor are immersed in a cash economy through which food is acquired. Given the over-emphasis of poverty among female headed households, in the urban areas they are the poorest. This research provides for an understanding of how female headed households in the poor urban informal settlements of Windhoek source food and the coping strategies which they employ to make a living.

Ndeyapo Nickanor is a PhD student at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. She also teaches in the Department of Statistics and Population Studies at the University of Namibia. She is currently at Queen's University as an exchange student through the Students for Development Program, under the guidance of Professor Jonathan Crush, Queen's professor and Director of Southern African Research Centre (SARC).

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