

THE CONTRIBUTION OF STREET VENDORS ON THE  
ECONOMY OF THULAMELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN LIMPOPO  
PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA

BY

DZIVHULUWANI MATSHINGE

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SUPERVISOR: Professor M.M. Kanjere

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## **DEDICATION**

This work is dedicated to my wife, Mpfariseni and my children, Mulisa, Tshedza and Tondani. Be motivated to work hard because with hard work you can achieve your goals.

## DECLARATION

I, *Dzivhuluwani Wattson Matshinge* declare that the mini-dissertation titled **“THE CONTRIBUTION OF STREET VENDORS ON THE ECONOMY OF THULAMELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA”** is my own work. It is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Business Administration at the Turfloop Graduate School of Leadership, University of Limpopo and it has never been submitted to any other university for a degree or examination. I further declare that I have obtained the necessary permissions and consents to conduct the research.



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Signature

05-06-2023

Date

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## **ABSTRACT**

Street vending has always been undermined by local authorities although they play a vital role in supporting the livelihoods and economies especially in developing countries. Street vendors are faced with different challenges such as harassment and evictions from certain places; and sometimes local authorities confiscated their stock. The dynamics of the street vending sector need to be better understood so that it could contribute positively to the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality. In addition, the aim of this study was to examine the contribution of street vendors to the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality, Limpopo Province, South Africa. Literature review that informed this study revealed that most governments have begun to recognize the street vending sector as an informal economic sector that contributes to the local economy by creating jobs and supporting urban poor families through taxes and vending licenses. The study was conducted in Thohoyandou which is the economic hub of Thulamela Local Municipality, Limpopo Province, South Africa. The study used a qualitative design, purposive sampling method, and an interview guide to collect data for this study. 18 street vendors and 2 municipal officials participated in this study. A semi-structured interview with selected street vendors was conducted in Thohoyandou. The study revealed that unemployment, the need to support the family and family dysfunction are the most important factors that motivated people to enter the street vending business. Street vending is a profession like any other professions that could reduce the unemployment rate in Thulamela Local Municipality. Despite all these positive contributions, the municipality did not regard street vending as an opportunity but a liability. By processing licenses quickly and providing basic infrastructure for those currently selling, local authorities would be creating an environment in which street vendors can legally sell their products.

## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>CBD</b>	Central Business District
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>CIPC</b>	Companies Intellectual Property Commission
<b>FET</b>	Further Education and Training
<b>GET</b>	General Education and Training
<b>NGO'S</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>MFI</b>	Municipal Financial Institutions
<b>SARS</b>	South African Revenue Services
<b>SMEs</b>	Small and Medium Enterprises
<b>WIEGO</b>	Women in Informal Employment: Globalization and Organizing

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## **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

A street vendor is someone who sells a variety of goods, food, or other items, and provides basic services to people walking down the street. Services offered by street vendors can include haircuts, shoe shining, and even transporting carts full of groceries from shops to taxi ranks for people willing to pay for such services (Singh 2021; Uddin, 2021). In addition, Selwyn (2018) and Efroymsen (2015) emphasized that street vending occurs on the street paths, sidewalk, footpaths, and entrances of formal businesses, public parks and private areas from a temporary built structure that could be erected on a daily basis or by moving from one place to another.

However, Bhoola and Chetty (2022) noted that economists associate vending activities as part of the informal sector, and identified street vendors as self-employed individuals who sell their products from temporary stalls along the streets. Such people may even go around looking for better places to sell their goods. A good place to sell is where people are able to see and buy products.

According to Islam and Khan (2019), vending activities are very common in towns and cities in developing and developed countries, and many people work in this informal economic sector. Furthermore, this economic sector provides goods and services in semi-urban and urban areas and creates job opportunities and subsistence for many people. In most countries, the street vending is not recognized or taken into account when compiling national economic statistics. Therefore, street vendors are not well-documented and their presence in urban environments is ignored. Singh (2020) argued that economists lack understanding of street vending activities and are therefore not included in the city and country economic indicators.

Mramba (2015) stressed that local governments do not conduct proper census of street vendors in their area. In this regard, their contribution to urban economy is

unknown although some of these municipalities collect significant income from this informal economic sector. Additionally, Mramba (2015) highlighted that local governments lack planning hence they lack representative statistics to make appropriate decisions about street vending.

On the other hand, Berhanu (2021) and Rajabu (2022) observed that street vendors are popular to the residents, because they provide goods at the prices that the residents could afford in convenient locations. Nonetheless, Dharejo, Mahesar, and Jhatial (2022) pointed out that street vendors are not recognized as entrepreneurs, although they can generate income for municipalities through vending registration fees, hawkers' licenses, and taxes. Street vendors are not even recognized by local authorities and continue to struggle around the formal economy. They have the potential to increase municipal revenues and revitalize local economies (Mesele, 2019; Mazhambe, 2017).

Poor people are moving to cities in search of greener pastures, where there are already unemployed people due to the contraction of the formal economy (Peimani & Kamalipur, 2022). Owing to this situation, people can see vending as something that could enable them to survive. The illiterate people who migrated from rural areas, street vending appears to be a major source of livelihood. Poverty and unemployment compel people to relocate to urban areas in search of better opportunities (Hossain, Melles & Bailey, 2022).

Uwitije (2016) and Saha (2011) further argued that for most street vendors, selling goods and services is not a luxury to them or a side income for entertainment purposes, but rather a way of earning their livelihood. They regard it as the main source of livelihood by providing food for their families and tuition to secure the future of their descendants. While the primary purpose of street vendors is to create employment for themselves, the ripple effect of their activity creates employment for farmers, artisans and porters. Street vending is becoming more attractive to many people, but there is an ongoing debate that street vending attracts people who cannot be employed in formal sectors or established businesses. Street vending activities are no longer reserved for lower social

groups, especially for the poor. People start vending so that they could be able to sustain themselves in such a hostile environment. Furthermore, it helps to reduce the possibilities of social exclusion and marginalization (Efroymson, 2015; Mazhambe, 2017).

On the same note, Hasan and Alam (2015) and Singh (2020) acknowledged the hostility of the working environment towards street vendors and mentioned the lack of ablution facilities such as toilets and other support services in the areas where they should operate as the main obstacles that impede them from working well. Dery and Bisung (2022) and Efroymson (2015) argued that economists associated street vending as part of informal activities that disrupt the formal economy. Overall, this understanding ensures that conflicts always arise between street vendors and local authorities over tax and licensing issues, their locations and hygienic conditions. Street vendors are associated with negative activities, such as blocking sidewalks and streets, selling unhygienic food, littering the streets and being controlled by the mafia. Ultimately, this leads to them being negatively treated by the local authorities.

Malefakis (2019); Moagi (2021) and Arias (2019) stated that the services of street vendors are often interrupted when municipalities undertake various urban cleaning and modernization activities. In this instance, street vendors are attacked, their goods seized, and they regard such actions as harassment and violence towards them. This general trend is also valid in Thulamela Local Municipality, where people move to Thohoyandou as an economic centre, and start selling their products informally in the streets and open spaces. This study focused on the extent to which street vendors can improve the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo Province. The nature of street vendors and how they could contribute to local economy had been highlighted. The investigation continued to reveal the political and economic sphere, and the flow of money within such a sector.



## 1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Creswell and Creswell (2018) acknowledged that "research problem" usually refers to focusing on a smaller, more manageable part of the research problem that could be studied, rather than showing a general interest in the research topic. 47.7% of the total population of the Vhembe District lives in the municipality of Thulamela. Almost 85% of the municipality's residents live in areas controlled by tribal authorities (StatSA, 2022). Furthermore, the unemployment rate in Thulamela Local Municipality is at 43.8% while youth unemployment is at 58.3%. Nengovhela (2017) also reported that due to unemployment crisis in Thulamela Local Municipality, people are moving from tribal areas to Thohoyandou as economic hub in the district and engaged in vending. Most significantly, moving to Thohoyandou by jobseekers resulted in some challenges associated with unemployment, like illegal vending activities. In addition, open spaces are made dirty resulting in the municipality workers failing to clean them. Street vendors who are operating illegally without licenses, could not contribute to local economy through paying taxes to the municipality. Some street vendors are happy to pay for hawking licences and contribute to income generation for Thulamela Local Municipality, but they are discouraged by those who are operating without hawking licences (Tshuma & Jari, 2013).

In Thohoyandou, some of the open spaces, which could be actually used to generate the income while being utilized by the formal businesses, are to some extent being occupied illegally by the hawkers. Thohoyandou town is one of the dirtiest towns in Limpopo Province, caused by the street vendors who are working under unhygienic conditions. In such an instance, it also implies that even foreign investors could be reluctant to make investments at Thulamela Local Municipality, although the open spaces are available. Therefore, what is happening in Thohoyandou town needs to be investigated so that recommendations could be made. Basically, such an attempt could assist the town-planners to make open spaces available for the street vendors. This could halt illegal occupation of town spaces and eventually contribute to the upliftment of Thulamela Local Municipality's economy.

### **1.3 AIM OF THE STUDY**

According to Van Rensburg (2017), the intention of any study is find out what the researcher wants to achieve with the study. The main objective should always be at the beginning of the research objectives or research questions which should be broad and not specific (Sanders et al., 2012). In this regard, Dougherty (2017) also emphasized that goals guide the action, while others depend on the nature of the research. For one reason, it would be an attempt to prove a theory and promote the development of important aspects of complex social phenomena. The aim of this study was to investigate the contribution of street vendors on the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo province.

### **1.4 THE STUDY OBJECTIVES**

Therefore, the objectives of this study were directed towards achieving the research aim. A study's research objectives were used as a guide to help the researcher to achieve what they proposed at the initial stages of the study and help in clarifying and formulating research questions (Budiyanto, Prananto, and Tan, 2019). Van Rensburg (2017) also pointed out that research objectives are only specific statements that relate to the central issues of the research project.

Mishra and Alok (2022) stated that a research project consists of several specific objectives. Therefore, this study focused on the following objectives:

1.4.1. To examine the extent in which the street vendors contribute to the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo Province.

1.4.2. To understand what motivates the Thulamela community to become street vendors.

### **1.5 RATIONALE OF THE STUDY**

Many poor people are attracted to the opportunities available in urban and semi-urban areas but find it difficult to survive due to their inexperience and lack of

skills. Although some may people have the necessary skills and experience, finding employment opportunities and a way to make a living can be difficult as it is impossible for a town to offer employment opportunity for everyone. Street vending has the potential to solve some of the urban problems by contributing to economic growth and boost economic activity (Adama., 2020). This is an area that people turn to because the barriers to entry and specific knowledge required to be street vendors are minimal if not absent. The researchers acknowledge the existence of street vending and the need to integrate them into formal business setting (Sekhani, Mohan & Medipally, 2019). On the contrary, local municipality such as Thulamela Local Municipality is not doing enough to acknowledge the contribution of street vending to local economy.

The acknowledgement and recognition of street vending is necessary to avoid ongoing conflicts between the local municipalities and street vendors regarding operating standards procedures by street vendors. Essentially, for street vendors to promote the local economic development of towns and regional centres, municipalities should begin to create a good working environment for street vendors, which is possible with proper planning by municipalities (Quarcoo., 2022). However, creating a favourable business environment is a key factor on the way to a competitive local economy, which is an important part of local economic development. (Rogerson & Rogerson, 2010).

High unemployment, crime and poverty in urban areas are some of the problems that could be solved by giving street vendors a chance to earn a living. Therefore, in this study, it was necessary to find out how the street vending boosts the local economy and thereby acts as a means to solve economic problems in urban and semi-urban areas.

## **1.6 THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

The alternative forms of research objectives are research questions that are used for the same purposes as objectives. They are also considered synonymous to the research problems but are presented in the form of questions (Bakker, 2018;

Van Rensburg, 2017). The research questions to assist to achieve this study's objectives, were as follow:

1.5.1. To what extent are street vendors contributing to the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo Province?

