CONTRIBUTION OF TOURISM TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE BAPHALABORWA AREA IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE

by

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2013
DECLARATION

I declare that the mini-dissertation hereby submitted to the University of Limpopo, for the degree of Master of Development, has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other university; that it is my work in design and execution, and that all material contained therein have been duly acknowledged.

_____________________________  __________________
Mathebula,B.M.(Mr)  Date
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I wish to extend my gratitude to my family without which, completing this dissertation would not have been easy;

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Thanks to the Bollanoto Tourism Information Centre staff for assisting in the gathering of information.
Literature has shown that tourism provides benefits such as revenue generation, employment, regional development and economic prosperity to destination communities. The tourism industry is a highly labour intensive industry; hence it is a valuable source of employment. It employs a large number of people and provides a wide range of jobs, which extend from the unskilled to the highly specialised. Tourism industry plays an important role in the Ba-Phalaborwa Municipal economy and it has the potential to address the socio-economic challenges facing the Ba-Phalaborwa municipal area. The study recommends, based on its findings, the importance of tourism development in building the economy of Ba-Phalaborwa.

Firstly, the municipality should consider establishing a municipal entity as per the provisions of the Municipal Finance Management Act, which will be responsible for tourism in the area.

Secondly, a clear marketing strategy for all special events, including the marula festival, in the area should be developed in consultation with all the stakeholders.

Thirdly, the infrastructure, such as streets, electricity and sanitation, in the area should be upgraded to meet the future demand and expansion of the tourism industry.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Declaration</th>
<th>ii</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of Contents</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Tables</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Acronyms</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of maps</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Chapter 1: Introduction and Background of Study

1.1. Introduction                              1  
1.2. Statement of the Problem                 2  
1.3. Aim of the Study                         2  
1.4. Objectives of the Study                 2  
1.5. Research Questions                       3  
1.6. Significance of the Study               3  
1.7. Rationale for the Study                  3  
1.8. Research Outline                        4  

## Chapter 2: Literature Review

2.1. Introduction                              5  
2.2. Background on Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality and its socioeconomic status 5  
2.2.1. Economic opportunities in the Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality    7  
2.2.2. Employment in Ba-Phalaborwa                       8  
2.3. Defining Tourism                             9  
2.4. Global Context on Tourism                   13  
2.5. South African Context on tourism            14  
2.6. Policy and Legislative Framework on Tourism in South Africa  
2.6.2. The Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP)   16  
2.6.3. White Paper on the Development and Promotion of Tourism in South Africa 17  
2.6.5. The Accelerated Shared Growth Initiative in South Africa (ASGI-SA) 18  
2.6.6. The National Tourism Sector Strategy   18  
2.6.7. Ba-Phalaborwa Tourism Plan                19  
2.6.7.1. The foreign market                     19  
2.6.7.2. The domestic market                    19  
2.7. The role of tourism Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises in the local economy 20  
2.7.1. Special contributions of small business 21  
2.8. Types of Tourism                           24  
2.8.1. Cultural tourism                         24  
2.8.2. Events and festivals                     26  
2.8.2.1. Limpopo Marula Festival                27
## Chapter 3: Research Design and Methodology

### 3.1. Introduction

### 3.2. Research Design

### 3.3. Research Approach

### 3.4. Research Methodology

#### 3.4.1. The research process

#### 3.4.2. Sampling criteria

#### 3.4.3. Sampling, sampling selection, method and size

#### 3.4.4. Indicators used to assess the contribution of tourism to economic development in Ba-Phalaborwa

#### 3.4.5. Data collection methods

#### 3.4.6. Recording of data

### 3.5. Data Analysis Procedures

### 3.6. Ethical Considerations

### 3.7. Research Limitations

### 3.8. Summary

## Chapter 4: Presentation, Analysis and Interpretation of Findings

### 4.1. Introduction

### 4.2. The Sub-Questions

#### 4.2.1. Demographic profiles of the respondents

##### 4.2.1.1. Gender

##### 4.2.1.2. Country of origin

##### 4.2.1.3. Age

#### 4.2.2. Tourism contribution the municipal economic growth and the socio-economic gains result from the tourism industry

