The Centre for Development Support (CDS) is a progressive research and development unit within the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences at the University of the Free State (UFS) with the broad aim of promoting sustainable human development in the broader South African society. In addition to this, the CDS also presents a two-year multi-disciplinary Master's Programme in Development Studies (MDS) with lecturers from sixteen departments at the UFS, using resource-based learning. This degree is designed for people who are currently working in a development-related context, or who intend to do so.

Vision

To be a leading research, training, and knowledge centre promoting sustainable human development

Mission

Promoting sustainable development through:

- Conducting applied and policyorientated research to inform, steer, and facilitate development initiatives, development programmes, and academic excellence
- Building capacity through training and development programmes
- Being a knowledge centre focused on four niche areas, namely
 - o poverty and social development,
 - o human settlements/housing
 - local economic development/enterprise development,
 - and rendering a consultative service on socio-economic development issues and initiatives to clients in the private and public sector, as well as the NGOs and CBOs
- Being part of a broad network of national and international development expertise.
- The CDS strives to achieve this mission with passion, a spirit of entrepreneurship, and through partnerships
- socio-economic characteristics of arid areas

Books and edited books

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- Fongwa, S., (2013). Universities in Regional Development: Knowledge Transfer in A Less Favoured Region.
- Pretorius, M., (2013). Logistical cities in peripheral areas. Smith, M., (2013). Cost of disabling hearing impairment in South Africa.
- Van Rooyen, D., (2013). Culture and local economic development in a small town.

Master's studies

- Chikoka, D., (2013). Evaluating Child Protection Strategy:
 A Case of Save the Children Zimbabwe Child Safeguarding Policy.
- Chimwanda, C., (2013). Veins of Development: Efficacy of child sponsorship programming for the right to education in the Makoni District of Zimbabwe.
- Chisenga, J., (2013). Adoption of Social Media by development-based nonprofit organizations in South
- Gomera, C., (2013). A Socio-Economic Analysis of Factors Contributing to low Maize Production among the Newly Resettled Farmers in Zimbabwe: A Case Study of Ward 29, Chegutu District.
- Gumbi, S., (2013). An Evaluation of the Integrated Development Planning as a development tool for municipalities: A case study of local municipalities in Umzinyathi District.
- Kraai, M., (2013). Public participation as an ingredient of good governance: Alfred Nzo district municipality.
- Kusemwa, T., (2013). Residents' participation in policy formulation and implementation: A case study of Chitungwiza Municipality.
- Mbashila, J., (2013). The Governance of Public Private Partnerships in Municipal Solid Waste Management, a case of Solwezi Municipal Council, Zambia.
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- Mapfumo, C., (2013). Reconciliation and community healing after political violence: A case study of the Buhera district, Zimbabwe.
- Maponya, A., (2013). Sustainability of Land Reform Farms and their Social Economic Impact on Beneficiaries in Elias Motsoaledi Municipality, Limpopo Province. South Africa in Vryburg, North West province.
- Masanga, M., (2013). The Impact of New Media on Civic Advocacy, Engagement and Lobbying: Case Study of the Kubatana Project in Zimbabwe.
- Masase, T., (2013). Impact of Entrepreneurship Education on Beliefs, Attitudes and Entrepreneurial Intentions among University Graduates.
- Mawoneke, S., (2013). An Investigation into the Effectiveness of Childline North West's Referral Service
- Namukoko, M., (2013). Effects of free Basic Education Policy on female learners, case of Luangwa district in Tambia.
- Ncube, N., (2013). Marketing Constraints facing small holder goat farmers in Beitbridge District.
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Projects

Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality - An investigation into the status of businesses on industrial stands in Mangaung

Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality: Data review

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