1.5.2. What motivates Thulamela communities to become street vendors?

## **1.7 THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The focus of this research was to establish the link between street trading and the promotion of the local economy in Thulamela Local Municipality. Therefore, this study should supplement the existing literature on the informal economy in Thulamela Local Municipality. It focused on examining contribution of street vending to the local economy. The study supported the work of other researchers in studying the impact of street vending in municipalities to fill the gaps in previous research on the phenomenon.

Furthermore, this provided an understanding and raised an awareness to local governments about the boosting of local economy through street vending. Such recognition had led to street vending as part of the formal economy, which could contribute to the local economy. This study was useful for street vendors, hence they could be aware of local government regulations to avoid constant conflicts with local governments regarding operating standards, such as, operating with a street vendor permit. This would shape new meaningful policies and guidelines and help city planners including street vendors in their planning. The study presented recommendations on the importance of street vending in creating job opportunities for unskilled labour and thus supporting the local economy.

## **1.8 DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS**

Here the concepts used on the study are described and indicated on how these concepts were used on the study.

### **1.8.1 Municipality**

Masiya, Davids and Mangai (2019) and Della (2012) stated that a municipality is a state institution under local government that exercises legislative and executive power in a limited area. It should also be realized that non-metro areas are still divided into municipalities. On the other hand, local government functions as an independent government, but is still divided into regional areas, and eventually there are also united villages (Ndaguba & Hanyane, 2019).

In the context of this study the Municipality should be understood as an entity that has powers to develop the by-laws that can also control the vendors.

### **1.8.2 Informal sector**

It is a form of economy that consists of companies or businesses that are not officially registered by regulatory bodies like, the South African Revenue Services (SARS), the Department of Labour and the Companies Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC). It is also known as the hidden economy, because it is an economic activity that is not included in official statistics and is therefore difficult to recognize (Omri, 2020; Rogerson, 2018).

In the context of this study the informal sector should be understood as any method of sales that improves ones livelihood although it is not registered as a business with regards to South African regulatory bodies

### **1.8.3 Formal sector**

The formal sector refers to companies or businesses registered with regulatory bodies, like SARS and CIPC. It covers all economic activities included in national statistics and can be quantified and recognized (Omri, 2020; Rogerson, 2018).

In the context of this study the formal sector should be understood as all businesses registered with South African business regulatory bodies.

#### **1.8.4 Street vendor**

Handoyo and Setiawan (2018) and Singh 2020 define a street vendor as anyone who sells various goods, food and daily necessities at an affordable price, or provides some basic services to people walking on streets. Street vendors can work in the same location or move from one location to another with their goods to sell them in public transport such as buses and trains (Sekhani, Mohan and Medipally, 2019).

In the context of this study street vendor should be understood as anyone who is involved (individually or leading a group) in selling goods on the streets.

#### **1.8.5 Street vending**

According to Handoyo and Setiawan (2018), street vending is an activity that street vendors engage in income generation where a person sells various items to people passing by on the streets and sidewalks.

In the context of this study street vending should be understood as an activity that has a potential to generate income and its potential to contribution to the economy of the local government will be evaluated.

#### **1.8.6 Economic contribution**

Sarker, Rahman, Cao and Xu (2019) argued that economic contribution is a general contribution related to a specific industry, event or policy in the economy or policy of a region. It is further divided into two categories, namely those that measure economic activity and those that measure economic benefits. Moreover, local economic development could be achieved when local governments and local communities stimulate a specific economic activity such as street vending and create jobs (Malizia, Feser, Renski, & Drucker, 2020). This implies that the use of local resources, including human, capital and institutional resources (Rogerson, 2018).

In the context of this study economic contribution should be understood as any activity that involves trading and generation an income/profit

## **1.9 OUTLINE OF RESEARCH REPORT**

This study was structured as shown below:

**Chapter One:** This chapter presented an introduction and background to the study. It consists of a problem statement, research objectives and the significance of the study, research questions and methodology, and definition of concepts. The researcher introduced the problem and why it was justifiable to conduct the study as well as setting the tone.

**Chapter Two:** This chapter included a literature review related to the study. It illustrated what the previous researchers' findings on the same topic in order to identify gaps.

**Chapter Three:** This chapter consisted of the methodology section which described the research plan and briefly explain how the researcher would achieve the goals or objective of the study. The methodological part embraced the research design of the study, which was the framework or plan for conducting the study, definition of study area, population, sampling, and data collection.

**Chapter Four:** This chapter indicated how collected data had been analysed. Tables were used to illustrate and interpret the results.

**Chapter Five:** This chapter presented the recommendations and conclusions based on the research findings and their implications.

## **CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, the literature related to the study was reviewed, which mainly dealt with the contribution of street vending to the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo Province, South Africa. The discussion in this chapter focused on key topics, such as street vending and informal economy, street vending perspectives, legal framework for street vending, hierarchy of laws and summary of Thulamela Local Municipality by-laws governing street vendors. Furthermore, the contribution of street vending to the local economy was divided into subsections such as job opportunities created by street vending, generating income for livelihood through street vending and providing affordable goods through street vending. In addition, economic and social factors that encouraged street vendors to participate in street vending, problems encountered by street vendors, environmental impacts of street vendors and the role of street vendors associations, theoretical framework and conclusion were also discussed.

### **2.2 STREET VENDING AND THE INFORMAL ECONOMY**

Darbi, Hall and Knott (2018) noted that the strengthening informal economy could serve as the main source of employment, production, income to support the family for the poor, uneducated and socially excluded people, especially women, accounting for 25-40 percent of annual production. It is known that 60-70 percent of jobs in cities and up to 90 percent of new jobs in developing countries in Asia and Africa are, created in the informal sector. In support of the aforesaid views, Malefakis (2015) also stated that although street vending is the most common economic sector in many African towns and beyond, but it continues to be considered an informal sector of the economy.

In this regard, Webb, McQuaid and Rand (2020) stated that many people view the informal economy as an opportunity for a better life, a growth platform for more successful entrepreneurs and a key link between producers and consumers



in a highly formal economy. Nonetheless, street vending is found to be dominated by street vendors who are involved in various types of business, such as selling food, clothes, vegetables, fruits, household items, etc. Street vendors are concentrated in urban areas (Tonya and Kara, 2020).

Tonya and Kara (2020) also indicated that although the informal business sector contributes significantly to the creation of jobs and sustainable livelihoods, its potential is not known or recognized by municipalities. Urban informal traders are increasingly isolated at the edges of urban spaces and marginalized in rural markets because they are generally seen by municipalities as a problem and a source of various criminal activities. Organized bandits, pollution and waste generation, squatting on land that has other uses, blocking streets and helping formal businesses to avoid taxes are some of the activities the municipalities wanted to eradicate at all costs (Bvuma, & Marnewick, 2020; Meth, Goodfellow, Todes & Charlton, 2021; Kouzas, 2022).

According to Suryanto, Adianto and Gabe (2020), it should also be realized that the concept "informal economy", despite its widespread use, has a negative meaning, contrary to "official" and therefore "correct" ways to do things and earn a living. However, Recchi (2020) and Martínez, Short and Estrada, (2018) cautioned that although it is considered as a provider of jobs, the informal economy has some pitfalls, such as non-declaration of tax obligations, violation of labour laws, lack of proper documentation, using illegal means to produce legal products, and encroachment on reserved areas within a city that expresses it negatively.

Williams, Máñez Costa, Celliers and Sutherland (2018) noted that this old and negative perception accelerated the marginalization of informal traders in decision-making mechanisms, such as the development of local government policies, regulations and planning processes. Moreover, Blekking, Waldman, Tuholske and Evans (2020) emphasized that negative attitudes towards street vendors can also stem from the inability of municipalities to deal with the complexity and the diversity of the informal business sector, as they lacked the

necessary skills or knowledge about the composition and contribution to the local economy of street vendors. In this instance, Fourie (2018) and Mpofu (2022) argued that informal business has traditionally been associated with negative consequences in taxation, weakening of social cohesion, law and order. This refers to informal business as a set of irrational, undesirable and unfashionable activities, this would demand their immediate elimination at all costs. Therefore, it is important for the government to see how it can include this informal sector in its plans. The administration of municipalities can also plan cooperation with representatives of the informal sector, mainly street vendors (Onodugo, Ezeadichie, Onwuneme & Anosike, 2016). Furthermore, Junaidi and Othman (2021) stressed that a planning committee under a hawker representative can come up with modern plans to employ street vendors to contribute to positive economic development.

### **2.3 PERSPECTIVES ON STREET VENDING**

Street vending means selling, offering or displaying for sale any product, subscription, service, pre-packaged frozen dessert, or any combination thereof, for current or future delivery, or to solicit others to purchase along or through a highway, street or sidewalks. In this regard, it also includes door-to-door in a residential area or outdoors, or from or instead of a temporary shelter or vending on a public space or private property (Steiler & Nyirenda, 2021; Recchi, 2020). Moreover, Racaud, Kago and Owuor (2018) maintained that street vending means that a vendor sells, displays, or sells items of value from a mobile vendor trailer or vehicle installed between the curbs of a public thoroughfare to persons on the sidewalk or means to provide.

Sekhani, Mohan and Medipally (2019) alluded that street vending is widespread in most cities and provides employment and income for many people living in the city. Nonetheless, the attitude of underestimating street vending as unhygienic and of no value in boosting the economy in many countries is strongly emphasized (Uko, Akpanoyoro & Ekpe, 2020). In this instance, Hasan and Alam (2015) also acknowledged that street vending causes conflicts between street

vendors and municipalities regarding licenses and taxes, workplace, hygiene and working conditions.

On the other hand, Son, Lien, Thao, Nam and Van Anh (2019) highlighted that most cities lack adequate or accessible registration systems for street vendors. Many criminalize street vending and prevent street vendors from legally registering on their data bases. In other cases, licenses are available, but governments do not issue enough licenses to street vendors so that they can be involved in vending legally. In most cases, street vending appears to be operating legally, although a minority of them sell counterfeit goods. Apparently, there is no evidence that we could generalize that they are more likely to sell them than the legitimate businesses (Roever & Skinner, 2016).

South Africa's informal economy accounts for 17% of employment and street vending is the biggest venture which boost local economy. Broadly speaking, street vendors are scattered around many areas of the country's cities. They sell a wide variety of products and assist in promoting economic and social development activities. However, street vendors still face harassment from local authorities (Musara and Nieuwenhuizen, 2020). They face relentless evictions, constant confiscation of property, and demands for bribes from police officers. (Roever, 2020; Adama, 2020). In support of previous view, Chakraborty and Koley (2018) maintained that street vendors seemed to be unruly, chaotic and destructive, prompting local governments to forcibly eliminate and relocate them.

However, Monga, Dzvimo and Mashizha (2019) stressed that street vendors who make their living on public spaces face, daunting challenges beyond their daily activities. Extremely inadequate infrastructure, especially around access to clean water and toilets, often has a devastating effect on their working lives. Multiple expenses, such as toilet bills and water deliveries, are already hitting their meager income. Restricted access puts a strain on the mental and physical health of street vendors, further reducing revenue potential (Kirumirah & Munishi, 2020). Street vendors are already struggling to earn enough to survive and the cost of using toilets and clean water only adds to this burden (Berhanu, 2021).

Most significantly, city authorities emphasized that everyone should have access to public spaces for transportation, leisure, or to earn a living. In fact, cities around the world face common challenges when it comes to making public spaces available for everyone. For example, intense pressure to raise local revenues can push cities to privatize public space, reducing the amount available to the public. People in the city with different interests and visions of public space can also lead to conflicts that city authorities must manage (Carmona, 2019).

According to Roever (2020), street vending usually causes conflicts between street vendors and local authorities, because of the way it operates in most African cities. Killander (2019) and Lemon (2021) noted that in most places despite where the street vendors are operating, they are evicted so that larger businesses are established. In one way or another, such street vendors are always accused of the most criminal activities happening in most countries (Steiler & Nyirenda, 2021).

One of the most common responses to the public space management dilemma is to designate a specific public space within the city and moved street vendors to that space. Evictions are a political response to the challenge of controlling the use of public spaces. Adama (2020) highlighted that, these policies can negatively affect the income generated by street vendors and the well-being of their families. Additionally, these costly measures drain city resources, harm consumers who depend on street vendors for their essential needs and are often ineffective at maintaining empty spaces.