##### 4.2.2.1. Market segments

a. Domestic market

b. Foreign market

#### 4.2.3. Contribution by the tourism industry

#### 4.2.4. How many people are employed in the tourism industry in the municipality

##### 4.2.4.1. Nature of business

##### 4.2.4.2. Employment

##### 4.2.4.3. What skills are required to service the demands of the tourism industry

### 4.3. Some of the issues raised by some of the respondents
4.4. Conclusion

Chapter 5: Summary, Recommendations and Conclusions

5.1. Introduction
5.2. Summary of key findings
5.3. Recommendations
5.3.1. Local Tourism Association
5.3.2. Special events
5.3.3. Infrastructure development
5.4. Limitations of the study
5.5. Recommendations for further study
5.6. Conclusion

REFERENCES

LIST OF TABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Table 2.1</td>
<td>Settlement patterns in Ba-Phalaborwa</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 2.2</td>
<td>Income distribution in Ba-Phalaborwa</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 2.3</td>
<td>Data on Employment in Ba-Phalaborwa</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 2.4</td>
<td>Tourist Number Growth Targets for the Ba-Phalaborwa Area until 2015</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 2.5</td>
<td>Opportunities and Challenges in Integrating SMMES into Tourism Value Chains</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 2.6</td>
<td>The Economic Potential, Socio-Cultural and Environmental Advantages of Tourism Entrepreneurship are Manifold</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 4.1</td>
<td>Gender of respondents</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 4.2</td>
<td>Country of origin</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 4.3</td>
<td>Age distribution of the respondents</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 4.4</td>
<td>Purpose of visit (domestic)</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 4.5</td>
<td>Length of stay</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4.6: Expenditure on accommodation 49
Table 4.7: Expenditure on food 49
Table 4.8: Expenditure on shopping 49
Table 4.9: Other expenditures e.g. fuel 50
Table 4.10: Means of transport 50
Table 4.11: Activities undertaken 51
Table 4.12: Visit the area before 52
Table 4.13: Visit within one year 52
Table 4.14: Purpose of next visit 53
Table 4.15: Purpose of trip (foreign) 54
Table 4.16: Length of stay 54
Table 4.17: Expenditure on accommodation 54
Table 4.18: Expenditure on food 55
Table 4.19: Expenditure on shopping 55
Table 4.20: Expenditure on others, e.g. fuel 56
Table 4.21: Expenditure on arts and crafts 56
Table 4.22: Means of transport 57
Table 4.23: Activities 57
Table 4.24: Annual turnover 58
Table 4.25: Salary/wages per month 59
Table 4.26: Expenditure on goods and services 60
Table 4.27: Nature of business 60
LIST OF ACCRONYMS

AIDS-Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ASGI-SA - Accelerated Shared Growth Initiative in South Africa
ATTAG- Air Transport Action Group
CRS-Computerized Reservation System
BEE-Black Economic Empowerment
DBSA - Development Bank of Southern Africa
DPLG-Department of Provincial and Local Government
EPWP - Expanded Public Works Programme
FIFA - Federation Internationale de Football Association
GEAR - Growth, Employment and Redistribution Strategy
GDP-Growth Domestic Product
HIV - Human immunodeficiency virus
IDP - Integrated Development Plan
IGR-Inter-Governmental Relations
KNP-Kruger National Park
MDM-Mopani District Municipality
LED - Local Economic Development
LEDET-Limpopo Economic Development Environment and Tourism

LTA-Local Tourism Association

LTP-Limpopo Tourism and Parks

NGO-Non-Governmental Organization

OECD-Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

PMC-Palaborwa Mining Company

UNWTO- United Nations World Tourism Organization

WTO-World Tourism Organization

RDP-Reconstruction and Development Plan

SDF-Spatial Development Framework

SEDA - Small Enterprise Development Agency

SMME-Small Medium and Micro Enterprise

WSSD-World Summit on Sustainable Development

WTTC-World Travel and Tourism Council

VFR-Visits friends and relatives

**LIST OF MAPS**

Map:3.1. Population and the area of study 41