



AFRICA IN MOVIMENTO / AFRICA ON THE MOVE

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TITLE: **MIGRATION AND SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS: THE EMERGENCE OF NEW COMMUNITIES IN A SOUTH AFRICAN INFORMAL SETTLEMENT**

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ABSTRACT: T

Migrants from rural areas in South Africa usually move to urban centres such as Johannesburg, with the hope of improving their economic situations. Moving to urban areas is usually a temporary condition, and the idea of returning home once they have improved their economic status is always present. This paper seeks to unpack the issue of social mobility through using two areas, Zandspruit, an informal settlement situated on the West Rand of Johannesburg, and the rural area of Philippolis in the Free State province as a case study. What the case study will show is that through migration, individuals draw on social institutions in order to gain access in urban areas, through this movement, new forms of community emerge.

AUTHOR'S ACADEMIC PROFILE:

Idah Makukule is a trained anthropologist. She has a Masters Degree in Historical studies and Anthropology and has recently completed her PhD in sociolinguistic anthropology at UCT. She specializes in language, youth and identity and her current research is on social change particularly in the Zandspruit area.