Furthermore, Dovey, Cook and Achmadi (2019) emphasized that the eviction of street vendors can also make a city an unattractive place to visit and can adversely affect local economies in a number of ways. Constant evictions in Bangkok, a place of best practice for comprehensive management of public spaces, have tarnished the city's reputation as a world-class street food destination. This has resulted in a drop in tourism that could hurt formal business and reduce tax revenue for the city. These solutions typically fail because they were developed without the accurate knowledge that street vendors have about

their customers, pedestrian flows, and optimal sales spaces, and do not address their needs (Hermawati & Paskarina, 2020).

## **2.4 LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK GOVERNING STREET VENDING**

The promotion of local social and economic development was assigned to local municipalities by the South African Constitution. Powers are specified in the Local Government White Paper and Local Government Act (Enaifoghe, 2022; Maleka & Rapatsa, 2021). The failure of the Local Government Act to create good relations between municipalities and street vendors has a negative impact on their economic success. Street vending can solve the problem of unemployment if it is well supported and managed. According to Kanyane, Mutema and Zikhali (2022), building relationships is key to improving the lives of local communities. Municipalities must use legislation and other tools to create an environment where formal and informal business can flourish.

Local economic development can therefore be a means uplifting local economic economy, job creation and poverty reduction. Street vending will certainly help municipalities achieve these goals due to South Africa's high unemployment rate. In addition, street vending can minimize the impact of poverty. Constitutional rights and values are associated with street vending as a means of promoting the local economy (Ngcobo, 2021; Munzhedzi and Makwembere, 2019). Although efforts are made to control street vending, local government rules must follow the principles of the constitution. In other words, the actions of municipalities must always be in accordance with the Constitution. If any actions against street vendors violate their rights, values and duties defined in the Constitution, they should be reviewed (Maleka & Rapatsa, 2021).

Street vending must be controlled according to the provisions of the Constitution. This concerns, among other things: the right to human dignity, freedom of trade and work, property rights, access to information and justice. In general, this also means that sovereign rights must be respected at all costs, and therefore municipalities ensure that their powers and responsibilities in controlling informal

sector are compatible with established constitutional principles (Munzhedzi & Makwembere, 2019; Maleka & Rapatsa, 2021).

However, Enaifoghe (2022) and Efroymsen (2015) confirmed that our country has repressive laws that ignore the plight of street vendors who have always faced eviction threats and crackdowns. With increasing economic challenges, many people are unemployed, and have no choice but to create their own jobs through street vending. South Africa has a hostile legal environment for street vendors, criminalizing the sale of counterfeit designer goods. Conversely, street vendors face confiscation, fines and even imprisonment while trying to use vending for their survival.

Mkhize, Dube and Skinner (2013) highlighted the importance of legislation to strengthen informal activities, including street selling, in South Africa. Recently, the Business Act 1991 was introduced, and the changes as stipulated by Act lead to street vendors being recognized as business people. Local governments are therefore compelled to regulate street vendor sales activities, as required by law, since they are prohibited to prevent street as new regulations stipulated and should be enforced by all branches of government (Maleka & Rapatsa, 2021).

The current legislation recommends for the granting of powers for street vending to the concerned people in order to create conducive environment for the development of all sectors including street vending. Most significantly, the White Paper on Local Governments encouraged local governments to work with communities and human rights defenders to people's quality of life (Gamielidien et al., 2017; Mkhize et al., 2013).

Street vendors have rights like everyone-else and need to be supported while doing their work. It requires joint actions among street vendors and support from stakeholders such as governments, businesses and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In this instance, alternative models of street vendor management and ultimately ending-up in the better legal frameworks should be adopted. With no accessible street vendor registration system in place, it may be a myth that street vendors choose to operate informally or illegally. In this case,

if it is legalized, street vendors could make a positive contribution to the local economy (Uwitije, 2016; Uko et al., 2020).

#### **2.4.1 The hierarchy of laws and its relevance to street vending**

The legal hierarchy has begun with the Constitution (Act No 108 of 1996), which is the Supreme Law of South Africa and all other laws had derived their powers from it. This was followed by the Business Act (Act No 72 of 1991) and National Policies for implementing the rights contained in the Constitution. The Business Act empowers local governments to enact municipal bylaws regulating informal trading (Fombad, 2018; Gloppen, 2019).

#### **2.4.2 Street vending and the Constitution (Act No 108 of 1996)**

In 1996, after multiparty Constitutional negotiations, the final version of the Constitution was adopted in South Africa. After the Constitution was passed, informal trading under the Bill of Rights allowed street vending to operate legally. The right to human dignity, equality, free choice of trade, profession or occupation and fair administration should be emphasized. The right to equality and human dignity are the two principles guiding how informal trade should be controlled (Maleka & Rapatsa, 2021; Fombad, 2018; Gloppen, 2019; Act No 108, 1996).

In terms of Constitutional rights, all people have the rights to participate in street vending. According to the Constitution, all people are entitled to equal protection and benefits before the law. Furthermore, this clause emphasizes the right to fair treatment in all circumstances. Additionally, the Constitution affirms that all people are born with dignity and have the right to respect and protection. The ability of street vendors to trade informally and freely is closely related to the right to human dignity (Gloppen, 2019; África, 2020; Hassim, 2020).

Moreover, Venter (2020); Dladla (2020); Khambule (2021); Plagerson, Patel, Hochfeld and Ulriksen (2019) stressed that the Constitution also stipulates that "[all] citizens shall have the right to choose their profession and occupation freely." Every person, including street vendors, should engage in free trade, but

it should be regulated by laws or policy documents. Local governments have the right to control informal trading by establishing rules specific to their jurisdiction, as well as to control other fundamental rights arising from the Constitution. Therefore, local governments must deal with street vending within the confines of the Constitution.

Section 25 of the Constitution strictly prohibits every person to be deprived of his or her own properties. This means that street vendors' properties could not just be confiscated or destroyed by local officials unless such action is within the confines of relevant law. The ownership of any property is especially important for street vendors who have goods to sell, not just arbitrarily confiscated. On the other hand, local government officials are often empowered by local bylaws to seize or confiscate goods from unofficial street vendors to ensure compliance with the bylaws (Dugard, 2019; Gloppen, 2019).

Seemingly, Khambule (2018) & Hassim, (2020) emphasized that bylaws that allow law enforcement officers to seize or confiscate goods from street vendors are not always constitutional. Section 33 of the Constitution emphasized the right of every citizen of our country to legal, rational and fair administrative action. The administrative law controls government officials performing functions on behalf of their respective governments. Local government officials are reminded that while they are busy enforcing its rules, they should constitutionally respect the street vendor's property.

In a legal view, the local governments are in the forefront of making administrative decisions that include not issuing, suspending, revoking or withholding street vending licenses which directly affect street vendors. There are also decisions to confiscate goods from illegal street vendors, and decisions to relocate or expel street vendors from stalls (Bénit-Gbaffou, 2018; Sekhani et al., 2019). Ideally, for street vending to contribute to local economy, rights of street vendors should be recognized and good relationship between street vendors and local governments be established. If street vendors are negatively affected by administrative decisions, they can go to court to overturn such decision. In case, where the



street vendors' rights are affected by administrative decision, they are empowered by section 33(2) of the Constitution to be given an explanation of such decision in writing (Khambule, 2018; Hassim, 2020).

According to Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 (PAJA) 2000, an officer's actions must be reasonable and at a minimum, this means that all actions must be reasonable (the actions must be reasonably or logically related to the objectives the officer seeks to achieve). If a municipal official confiscates the goods of a street vendor because his place of business is untidy or his goods are only slightly outside the limited store, this is deemed as unreasonable. In this way, the act (seizing the traders' goods) is not reasonably or proportionately related to the objective the officer is trying to achieve (getting the street vendor to shift his or her stall and goods within a restricted line) (Hona, 2020; Heydenrych, 2020).

Street vendors can also demand written reasons from the municipal officials if they are negatively affected by decision taken. In support to this, every street vendor, has the right to make a written request to the municipality to explain in clear and understandable language why his or her application for licenses has not been granted (Omidire, 2021; Ruder & Woods, 2020; Vinti, 2020; Liebenberg, 2018).

In section 7 of the Constitution, basic human rights described in the Bill of Rights are declared. In this case, municipalities must not violate or prevent the rights of street vendors, and they also have the duty to protect and prevent others from violating their rights and dignity. Moreover, this duty has not been limited with the adoption of legislation, but also compels municipalities to ensure the effective implementation of defence legislation in practice (Francis & Webster, 2019; Webster & Francis, 2019).

### **2.4.3 Street vending versus the Businesses Act (Act No 72 of 1991)**

The previous Act was mainly aimed at suppressing and prosecuting informal economic activity. However, the new framework recognizes informal business as an informal sector that could boost local economy and enhance people's

livelihood. The Business Act removes barriers to street vending, and officially recognizes street vendors as people who are doing business. Local governments were given new responsibility of regulating and restricting street vending as per the Act (Act No 108 of 1996; Maleka & Rapatsa, 2021).

According to Skinner (2018), the Business Act should encourage local governments to refrain from restricting informal trade so that street vending can flourish. The situation changed from where the majority of street vendors were not allowed to trade, while the minority was allowed to trade freely (Skinner, Reed & Harvey, 2018; Roever & Skinner, 2018).

Singh (2016) and Lemon (2021) stated that the introduction of Business Amendment Act 186 of 1993 gave local authorities absolute power to exercise their powers in informal trade. Furthermore, Section 6A (1) (a) of the Businesses Amendment Act requires the municipalities to introduce bylaws aimed at controlling street vending. Additionally, the Business Amendment Act 186 of 1993 empowered municipalities to put pressure on street vendors by setting their expectations for street vending regulation. Municipalities all over the country have adopted various regulations in order to control informal business (Fourie & van Staden, 2020; África, 2020, Killander 2019; Gloppen, 2019).

According to Section 6A (1) (c), municipal licenses should be issued to allow street vendors to trade in a certain location or stand. Section 6A (1)(d) provides mechanisms for municipalities to enforce their informal trade bylaws. In this case, sanctions (fine or imprisonment) or confiscation of goods should be imposed if the street vendors have not complied with the municipal bylaws (Killander, 2019; Fourie & van Staden, 2020; Gloppen, 2019). In this regard, the Business Amendment Act 186 of 1993, allows local governments to limit or prohibit street vending processes by defining the steps a municipality must follow to legally limit street vending processes in a certain area. If these steps are not followed, prohibition or ban on street vending becomes illegal and could be overruled by a court of law (Killander, 2019; Fourie & van Staden, 2020; Gloppen, 2019).

#### **2.4.4 Controlling Street vending through municipal by-laws**

Each municipality was given the authority to control street vending. This can be done by passing municipal council bylaws to control informal trade, including street vending, within their area of jurisdiction. In all municipal decisions, the constitution must be regarded as the supreme law of the country. All local authorities and officials must consider their Constitutional obligations when designing and implementing an informal trade policy (Tsoriyo, Ingwani, Chakwizira, & Bikam, 2021).

#### **2.4.5 Thulamela Local Municipality by-laws governing the street vending**

There is general conduct of street vendors at Thulamela Local Municipality which are as follow: street vendors are only allowed to place their properties on the pavement or public places for the purpose of starting to trade. In such instances, the street vendors should ensure that the area of the properties does not exceed three square meters (3m<sup>2</sup>) of a public road, public place or sidewalk, unless written permission from the Council has been obtained for a larger area. On a narrow sidewalk of less than 2.5 m, street vendors may not trade or place or stack property that may cause bodily injury. The street vendors shall only erect structures for the purpose of business only and not for sleeping during the night. The shelter must receive the written consent of the municipal council in order to protect the goods. Street vendors may not erect a structure on the premises that may obstruct access to a fire hydrant, or an area restricted to the use of an emergency vehicle or service only. At the end of each business day, street vendors must move their properties, with the exception of permanent structures approved by the council, to a location that is not part of a public road or public place. Street vendors must comply with a request from an employee or councillor or official of Telkom or Eskom to move their properties in order to allow them to carry out work related to a public road or public space. Street vendors cannot make an open fire at the place of trading or in circumstances where it can injure a person or damage a building or vehicle, as well as store property in a well or

rainwater drain, in a bus shelter, in a public place, in the toilet or in the trees. Continuous shouting or singing from megaphones, radios, loudspeakers or street vendors in a way that disturbs others is prohibited (Thiba, 2019; Nkuna & Nemutanzhela, 2012; Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act No 32 of 2000)).

