

## RETURN TO WORK PLAN: STONES FOR DEVELOPMENT –DR. STEVEN JERIE

GENERAL INFORMATION	
<b>Name:</b>	DR. STEVEN JERIE
<b>Details:</b>	
Position:	Chairperson, Dept. of Geography and Env. Studies, Midlands State University, Gweru, Zimbabwe
Email:	<a href="mailto:Sjerie2014@gmail.com">Sjerie2014@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:steve.jerie@gmail.com">steve.jerie@gmail.com</a>
Phone no (office + mob):	263772815689
<b>Brief Description of the project:</b>	<p>This paper examines the role played by semi-precious stones mined on the Great Dyke of Zimbabwe in the informal sector sculpturing industry. Most of the stones used in Zimbabwean sculpture are obtained locally and belong to the geological family of Serpentine. Mines tend to be small-scale, open cast operations. They are too small to cause any environmental damage and form a valuable alternative source of income to rural communities.</p> <p>The study seeks to establish the benefits of sculpturing from the stones mined in and around the town of Shurugwi in southern Zimbabwe and which is located on the Great Dyke. The beneficiaries are especially the local communities who are facing immense socio-economic problems due to closure of the big mines involved in especially chrome mining.</p>
<b>Expected Outcomes:</b>	Stones being the engine and drivers in socio-economic development through sculpturing. This is through employment creation in quarrying the stones, transportation of stones, buying and selling stones, as well as boosting tourism in the local areas as well as resorts in the country such as Victoria Falls, Kariba, Kariba Dam and Nyanga
<b>Expected Outputs:</b>	Sustained socio-economic development through employment creation in the sculpturing industry and multiplier effect with related benefits in sales and earnings from tourism.
<b>Please describe how you plan to implement the return to work project:</b> (outline key partnerships and collaborations across sectors in your country as well as any joint collaboration with other countries)	There is need to work closely with the tourism ministry, ministry of industry and non-governmental organisations as well as the academic institutions. Sustained approaches in the development of the informal sector industry can be enhanced through collaboration with other developing countries in developing implementable policies and strategies. The Ministry of Tourism is vital in promoting sculpturing by way of easing travel and conditions for tourists, NGOs assist in capacity building for the sculptors, assist in promoting the works of sculptors as well as awareness on the significance of promoting informal enterprises such as sculptors as well as highlighting the significance of environmental impacts. Academic institutions are significance in capacity building for the sculptors-highlighting the importance of such

	activities and I would collaborate with these in seminars, research design projects and data collection.
<b>What indicators of success will you employ?</b> (include indicators of success that go beyond activity-level implementation)	Indicators of success will include monetary and non-monetary benefits being realised by the small scale sculptors as well as effectiveness of the policies developed in collaboration with other countries. I would determine this through the monetary benefits accruing to sculpturing, the increase in people involved in the activity and the level of tourist interest in the products from this sector.
<b>What other strategic opportunities have you identified that will contribute to the success and sustainability of your project?</b>  (include opportunities linked to national level policy, strategies and programmes as well as linkage to sub-regional and regional agenda)	There were opportunities that were identified in coming up with flexible national policies that promote the success of the informal sector sculpturing through provision of resources and training at regional level such as SADC. Zimbabwe has a specific Ministry of Medium and Small Scale Enterprises that was created specifically to cater for the promotion of informal sector enterprises. In such a situation it is working in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism to promote the informal enterprises. This is the trend at SADC level since there has been a general shrinking of the formal sector.
<b>What aspects of the training will be most useful in implementing your project?</b> Explain	The useful aspects were the networks created by interacting with colleagues from countries making efforts at concerted development through supporting the informal sector and also how to mobilise resources through ideas from colleagues from developed countries.
<b>What are your future plans?</b> (include any additional capacity building needs for your professional development that you have identified during the course of the workshop).	To continue networking with colleagues met during the workshop and hence continue monitoring the success rate of the project. There is also need to come up with documentation of the conference projects through a newsletter or special journal publication. Short courses are also another area worth pursuing in future. The short courses would focus on Project planning and implementation, benefits of informal sector sculpturing and environmental, safety and health aspects of sculpturing