## **2.5 STREET VENDING'S CONTRIBUTION TO LOCAL ECONOMY**

Selwyn (2018) suggested that the local government has to recognize street vending as contributing to local economy of each municipality in South Africa. However, it is mostly in developing countries where street vending is an important part of economic development. Deore and Lathia (2019) and Mairuri (2010) noted that street vending creates job opportunities and income for many poor people. Alternatively, they serve the public and private formal sectors and also creates demand for the services provided by its stakeholders (Roever and Skinner, 2016).

In 2007, a large number of street vendors were operating in South Africa. With few barriers to entry in this activity, many informal sector workers with few resources turn to informal street trade (Chen & Carré, 2020). People working in the informal sector work in different conditions and therefore there is a need for effective policies to cater for diverse needs of informal workers (Arias, 2019).

Uwitije (2016) also argued that street vendors provide jobs for people who move to urban areas in search of greener pastures. But people need these jobs and access to affordable goods and services. According to Kiaka, Chikulo, Slootheer, and Hebinck, (2021) and Chen and Carré (2020), street vending indirectly sustains jobs in other industries responsible for the production of goods and services, which are sold by street vendors.

Sharaunga and Mudhara (2021) and Mramba (2015) highlighted that farmers, local producers and other domestic industries also rely on vending activities to sell their products. In this context, street vendors create jobs for themselves and others, thereby strengthening the community. Uwitije (2016) also emphasized that street vendor's help boost the urban economy by paying licenses, fines and taxes to the local governments. Kiaka et al. (2021) and Chen (2020) also noted

that street vending can boost the local economy. Uwitije (2016) argues that most governments are hostile to street vendors. Despite being the largest sector in developing countries, most governments ignore the informal economy.

Islam and Khan (2019) and Shekhar (2021) agreed that street vending is a relief for people moving from semi-urban and urban areas, and for those who are unemployed due to economic hardship. Moreover, Uwitije (2016) emphasized that street vendors invest in the future of their children by feeding their families and sending their children to school. Basically, street vending also benefits local farmers, artisans and porters as suppliers of produce to street vendors.

### **2.5.1 Job opportunities created by street vending.**

Kumar, Murphy, Talwar, Kaur and Dhir (2021) and Ray and Mishra (2011) stated that street traders act as a link between producers and consumers, buying products from producers and selling them to consumers at affordable prices. They contribute to the local economy by selling locally produced goods. In addition, Sharaunga and Mudhara (2021) and Mramba (2015) also pointed out that legalizing street vending by municipalities can boost the local economy through rents, taxes and zoning charges. This reduces the use of open spaces in cities and finally, they could claim it and serves as a control measure.

In support of the aforesaid view, Islam and Khan (2019); Shekhar (2021) and Efroymsen (2015), stated that formal businesses tend to source their inventory from outside the confines of the local government, in contrast to street vendors who source their inventory primarily locally and benefit the local community. Mazhambe (2017) and Sharaunga and Mudhara (2021) observed that that poor people who migrate to urban areas could benefit from the self-reliance generated by vending activities. The money generated from these activities could circulate and contribute to the local economy.

Moreover, Mramba (2015) argued that, if people only have access to, and services from, large businesses, the poor will no longer be free from such transactions, as the money will remain with the wealthy owners of the formal

firms. The presence of street vendors ensures that the money earned through sales activities stays in the hands of the poor and benefits low-income people. Thilmany, Canales, Low and Boys (2021) hinted that when street vendors sell their products and services, they demand more local products from local merchants in return.

According to Ghatak and Chatterjee (2018), most of the urban poor can meet their basic needs through street vending. Street vending helps them to create their own jobs and earn cash income. Street vending sector has been ignored and not accounted in national statistics. Street vending sector create jobs in cities where unemployment and poverty are more severe. Street vending creates jobs and income for many people (Ghatak and Chatterjee, 2018). In addition, increased demand for local products from suppliers will create more employment opportunities in local supply chains and contribute to local economies by increasing tax revenues for local governments (Skinner, 2019).

Ideally, Kumar et al. (2021) argued that street vendors are efficient sellers of commodities such as fruits and vegetables at affordable prices. Formal businesses cannot play this role because their distribution system is centralized, and their prices are tightly regulated in contrast to the efficient decentralized distribution system associated with street vendors.

Despite the aforesaid statements, street vendors sell goods manufactured in small-scale industries, such as clothing, leather and plastic goods, and household goods. This ends up in creating an employment for street vendors. In addition, there is a link between street vending and other sectors by creating jobs and marketing their products. In this regard, street vendors maintain jobs in formal and informal sectors (Reardon, Mishra, Nuthalapati, Bellemare, and Zilberman, 2020; Timalsina, 2011).

### **2.5.2 Generating income for livelihood through street vending**

In support of the aforementioned views, Etim and Daramola (2020) stated that street vending could also create jobs, develop entrepreneurial skills and uplift the

economic status of municipalities. In fact, it could alleviate poverty through generation of income for livelihood and make street vendors to be financially independent (Giraldo, Garcia-Tello & Rayburn, 2020). However, street vendors work under poor conditions that prevent them making significant profit (Hill, Mchiza, Puoane, and Steyn, 2019).

The profit margins of street vendors are determined by location and point of sale, tax bracket and education level, as well as the gender and type of goods sold. (Hill et al., 2019). Job creation and generation of income open business opportunities to street vendors. They can start by selling small items before selling high profit items like clothes and shoes (Workiyee, 2019). In addition, a street vending could be a steppingstone from temporary job to permanent jobs (Adama, 2020; Kamalipour & Peimani, 2019).

### **2.5.3 Provision of affordable goods by street vendors**

Cheaper prices are more convenient to the poor and unemployed people. As poor groups cannot afford to buy some goods from formal businesses, they rely on street vending to provide those basic goods to them (Jeaheng, & Han, 2020). Street vendors offer basic goods so that poor people could afford to buy them. Most importantly, those with few resources especially the poor, could buy small items at lower prices from street vendors and therefore able to access basic goods (Schmalz, Ludwig, & Webster, 2018; Roever, 2020).

## **2.6 FACTORS THAT MOTIVATE PEOPLE TO BE INVOLVED IN STREET VENDING**

Regardless of where people are, rural or urban, there are factors that make people act in certain ways, such as looking for work or engaged in street vending. Various factors motivate people to participate in street vending and these are economic and social in nature. The sections below have attempted to explain the factors that motivate people to start vending.

## **2.6.1 Economic factors**

According to Boldureanu et al., (2020), the term economic driving factors refers to factors related to the development of business, industry and wealth of a country, region or society. On the other hand, the term lack of employment opportunities simply means the lack of jobs in a certain area. From an economic perspective, economic motives can refer to activities that people engage in with the goal of improving their lives, including that of their family members.

### **2.6.1.1 Lack of employment opportunities**

Many sub-Saharan countries and South Africa in particular have encountered rapid population growth rates. In Limpopo Province, where Thulamela Local Municipality is found, the population growth rates are higher while the local economy is struggling. Unemployment is very rife resulting in people to migrate to Thohoyandou town to look for employment opportunities. Most of the people are not employable in the formal sectors of the economy because they lack some basic skills due to limited education aggravated by poverty (Narula, 2019).

Therefore, most people opted for street vending to earn a living. According to Narula (2019), street vendors do not start businesses voluntarily, but are forced by circumstances to do so. The reason being that they cannot find paid work or due to other economic shocks. Similarly, Sarker et al. (2019) and Green (2021) showed that a large pool of unemployed people are the potential street vendors.

### **2.6.1.2 Higher tax rates and harsh government trade regulations**

In some countries, registering a company is very expensive coupled with higher tax rates and harsh labour laws. These conditions forced small entrepreneurs to operate on the street as a way of escaping higher tax rates (Webb, Bruton, Tihanyi & Ireland, 2013). In addition, Chimucheka and Mandipaka (2015) argued that most street vendors believe that strict tax rules hinder business development when confronted with an inconsistent tax compliance.



The rules governing the establishment of informal businesses appear to be inconsistent. According to Makhitha (2017), most small businesses are unable to follow complex rules and procedures due to the lack of awareness of the laws that govern them. Many potential entrepreneurs are concerned about the country's harsh labour laws, which have a negative impact on small business start-ups. Labour law is considered one of the barriers for starting a business in South Africa. Therefore, the barriers to market entry from the formal economic sector should be removed to improve labour market conditions (Uwitije, 2016).

## **2.6.2 Social factors**

Among the many social factors, self-employment, family support, limited education and entrepreneurial tendencies were discussed in order to uncover the factors that compel people to start street vending business. Boldureanu et al. (2020) and Ndhlovu (2011) reiterated that street vendors carry out their activities as an easy way to become independent with little initial capital. In support of the view, Gamielien et al. (2017) stressed that there are limited employment opportunities in South Africa's formal sector, which forced people to sell on the streets.

### **2.6.2.1 Supporting family**

Essentially, street vending offers an opportunity for the street vendors to earn and support dependent family members (Steiler & Nyirenda, 2021). As already stated, parents have the responsibility of supporting their children despite being unemployed. Owing to the increased vulnerability of the household, those unemployed parents would have no other alternative, but to rely on street vending in order to support their families. Due to high dependence ratio in a typical African family, obtaining the basic needs of dependent family members shift to youth and adults. Therefore, most people engage in street vending to support their families (Ekobi, 2022; Steiler & Nyirenda, 2021).

In this regard, Babere (2013) revealed that street vendors support their families according to their circumstances, allowing them to have some income to meet

the daily needs of their family (Babere, 2013; Horwood, Haskins, Alfes, Masango-Muzindutsi, Dobson & Rollins, 2019).

### **2.6.2.2 Limited education**

A study conducted by Mramba (2015) revealed that the operating methods of the street vending business conceptualize the best operating method to successfully reduce poverty in Tanzania. It has been claimed that the street vending business is an important business, especially for the less educated people (Mramba 2015). Workiye (2019) and Ndhlovu (2011) conducted studies in Zambia's Lusaka District where it was found that the lack of skills associated with working in the formal sector is one of the many reasons why people turn to street vending. Usually, some of these skills are acquired through formal education.

### **2.6.2.3 Entrepreneurial tendencies**

Real national income should grow over time to achieve economic development. Entrepreneurship is very critical to boosting the local economy. Therefore, the role of entrepreneurship is an important part of economic development and growth (Doran, McCarthy and O'Connor, 2018; Mohanty, 2012). Schumpeter's theory of economic development is considered among several theories focusing on entrepreneurship, which includes street vendors. According to Schumpeter's innovation theory, he summarized that an entrepreneur is one who sees an opportunity for innovation (Doran et al., 2018; Mohanty, 2012). Economic development depends on entrepreneurship, innovation and opportunity identification. However, the theory lacks consideration of risk taking, because in the theory people expect to improve regardless of other environmental factors. Hawkers belong to this theory of business opportunities. Street traders take advantage of opportunities in this developing world because they sometimes appear by chance without researching how it will enhance growth and development.

## **2.7 STREET VENDING AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

Street vending creates spatial problems including environmental impacts due to the location of street trading units or activities in urban spaces. Unregulated street vendor activity usually creates environmental problems such as excess trash and litter rendering local authorities to unable to keep cities clean. Inadequate infrastructure and poor waste collection and management systems in local municipalities lead to garbage problems within the city (Schenck, Grobler, Blaauw & Nell, 2022).

In addition, there are other places in South Africa such as Durban where street vendors have succeeded in keeping their places of operation clean. Other countries used Durban as an example to promote urban cleanliness. The street vendors in Durban clean their spaces and pay for waste collection services. It is worth noting that street vendors in Durban clean workspaces while they arrive, keep them clean during the time of operation and clean again when they leave at night making Durban to be recognized as one of the well-organized cities in the world (Khumalo, 2019).

## **2.8 STREET VENDING CHALLENGES AND THE ROLE OF STREET VENDORS ASSOCIATIONS**

Street vending is a very important tool in fighting unemployment, but it often comes with operational challenges. Uwitije (2016) also pointed out that because of their situation, they face challenges to make ends meet which negatively affect their capacity to generate more income and alleviate poverty. Malefakis (2019) conducted a study on the working conditions and problems of street vendors in Dar es Salaam and found that the challenges facing street vendors in the city include: frequent eviction, limited start-up capital, unplanned practices and unstable security. The study emphasized that repeated conflicts between local governments and street vendors arise from poor planning, lack of peaceful negotiations, and relocating street vendors to less attractive locations, unable to involve street vendor organizations and disregard of street vendors' basic rights by local governments. It is almost impossible to conduct informal business without

government officials such as police and municipal officials. These members determine the success or failure of street vending (George, Msoka & Makundi, 2022).

It has been reported that police and municipal inspectors have a tendency of confiscating street vendor's products (Hove, Ndawana, & Ndemera, 2020). In addition, street vendors are regarded as illegal traders, violators of public space and see them as a source of many problems within a city by local government officials. The negative perception of street vending process created conflicts between street vendors and local authorities. To get rid of this group, the city authorities have developed different ways to deal with them, through confiscating their properties. Moagi (2021) stated that sometimes municipalities are involved in illegal activities such as bribery paid to municipalities and police officers. Street vendors are seen as threatening the image of the area. In addition to confiscation, street vendors were also plagued by other issues, such as working in a hostile environment with high levels of harassment. They also face market access, overcrowding, reduced sales volume due to the company's poor location, and limited purchasing power of customers. Other critical challenges they face include limited start-up capital, safe business location, corruption and high fees charged by city officials and other authorities (Moagi, 2021; Arias, 2019).

Most significantly, city governments in some African countries follow traditional restrictive practices and ordinances that consider street trading an illegal business. In general, most street vendors have little knowledge of the existence of these rules and regulations. Most countries have tried to develop a decentralized system by empowering local governments to manage these types of business. As explained before, local governments could not create the right way to manage these businesses. They did not regularly review the company's rules and regulations or guidelines (Arias, 2019).

A forum called Operation Clean Sweep was created in Johannesburg to address South Africa's employment crisis. The forum has set precedents around the world in trying to encourage street vendors to clean up their vending spaces. Social and

economic resources were mobilized to enable poor residents to create their own jobs in urban areas to enable them to support their families. Sidewalks were reduced to create ideal spaces for formal businesses to avoid conflict and other informal activities (Zack, 2015).

Uwitije (2016) argued that street vendors do not participate in the planning of their vending activities and overall urban development programmes due to the weak ties of street vendors. In addition, these associations cannot promote the rights of street vendors and have no bargaining power, so they cannot contribute to the local economy to any extent. According to Mkhize et al. (2013), this led to the improvement of facilities such as water supply and toilets due to poor connectivity.

Mazhambe (2017) also noted that any business activity needs a favourable and safe environment to operate successfully. In this regard, most streets in semi-urban and urban areas in Africa are not safe due to high crime rates and this is a stumbling block to business success. Uwitije (2016) and Mazhambe (2017) alluded that street vendors are concerned with their own safety and the safety of their goods and customers. In addition, they noted that high crime rates caused street vendors to churn customers and paralyze their businesses, thereby reducing their income. Therefore, a strong street vendor association is needed to fight crime, as the police are often seen as collaborators in crime as they cannot arrest known criminals. Higher rates are sometimes used as an excuse to evict street vendors in some semi-urban and urban areas (Uwitije, 2016; Mazhambe, 2017).

Basically, it should also be realized that street vending is caused by different factors such as declining formal sector employment and rural unemployment (Sumberg, Fox, Flynn, Mader & Oosterom, 2021). Despite the fact that most citizens of Asian countries are forced to engage in informal business, their governments do not recognize the importance of this business. They consider this business to be one of the illegal businesses, and street vendors to be a

nuisance to urban development (Kirumirah, 2021; Giraldo et al., 2020; Deore & Lathia, 2019).

While the formal sector's contributions in countries like Vietnam and Cambodia have not contributed significantly to their own economic development, these governments have surprisingly failed to legalize street vendors. It implies that the government only cares about formal business and is focused on protecting the interests of the working class. As a result, few countries have developed policies to deal with at least their own street vending business. In most third world countries, street vending is overlooked, viewed as undesirable, and run by criminals who encroach on public spaces. Moreover, street vendors are accused of working in unacceptable conditions with lack of ablution facilities (Recchi, 2020; Arisha & Abd El-Moneim, 2019). Street vendors are treated like criminals and accused of causing chaos in the cities. Some people oppose street vendors because they believe that they cause congestion on the roads. Street vendors poses a threat to formal businesses because they are their competitors who sell similar products to theirs but at a very low price (Shahid, Rodgers, Vershinina, Zehra & Williams, 2022). In the past, street trading was considered an underground activity that weakens the formal sector. This idea caused conflicts between local authorities and street vendors over issues such as taxation, permits, working conditions and general sanitation issues (Kulaba, 2019).

As mentioned earlier on, challenges of street vendors in Tanzania include factors such as the lack of supportive laws and regulations from government agencies. The government must develop supportive and friendly laws and regulations that protect the interests of the vendors. It was further argued that informal businesses have potential and are highly productive, but government institutions limit the success of street trading by not providing secure property rights and access to finance (Munishi & Casmir, 2019; Nziku & Henry, 2020).

Steiler and Nyirenda (2021) and Hove et al. (2020), stated that government is wasting a lot of money and resources by employing law enforcement officials to

drive out street vendors from the streets whereas such amount of money and resources could be used as investment for various projects.

The government is currently losing millions through paying law enforcement officials to drive out street vendors from the streets, and such amount of money could be used as investments by street vendors (Steiler & Nyirenda, 2021; Hove et al., 2020). Even though they are classified as informal workers, they have strong links with the formal economy (Sarker et al., 2019). In addition, they create jobs for themselves and others and may bring income to cities by paying licenses and permits, fines and taxes (Chileshe, 2020; Son et al., 2019).

It is known that police and municipal inspectors have a tendency of confiscating their products and treat street vendors as illegal traders responsible for most of the problems in cities (Adama, 2020; Moloto, 2022).

## **2.9 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

Polit and Beck (2017) noted that a 'theoretical framework' logically links observations and facts resulting from proposed statements of theory. Jolley (2014) argued that 'theoretical framework' refers to understanding how the world works in the world of research. Furthermore, Vithal and Jansen (2019) observed that a theoretical framework develops by identifying and defining concepts that imply relationships between them. In such cases, this clearly means that both theoretical and conceptual frameworks are combined to produce different views of the phenomenon being studied. On the other hand, Bryman et al. (2017) also stressed that for a “theoretical framework” to be successfully used in the research world, it is necessary to detail aspects such as the theory's developer, date of development, its principles, and relevance to the research topic.

Several theories dominate the literature of entrepreneur/hawkers. Theories span economic, sociological, psychological and cultural factors. Street vendors play a role in meeting customer' demands by offering services closer to home, and this compels the customer to do other activities until the desired product or service arrives at the customer's location (Furunés & Mkono, 2019). In other developing countries, street vendors do sell products such as clothing, and airtime vouchers. Recently, the trend of selling small items has changed, with retailers innovating more and selling higher value items such as radios and televisions. A shift towards entrepreneurship has been driven by developing countries (Sarker et al., 2019).

### **2.9.1 Maslow's hierarchy of needs**

Theory of Human Motivation was initially introduced by Abraham Maslow in his 1943. In this study, Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs has been chosen because it encourages street vendors to behave in certain ways. Its main principal concerns demand level ranking. Precisely, Maslow's theory arranges human needs in the form of a pyramid into his five hierarchical levels. The base of the pyramid is occupied by physiological needs, including food, clothing and shelter, and safety needs, including job security. The first four levels relate to



deficiency needs, which occurs due deprivation and seems to motivate people when they are unmet. The longer the scarcity needs are denied, the more strongly they will be satisfied. According to Maslow, humans must satisfy lower needs or needs before they can satisfy higher needs such as self-actualization (Trivedi & Mehta, 2019; Hopper, 2020; Altymurat, Muhai & Sapparow, 2021). It implies that when one is satisfied, some higher needs might come again governing the behaviour of the organism (Carducci, 2020; Lussier, 2019).

In this case, people move from tribal areas due to high unemployment and turn to street vending in order to meet physiological needs such as food and security (employment security) that must first be met before higher growth needs can be met. Street vendors strive to satisfy physiological needs, which are basic human needs, through their sales activities. Those needs must be met firstly before other needs can be met. They need food and employment security, which means to street vendors, these are not luxury items for them, but a means of survival. If properly managed, they may also be allowed to continue their vending activities so that they could contribute to Thulamela Local Municipality's local economy.

## **2.10 CHAPTER SUMMARY**

In this study, the meaning of the concept of 'street vending' was explained and how it work in municipalities to promote the local economy. This chapter showed how people are engaged in street vending in various ways such as selling vegetables, prepared meals, building materials to clothes and handicrafts, consumer electronics to car repair and hairdressing, as well as an emerging service such as grocery delivery from storefronts that seems to be unique to Thohoyandou.

Despite the acceptance of street vending, many people oppose its operation because their presence clogs roads and streets, pollutes cities, promotes corruption and chaos, and destroys established shops, as seen in Thohoyandou. Others are equally convinced that street vending is necessary to alleviate poverty and boost local economies. In general, street vendors maintain a social cohesion on the streets where they are operating.

The review of related literature had showed that street vending provides a necessary livelihood for many and contribute significantly to local economy. Therefore, the appropriate solution would be to give street vendors full recognition, both legally and socially and try to minimize the problems that can be caused by their presence. Policy strategies exist and have been used with positive results in some cities. Municipalities such as Thulamela Local Municipality, like the City of Durban, have to deal with street vending practices, rules and regulations. The case of South Africa provides a lesson in what a constitutional and political response to informal economic activity can do. South Africa's political environment is relatively supportive of street vending if well done. To ensure the development of appropriate policies and laws regarding street vendors, municipalities must be committed to changes. They need to strengthen the associations of street vendors in collaboration with other development partners to represent the interests of vendors in relation to economic reforms in South Africa. One must be careful about the ways of communication, including language, because most people assume that most of their citizens understand English. Every nation has several languages, such as Xitsonga, Sepedi and Tshivenda, which are prevalent in Thulamela Local Municipality due to this influence of the University of Venda. Furthermore, an effective approach requires that important communication materials are translated into languages familiar to street vendors, including visual and cartoon communication channels. Organized units can facilitate the effective provision and management of outlets, as is the case in some areas of South Africa such as Durban.

There are many street vendors who operate in different places, and the town authorities cannot afford to hire enough officials to manage those activities. The street vendors should be encouraged to self-govern themselves with the support of the town authorities. The financial support needed for traders cannot be effective, if the traders are not well organized because most Municipal Financial Institutions (MFIs) use groups or organizations to provide financial support. It also provides a good platform for street vendors to provide business development services. The same approach as in Johannesburg, where street vendors form

voluntary crime control groups to ensure the safety of their business premises, can be used to ensure the safety of commercial premises.

## **CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 INTRODUCTION**

Research methodology is a technique or procedure used by a researcher to identify, select, process and analyse information related to a selected topic (Abutabenjeh & Jaradat, 2018; Sanders et al., 2012). Research methodology identifies the underlying paradigm for subsequent selection of research methodology, literature, or study design (King, Davidson, Chitiyo & Apple, 2020; Bazeley & Jackson, 2013; Bryman, 2012). The study was conducted in Thohoyandou in Thulamela Local Municipality with street vendors who are doing business on the sidewalks and public spaces of the town. Thohoyandou town was chosen because it has a large number of street vendors. Interviews were conducted for four weeks.

### **3.2 RESEARCH PARADIGM**

Paradigms are what researchers think or their mental picture about the world around them and serve as organizing principles by which reality is interpreted (Davies & Fisher, 2018; Maree, 2019). According to Kankam (2019) and Bertram and Christiansen (2014), a research paradigm usually determines what is acceptable when conducting research and how it should be done by the researcher depending on the worldview held by the researcher. In addition, a paradigm is a set of the shared basic beliefs about how researchers view the aspects they are studying (Kamal, 2019). In this regard, Creswell and Creswell (2018) also highlighted that a research paradigm serves as a foundation for organizing the thoughts for interpreting reality.

In this study, a researcher opted for an interpretivist paradigm because it recognizes and focuses on the meaning people assign to their experiences. It helps in understanding and description of how to handle studies which deal with human beings as subjects. Interpretivist paradigm has multiple socially constructed reality (Alharahsheh and Pius, 2020; Maree, 2019). Therefore, it was through using interpretivist paradigm that the researcher could ultimately know

the real causes of why the street vendors especially those in the Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo Province operate. According to Kankam (2019) and Bertram and Christiansen (2014), the purpose of social research for interpretivist is to understand behaviour and it recognizes that the research results are not there to be discovered by the researcher but may be created through the interpretation of data.

### **3.3 RESEARCH DESIGN**

According to Asenahabi (2019); Leedy and Ormrod (2016), a 'research design' is a general structure, or research plan that explains the steps needed to gather the information necessary to solve a problem. Additionally, a study design is a framework that guides researchers in obtaining and analysing information. In fact, it helps to find the most appropriate and practical way to answer the research question and places the researcher in an empirical world. According to Pham (2018) and Alharahsheh and Pius (2020), case study is a research style used by researchers who take interpretivist' view. This study was guided by a case study, as it strives to develop an understanding of a single case on the contribution of street vendors in promoting the Thulamela Local Municipality economy in Limpopo Province. This study used an epistemological design that adopted a qualitative dimension. Davies and Fisher (2018) illustrate that the design should always be appropriate to the research problem and purpose.

### 3.4 STUDY AREA



Figure 3.1: Map of Vhembe District Municipality (Adapted from Google Maps, 2022)



Figure 3.2: Map of Thulamela Local Municipality (Adapted from Google Maps 2022)

There are four local municipalities in VDM which are Makhado, Musina, Collins Chabane and Thulamela Local Municipality as shown in Figure 1. This study was conducted at Thohoyandou town in the Thulamela Local Municipality (Thiba, 2019; Mampheu, 2019). The study area is situated approximately 70km east of Louis Trichardt and has a population of 497 237. According to Tshuma and Jari (2020), Thulamela Municipality is the second largest municipality in Limpopo Province covering 2 893 936 km<sup>2</sup> with the co-ordinates: 22<sup>0</sup>57'S and 30<sup>0</sup>29'E. The growing population and the flow of people from the countryside to the town of Thohoyandou made it an ideal location to conduct research on the contribution of street vendors to revitalize the local economy.

### **3.5 RESEARCH APPROACH**

According to Opie (2019), inductive and deductive are the main approaches to research designs and are based on the reasoning chosen by the researcher. A deductive approach was used in this study. The researchers began by investigating the role street vendors play in stimulating the local economy in order to determine their contribution to the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality, Limpopo Province. Furthermore, qualitative was adopted because it uses textual words which is relevant to this study.

In this study, the researcher gathered qualitative data in the form of verbal responses that interpret the meaning and understanding of social life through the study of a target population in the selected vending hotspot (Miles, Huberman & Saldaña, 2018). Qualitative research refers to a method used by a researcher in order to get information about experiences in real life or trying to understand events and their experiences instead of imposing another person's viewpoint. Allan (2020) alluded that in qualitative research, no statistical analysis is necessary but strive to interpret the meaning and reasons of the phenomenon by trying to reveal people's understanding and motivation. In addition, a qualitative approach uses textual words when collecting data in a study. Mulisa (2022) also reiterated that the main disadvantage of qualitative research is that smaller samples are used in the data collection process resulting in its findings not

generally applied to other scenarios. The study investigated the extent to which the street vendors uplift the economy Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo Province.

### 3.6 TARGETED POPULATION

The population of a study is an instrument that researchers use to collect data. In this regard, they could be individuals, elements, plants, and so forth. A research population is a collection of objects, events, or people that share the common characteristics in a study. The population is considered to be the aggregate total that meets criteria to be considered the unit of analysis or the theoretically defined as aggregation of the elements being studied (Maree, 2019; Creswell and Creswell, 2018).

The researcher chose the population of street vendors, which is common for poor households in Thohoyandou town in Thulamela Local Municipality demarcation area. The majority of people had been involved in street vending to cope with financial challenges. In this study, population was composed of purposefully selected street vendors and Thulamela Local Municipality officials who were interviewed as the most important informants of the street vending sector. This type of participants was targeted because it seems as they were the best informants because they control street vending activities on a daily basis. In addition, textually, based on document analysis, the number of participants according to the table below is 202.

Table 3.1: Targeted population in the study area

	Designation of participants	Number of participants
Stage 1	Thulamela Local Municipality officials (Only from business unit in the Municipality)	8
Stage 2	Street Vendors (All vending hotspots) (Static and mobile street vendors included)	194
	Total	202



### **3.7 SAMPLING AND SAMPLING SIZE**

Sampling is done from the whole population and attitudes, events, behaviours and social processes of a sample represent the entire population (Majid, 2018; Pandey & Pandey, 2021). Furthermore, Majid (2018) and Pandey and Pandey (2021) reiterated that it is difficult to collect data on all cases in a population. Therefore, a sample representative of the entire population should be taken. Collecting data from all cases in a population may not be an easier task and thus, depending on the type of sampling, a sample may represent the population of participants.

According to Leedy and Ormrod (2016), a 'sample' is a smaller number of participants that could adequately provide data for the study conducted. However, Singh and Gupta (2019) and Taherdoost (2016) indicated that samples are typically drawn from a population and refer to all cases that may be of interest to the researcher.

Leedy and Ormrod (2016) reiterated that some participants in a population may have little or no chance of being chosen to form part of the sample. Regarding this study, the researcher used purposive or judgmental sampling methods to select the participants. However, Yadav, Singh and Gupta (2019) and Taherdoost (2016) asserted that purposive or judgemental sampling is where the researcher used his or her discretion in selecting participants. According to Maree (2019), in purposive or judgmental sampling, the focus of the study determines the type of participants to be selected.

According to the document analysis, there were 8 municipal officials responsible for daily operations of the business unit in Thulamela Local Municipality. For the sake of studying, 2 municipal officials from the business unit of Thulamela Local Municipality were purposefully selected to form part of the sample while other municipal officials had been excluded from participating. A sample consisting of 2 municipal officials and 18 street vendors was selected from among the target groups using purposive sampling. Street vendors who were operating in static stalls that could be erected on the same spot everyday had been purposefully

selected a sample of this study. All the mobile vendors were excluded to participate in order to avoid duplication as some of the vendors might be interviewed twice and compromise the reliability of the results.

Once again, purposive sampling was used for the selection of 6 vending locations, these locations were selected because they were considered to be the oldest vending hotspots. Before the actual research, pilot study was conducted by the researcher. The researcher observed and identified street vendor's locations in Thohoyandou. Since street vendors had the same characteristic, 6 different vending locations with many street vendors and known to have street vendors who have been vending for a long period of time, were purposely selected for the study, and these locations were referred to as vending hotspots.

Street vendors in each of the six (6) vending hotspots were selected and the number was determined by how many were interviewed until the information saturation is reached. This was used to determine how many participants per vending hotspot should form part of the sample, however these values were not part of further analysis in this study. In this study, the sample size was structured as displayed in the Table 3.2 below:

Table 3.2: Sampling frame and Sampling size.

(Static street vendors operating on the same spot during vending activities)	Sample size
Vending Hotspot A (Mvusuludzo Taxi Rank)	4
Vending Hotspot B (Tshifhiwa Muofhe Street)	2
Vending Hotspot C (Thohoyandou New Bus Rank)	2
Vending Hotspot D (Thulamela Municipality Taxi Rank)	3
Vending Hotspot E (Thohoyandou Old Bus Rank)	2
Vending Hotspot F (Main Street from Vhembe District Offices)	5
Total	18

### 3.8 PILOT SURVEY

The pilot study was done as a preliminary step to the study itself. This was done to identify problems the researcher might have encountered during interviews or data collection. Prior to conducting a pilot study, the researcher first obtained

ethical approval from the institution and then got permission from street vendors and higher authorities of Thulamela Local Municipality to conduct the study. After obtaining permission, the researcher prepared a mock interview schedule and conducted mock interviews between street vendors and municipal officials. The importance of pilot study was to correct errors that might occur during the actual study.

Aziz and Khan (2020) emphasized that it is important that the newly developed questions in their semi-final format be fully examined before they are used in the actual study. This indicates that the pilot study minimized problems that researchers may have encountered during the actual interviews. During piloting, the researcher identified the problems, for example, to clarify some questions, especially if there were unclear questions in the interview schedule.

### **3.9 CHOICE OF INSTRUMENTS**

The researcher used two types of tools to collect data: interview schedules and document analysis. The researcher assisted the participants by verbally explaining some concepts. The researcher also used the official documents of the Thulamela Local Municipality to learn more about the issues related to street vending.

### **3.10 DATA COLLECTION METHODS**

Data collection is defined as the process of collecting data from various sources in order to get answers that can assist in solving the research problem and evaluate the outcome. In addition, data collection procedures are methods and instruments used to collect data (Groenland & Dana, 2020; Leedy & Ormrod, 2016). Semi-structured interviews and document analysis were used as data collection instruments in this study. However, data was collected as follows:

#### **3.10.1 Semi-structured interviews**

Burns, Grove and Gray (2016) highlighted that semi-structured interviews are type of interviews whereby participants are offered enough chances of answering

questions clearly. Nevertheless, this type of interview can provide a lot of information to the participants, about current and past beliefs, feelings, attitudes, and actions, including reasons for actions and feelings (Evans & Lewis, 2018).

Neuert, Meitinger, Behr and Schonlau (2021) reiterated that interview schedule should contain open-ended and closed-ended questions which should be presented to each respondent and the interviewer as it appears on the schedule with little freedom for deviation. Maree (2019) also indicated that semi-structured interviews also give participants the chance to express their opinions freely. Flexibility is one of the merits of semi-structured interview which the researcher could exploit. Semi-structured interviews assisted in revealing relevant knowledge about the topic of enquiry and allowed the researcher to probe for more answers and motives of the participants (Evans & Lewis, 2018). The interview schedule may contain specific questions, but the interviewers are given enough freedom to explore any matter related to the research question that should be investigated. However, semi-structured interviews are especially good if the researcher is particularly concerned with complexity or process, or if something is controversial or personal. Semi-structured interviews with flexible features are suitable and primarily used to obtain sensitive information from participants, although this must not deviate from the actual questions of the interviewers (Maree, 2019).

Semi-structured interviews were structured to meet research goals and provide answers to research questions. Research methods used for primary and secondary data collection; included an interview schedule with closed questions (a question containing fixed questions, fixed answer categories and fixed questions) and open questions (a question without fixed answers or a statement that requires an oral answer from the respondent), observations, semi-structured interviews, and a literature review.

### **3.10.2 Document analysis**

According to Cardno (2018) and Floyd and Fowler (2014), a 'document' refers to reading material which are related to some aspects of the social world. On the

other hand, it also involves reading a lot of written materials (it helps a lot to firstly scan the documents into the computer and uses it as a qualitative analysis package). Neuman (2018) also acknowledged that a 'document analysis' can be used as a tool for data collection from the reading materials so that it might embrace the issue under discussion. The official documents are therefore read as objective statements; hence they are socially produced. In this study, documents that are in public domain, such as municipality's public records, the media, budget private papers, biographies, tax documents, and visual documents were read by a researcher.

### **3.11 DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE**

Data was collected after the researcher has obtained ethical approval from the institution. After that, various stakeholders related to street vending, such as representatives of street vendors and high-ranking municipal officials were formally briefed on the purpose and objectives of the investigation.

The first phase focused on municipal officials. This group comprised of municipal officials from the Thulamela Local Municipality business unit. The reason for the inclusion of this group was that they work closely with street vendors, providing registration and licensing, counting and regulations, and assigning booths to street vendors.

The second phase focused on street vendors operating in Thoyandou in Thulamela Local Municipality. Street vendors provided important background information about their vending activities. The participants of this study included street vendors who sell different categories of products such as fresh produce, consumables and durable goods.

The study was conducted at six vending hotspots in Thohoyandou where the street vendors had been interviewed. Therefore, 18 street vendors participated in the study. Each participating street vendor was interviewed individually, covering important topics such as their demographic information; operational information; the importance of street vending in stimulating local economy and street vending

policies and regulations. To facilitate data collection, the researcher outsourced the services of one research assistant, who was responsible for recording and archiving the participants' responses and arranging the locations of the interviews. However, to increase the validity and reliability of the research, the researcher administered the questions to 18 street vendors and 2 municipal officials. Since the predominant local language in Thohoyandou is Tshivenda, the questions in the interview schedule were translated into Tshivenda language in order to effectively communicate with the street vendors and the responses were translated back into English. The researcher asked the questions for this study face-to-face. The researcher carefully approached each street vendor in selected hotspots. Street vendors who agreed to be interviewed were interviewed. To ensure gender representation, both men and women were interviewed. Street vendors were guaranteed the confidentiality of the information they provided, as some might be afraid to answer questions such as whether they had a license for fear of prosecution by local authorities. Confidentiality was achieved by explaining honestly to street vendors the purpose of study. The researcher assured participants that the primary purpose of the study was purely educational. After gaining participants' trust and agreeing to participate, the researcher set them aside for the interview to avoid biased responses when they were interviewed in the presence of other street vendors.

The participants in this study answered questions in the entire interview schedule. Interview times were divided into morning and afternoon sessions based on street vending activities in Thohoyandou. This was because in the late afternoon some of the street vendors might hastily pack their products and rushed home. Photographs were used to record activities in the study area. The interviewer asked the participants questions as they appeared on the interview schedule and was also able to probe for more information. The researcher was responsible for data base and records that would be used in later stages of the research.

Secondary data sources were made up of published journal articles, published books, conference proceedings, newspaper articles, municipal publications, and the Internet. Secondary data were used to compare and explain study results.

### **3.12 ANALYSIS OF DATA AND PRESENTATION**

Miles et al. (2018) and Bazeley and Jackson (2013) define data analysis as different processes and procedures where in this instance qualitative data that have been collected is explained and interpreted. Furthermore, it is regarded as the process of interpreting data filtering out information that is not useful while the process reducing the useful information to manageable proportions (Vaismoradi et al., 2016). The collected data was analyzed through thematic content data analysis method. The researcher sorted and categorized the data based on the identified themes. According to Stamatoplos et al. (2016), results analysis conducted after interviews is of great significance in order to achieve research objective. Collected was categorized to better explain events. Thematic content data analysis refers to recurring themes, patterns, relationships, and responses that qualitative research reveals and is an important analysis tool in discussing recurring themes (Creswell & Poth, 2016). Thematic content data analysis method made it possible for the researcher to compare the facts and highlight different themes that are important to make accurate conclusions and it also provides a systematic and detailed approach that is easy to translate and communicate more openly to other people (Vaismoradi, Jones, Turunen & Snelgrove, 2016). Furthermore, Coker (2021) stated that the in-depth interviews conducted and the literature evaluated are categorized, organized and presented as themes and sub-themes. For this purpose, the researcher compared and contrasted primary and secondary data sources.

### **3.13 TRUSTWORTHINESS**

Adler (2022) and Connelly (2016) reiterate, that trustworthiness refers to the reliability of the research both in terms of how the researcher has conducted himself or herself during the research process and the calibre of the research methodologies used. However, Yadav (2022) and Kumar et al. (2014) pointed out that there are four appropriate criteria in a qualitative approach to ensure either reliability or authenticity when used in the aforementioned method. In short, one should always use the right criteria when using any method. However, criteria

such as credibility, dependability, transferability and conformability should always be considered to ensure trustworthiness of a qualitative study (Yadav, 2022).

### **3.13.1 Credibility**

According to Cardno (2014) and Floyd and Fowler (2014), credibility refers to how the results of the research are actually considered good and accurately reflect and correspond to the reality or a specific situation. In order for the results to be reliable, this must be done according to good research practice (Dyar, 2022). The term credibility refers to how reliable the conclusions of a study are to the research subjects (Dyar, 2022). If researcher gathered information about the results after extensive discussions with research participants, informants would accept the research results as a true assessment of their feelings and thoughts (Singh, Benmamoun, Meyr & Arikan, 2021).

### **3.13.2 Dependability**

Creswell and Creswell (2018) alluded that dependability refers to how much the obtained results can be repeated and how much they can still show the same result in the future. This means that another independent researcher could achieve the same research results if he or she is studying the same phenomenon. Trustworthy studies are safe, continuous, and stable and stand the test of time and predictable. As stated earlier, the dependability perspective would have been properly applied if it has included auditing approach so that other researchers could find it reliable (Singh, Benmamoun, Meyr & Arikan, 2021).

Dependability comes in two forms: internal reliability and external reliability. Many witnesses look at the same reality and internally confirm their conclusions. External reliability is the quality of consistent results obtained when different researchers evaluate reality under different conditions and time periods (Dyar, 2022). Reliability of research refers to how research methods are presented in such a way that the research process can be reviewed and audited by those not involved in the research (Dyar, 2022; Singh, Benmamoun, Meyr & Arikan, 2021).



The study used approved academic research methods to increase reliability. The researcher followed the university's ethical guidelines for research, recording and documentation of interviews, and theory-based data analysis and interpretation.

### **3.13.3 Transferability**

According to Dyar (2022), the results of the study may be adapted to other groups which is referred to as applicability or transferability. In addition, transferability involves conducting research and evaluating how well the results fit different settings (Dyar, 2022). It is important to remember that in qualitative approach, the reports from independent readers determine whether the findings could be applied to a new but related situation. However, Yadav (2022) reiterates that the research environment requires a comprehensive description of human characteristics. The transferability stage could also be achieved using a comparative methodology, where the results would be compared with the results of previous studies (Dyar, 2022; Singh, Benmamoun, Meyr & Arikan, 2021).

### **3.13.4 Conformability**

Maree (2019) emphasized that conformability refers to the credible or relevance of the data collected in any study, including accuracy and real meaning in the study. However, Dyar (2022) reiterates that conformability or audibility refers to the ability of researchers to follow the work of other researchers. This requires thorough documentation and recording of data during the research process. Conformability enables the researcher to study the material and reach the same results if they have similar perspectives (Singh, Benmamoun, Meyr & Arikan, 2021).

## **3.14 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

According to Leedy and Ormrod (2016), research proposals must be reviewed to assess risks and ensure that participants' rights are respected before data collection begins. Ethics are the moral principles that compel any person to pursue in a study, regardless of the type of study, place where it should be

conducted and time. It has compelled the researcher to follow all the protocols during the research process. Research ethics embrace moral principles that researchers should follow in their respective fields. In all research involving human subjects' mandatory ethical approval is required to preserve the dignity, rights, safety and well-being of all participants.

#### **3.14.1 TREC application from the University of Limpopo**

The University of Limpopo requires ethical clearance before data collection. The researcher applied for ethical approval from the University of Limpopo Turfloop Research Ethics Committee (TREC) to obtain ethical approval (University of Limpopo, 2014).

#### **3.14.2 Permission to conduct the research**

The researcher requested permission from the high-ranking officials of Thulamela Local Municipality and the street vendor's representatives who are responsible for the welfare of street vendors to conduct research in their area to access their people and information.

#### **3.14.3 Individual participation**

According to Biros (2018), participants in the study should have a reasonable expectation of being informed concerning the study. Therefore, the benefits to participants should outweigh the risks and participants must be duly informed. The researcher assured the participants that their participation in this study was completely voluntary and that they could stop participating at any time if they feel uncomfortable. Based on the information to be provided by the researcher, it should be clear that the decision to terminate or decline participation would not result in penalties or loss of benefits if any. The importance of participating in this study was emphasized and the researcher made it clear that if the study had been somehow compromised, time and money as well as opportunity to understand this critical phenomenon would be lost.

#### **3.14.4 Protection from harm**

According to Kumar (2011), of all the principles involved in research ethics, protection from harm can be referred to as the cornerstone of ethical practice. The benefits to participants must outweigh the risks (Leedy and Ormrod, 2016). Participants in this study should ensure that they could not put themselves in situations where they might be injured during this study. The researcher and participants must be protected from any harm.

#### **3.14.5 Informed consent**

The researcher made the participants to be fully aware if the interview process, they are about to participate in as explained in the informed consent. It was essential that participants are duly informed about what the study intended to achieve. A consent form was included, and the purpose was stated, and it was explained that the participants are not obliged to reveal their personal data, to avoid the discomfort of the participants. The researcher did not ask for names and personal identification codes. Above all, the researcher made it clear that participants made an informed decision to participate or not to participate.

#### **3.14.6 Confidentiality**

The researcher took steps to conceal the identity of participants and protected the access of sensitive information by unauthorized parties. Information about participants is confidential and identifiable information should not be shared without written permission. The researcher allocated numbers with all participants to protect confidential information that could be compromised during this study. Names was coded to ensure anonymity (Leedy and Ormrod, 2016). Confidential messages such as documents or grants submitted for publication, personal data and financial information are protected (Clark-Kazak, 2017). Every person participating in a study had a reasonable expectation that the information given to the researcher would be treated confidentially. Records are protected by password-protected files in the computer and hard copies are locked in drawers.

### **3.14.7 Anonymity**

Anonymous data was be stored in such a way that it could not be associated with the data provider. Participant's name and information that facilitate identification of people, such as job title, age, gender, length of service, geographic data, along with the type of organization was removed (Lancaster, 2017). The researcher tried to avoid anonymity while protecting confidential information.

### **3.14.8 Honesty**

Data collected by the researcher should be reliable and come directly from the participants, not the researcher, and reports must be complete and accurate. Furthermore, all contributors should be acknowledged (Leedy and Ormrod, 2016).

## CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

Chapter 3 focused on the research design and methodology used for data collection. It had also explained aspects like the population, sampling procedures, instruments used for data collection and analysis. Furthermore, the chapter explained how data were collected. This study intended to examine the contribution of street vendors in the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo Province. In addition, the recent view also concurred with what Vithal and Jansen (2019) noted that the collected data (e.g., recordings during interviews) should be correctly analyzed and interpreted to develop the findings related to the study in question. Maree (2019) also emphasized that the findings of every study should emerge from the analysis of collected data. In this study, a qualitative approach was used. Therefore, the themes that emerged from the participants' excerpts led to the findings of this study. In this chapter, data management and analysis were discussed so that the findings could emerge after the themes have been identified (Ranney, Meisel, Choo, Garro, Sasson & Morrow Guthrie, 2015). The objectives of the study were as follows:

To examine to what extent the street vendors stimulate the economy of the Thulamela Local Municipality.

To determine the factors that motivate people to become street vendors.

Before the discussion of data management and analysis, some aspects such as summary of the emerging themes, and emerging themes from the gathered data were explained because not all stakeholders involved in reading the findings of the study, would be seasoned researchers (Eskerod, 2020). The aim of this study was to examine the manner in which street vendors contribute to the Thulamela Municipality's economy in Limpopo Province, South Africa. In an attempt of avoiding not to lead the stakeholders of this study astray, the overview of the study's findings were thoroughly discussed; so that the recommendations could

be properly made (Alazmi & Alazmi, 2023). A thorough discussion of the conclusion was presented at the end of this study.

## **4.2 DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS**

Street vendors provided different goods to people and generated incomes in order to cope with everyday financial problems. Furthermore, there were clear patterns arising from occupational status, gender, factors that motivated people to participate in street vending, and contribution of street vending activities to the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality. This section dealt with the detailed analysis and interpretation of these patterns using qualitative approach. Therefore, the patterns were broken down so that the researcher could manually sort and sift through them and determine emerging themes. The researcher drew conclusions to explain how different policies and guidelines could affect this sector.

## **4.3 STREET VENDING HOTSPOTS IN THOHOYANDOU CBD IN THULAMELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

The vending hotspots areas and the number of participants involved in this study were shown on the Table 3.2. The participants as shown on Table 3.2 were interviewed using the interview guide. The questions on the interview guide were asked in local language and the responses had been transcribed into English for further analysis to enable the street vendors to understand them and give appropriate responses. 18 street vendors and 2 municipal officials were interviewed in this study.

Purposive sampling was used to select participants to be interviewed because they have experienced the phenomenon of interest and provided a wide range of domain descriptions and construct dimensions (Thomas, 2022). The responses collected from the street vendors and municipal officials assisted the study to reveal the contribution of street vendors in the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo Province.

#### 4.4 SUMMARY OF THE EMERGING THEMES AND SUB-THEMES

Merriam Webster Dictionary (2016) defined the term “theme” as referring to the subject or main idea in a talk, piece of writing or work of art. The following themes emerged after the analysis and interpretation of data.

Table 4.1: Results of the thematic content data analysis of semi-structured interviews for the street vendors in Thulamela Local Municipality

Emerging themes	Sub- themes	Further comment
Marital status of street vendors	Mostly unmarried and divorced	Most street vendors are women as compared to men.
Age of street vendors	20 to 39	High unemployment rates among the youth in Thulamela Local Municipality
The period when street vending was started and reasons thereof.	Between 3-10 years	Unemployment and to support family
Number days and hours devoted to street vending each day.	8 hours per day including Saturdays	Saturday is a normal working day for street vendors with few exceptions on Sunday
The working place for street vendors and factors that determine the location of street vending	Taxis and bus ranks	Many people looking for public transport. Moving people and gathered people are potential customers
The use of banking accounts while managing street vending	Have functional bank accounts	To deposit money from social grants from the government and not specifically the proceeds of street vending

Type of products sold by street vendors	Selling fruit and vegetables. Selling cooked food	
Vending as a profession	Most street vendors have no other work except street vending only	
The importance of street vending	Create employment Improve children's education	Unemployment cited as the major problem in Thulamela Local Municipality
Economic factors that motivate people in street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality	Unemployment	Unemployment cited as the major problem in Thulamela Local Municipality
Social factors that motivate people in street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality	To support family Dysfunctional families	
Educational level of street vendors	GET and FET band	
Sourcing of products sold by street vendors	From local producers	Agricultural products such as tomatoes are common in Thulamela Local Municipality
Street vendors and number of dependents	Varies from 1 to 6 with the average of 3	
Income generated by street vendors and its use	Between R4001 to ○ above R10001	
Street vending income per months against the minimum wage in South Africa	Slightly lower than the minimum wage	Most of the street vendors are able to support their families
Problems faced by street vendors during vending process	Harassment and continuous evictions	Mostly done to illegal vendors
Problems associated with street vendors during vending process	Garbage generation Blocking storm drains Illegal gambling on the pavements Pick-pocketing Prostitution	
The role of Thulamela Municipality in bringing solution to problems	Resort in law enforcement in phasing out illegal vending markets	Street vendors need to be reminded of their responsibilities to



		take care of the environment and keep the town clean
The type of support needed from Thulamela Local Municipality and other Non-governmental organizations	Training them on entrepreneurship Advise them how to improve the business	
The ripe opportunities the brought by street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality in assisting poor communities	Support and take care of families Improving children's education Poor people can buy at the affordable prices	

#### 4.5 RESULTS AND THEME DISCUSSION

The results were presented by themes, and the factors that motivated people to start street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality have been studied. The contribution of street trading to the local economy of Thulamela municipality was described. The researcher used thematic content data analysis and categorized common concepts derived from the participants. Some themes emerged repeatedly than others, representing the voices of street vendors. In addition, themes that emerged from the interpretation of data were considered grounded data, while those brought to the participants by the researcher through literature-based interview questions were regarded as contextual (Houtman, 2022).

More specifically, the themes and sub-themes that emerged during the data analysis were used to present the results. The results were used to design strategies that could be implemented so that street vending can contribute to the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo District. This study generated 20 themes after analysis of data through a qualitative approach, including excerpts from the interviewed participants as shown below:

### **Marital status of street vendors**

Most street vendors were either single, divorced or widowed with few married street vendors. They also had dependents and chose street vending as an alternative source of livelihood. The study also revealed that family dysfunction could be among others the significant social factor that pushed people to engage in street vending as indicated below by participant 4, female and widowed street vendor with secondary education:

*I lost my husband three years ago. I think it was Covid-19, although I'm not sure. I had to come here to get money to support my children. I had no choice because unemployment is very high. Do you have any other job opportunities that you know of?*

### **Age of street vendors**

The 18-35-year-old group included young people who were still energetic and looking for jobs. Unemployment rate among the youth was very high in Thulamela Local Municipality and it was this group that should be focused on to minimize the unemployment problem. Participant 9, male with secondary education and married street vendor indicated the following:

*I am still very young and not yet 30 years old. I am unemployed and looking for any job opportunity that comes my way. I am forced to enter into street vending because I have a family to support. I am married and have two small children. I am appealing to the government to allow us to sell freely on the street or to create jobs for us.*

### **The period when street vending was started and reasons thereof**

As mentioned earlier in this study, street vending also included services provided by self-employed people who were selling goods on the street, sidewalk, pavement, and sometimes at the entrances of formal businesses. When the

interviewer asked the question: When did you start selling, participant 11, female divorcee and illiterate street vendor responded as follows:

*Eish!, sorry, I'm not sure if my memory is still serving me well. Ok, I still remember my oldest son was in Grade 2. I really think a good guess would be over 10 years. I decided to become a street vendor so that I can support my children, but in all these years I have not seen any support given to street vendors. I saw many street vendors being chased and kicked out by municipal officials. In some cases, our goods are confiscated and some are simply left scattered, resulting in great loss. Sometimes, NGOs voluntarily came to workshop us on how to improve the operation of our vending business. I'll stop here, I talk a lot.*

It was clear from the above excerpts that there was lack of support to street vendors although the majority of them were paying for licenses. Many street vendors started the street vending business more than 5 years, and emphasized the importance of street vending in supporting family members.

#### **Number of days and hours devoted to street vending.**

Most street vendors work for 8 hours per day and 6 days per week. Saturday was a normal working day for street vendors, with a few exceptions on Sunday, which would relatively be quiet. Most of the street vendors, who worked for 8 hours a day, 6 days a week, are males. This also explained the presence of street vendors even during the evening in Thulamela Local Municipality. Participant 8, male with secondary education and single indicated the following:

*As long as people walk on the streets of Thohoyandou CBD, they are my customers. Although I didn't have no dependents, there are people who depend on my proceeds of street vending for a living.*

### **The working place for street vendors and factors that determine the location of street vending stalls.**

Street vendors were mainly found in both taxi and bus ranks because many poor people use public transport to get to work. People who were gathered for a specific purpose and those who had been moving were the potential customers of street vendors. Participant 15, female with primary education and single indicated the following:

*My stall is near the taxi rank. I am used to this space and everyone associates me with this vending space. It is a very busy place and many people admire this place. I would definitely pay for my vendor license because I can't afford to lose my place.*

### **The use of banking accounts while managing street vending**

Many street vendors had a working bank account. For some street vendors, bank accounts were not meant to manage street vending business, such as depositing street vending revenue, but are opened to receive government grants as indicated below by participant 13, female and single with secondary education:

*I used all the income from street vending to buy food and send my children to school. I didn't need to save money. I live from hand to mouth and my bank account is for receiving government grants*

### **Type of products sold by street vendors**

Thulamela Local Municipality was known for its agricultural products. There were many local fruit and vegetable producers. That's why the best-selling products of street vendors were fruits and vegetables. Selling the cooked food was also more popular among street vendors in Thulamela Local Municipality.

*I sell fruit from my yard. Here are avocados, mangoes and bananas. You might think they are from Levubu farms, but I get them from my backyard.*

*There are many fruits to sell here [Participant 18, female, divorced with secondary education].*

### **Street vending as a profession**

Most of the street vendors in the Thulamela Local Municipality had no other work except street vending. Street vending was one of their sources of income through which they could support their families. The majority of the street vendors in Thulamela Local Municipality had no other jobs other than street vending. In fact, some street vendors were opportunistic. Opportunistic street vendors only engaged in street vending during certain events or holidays. These were street vendors who wanted to supplement their income during these special events or holidays. Participants indicated the following:

*I have no other job than street vending, and I didn't think I would work for the government at my age. I would retire from here because there is something in me that wakes me up to go to my stall and start selling, rain or sunshine [Participant 16, female, divorced and illiterate].*

Another response goes like:

*I only come to sell on national holidays, especially during the Christmas holidays, to get money quickly. Believe me, there is a lot of money on the street. In my opinion, the only problem is getting the right mindset and getting the fruits of your thinking. [Participant 10, female, married with secondary education].*

### **The importance of street vending**

As mentioned before, unemployment is a big problem in the municipality of Thulamela. The majority of street vendors mentioned the importance of street vending as another way to create jobs for themselves and others. Street vending had a ripple effect that benefited other industries, such as the agricultural sector in Thulamela Local Municipality. Self-employment could be another strategy to

minimize the rate of unemployment in Thulamela Local Municipality. Self-employment could be another strategy to reduce unemployment in Thulamela Local Municipality.

The main reason some street vendors started street vending was to use the street vending income to improve their children's education. The culture of learning and teaching is very high in Thulamela Local Municipality and this was confirmed by the quality results in Grade 12 every year. One interesting story that this research uncovered involved a female street vendor who supported her daughter to obtain a medical degree. When the question was asked: "What did you do with the money you get from vending? Participant 16, female, divorced and illiterate indicated the following:

*Hey! I have been here for a long time. I have five children, two daughters and three sons. One of the daughters is studying to be a doctor. She is currently in her third year and it is still my duty to send her some pocket money as a parent. Her sister has finished her teaching degree and waited for an opportunity. I would not rest until they all get jobs.*

### **Economic factors that motivate people in street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality**

Most of the street vendors considered unemployment to be a major problem in Thulamela Municipality. It was due to unemployment that people were forced to go to street vending. Unemployment presents great challenge to most people as some had to support their families. Some people had no choice but to turn to street vending to make ends meet. Therefore, people should be encouraged to create their own jobs, where street vending could be one of the strategies.

### **Social factors that motivate people in street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality**

The factors that forced people to sell on the streets were interrelated with other factors caused by others. First, people were unemployed and wanted to provide

for their families. Supporting families was one of the social factors cited by participants that compelled people to engage into street vending. Other reason revealed by this study was family dysfunction. Family dysfunction although not cited by any of the street vendors, it was revealed by this study as one of the factors that motivated people to enter into street vending. When asked about motivating factors that push her into street vending, one of the participants responded as follows:

*I have separated with my husband long ago. I am supporting my children alone and street vending is a solution to me as I am able to play two roles, as a man and woman at the same time [Participant 18, divorced with secondary education]*

### **Educational level of street vendors**

Malcolm X as quoted in Yakkundimath (2020) and Malcolm (2022) indicated that “Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” Closer to home, Nelson Mandela as quoted in Badat (2017) “Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of the mine worker can become the head of the mine that the child of a farm workers can become the president of a great nation. It is what we make of what we have, not what we are given, that separates one person from another”.

Continuing the theme of the quotes above, most street vendors had primary and secondary education. However, the situation in our country made it very difficult for street vendors with basic education, not to mention illiterates, to find work. As a result, most people were forced to engage in street vending because they were not educated enough to obtain formal employment.

When asked about their level of education, one of them indicated the following:

*I graduated from university and I am still unemployed. I'm waiting for teaching positions to become available, but the reason I'm out here on the*

*streets is to raise money to use when marketing for jobs. I have to go to different district offices to look for teaching positions. [Participant 14, male and divorced with tertiary education].*

Contrary to what he said, when asked the same question, another answer was as following:

*I am illiterate and I didn't expect to be employed by government as I am uneducated. I would rather be my own boss but most recently we are joined by those with degrees. It is tough here on the streets and not so long our country would be economically ruined [Participant 16, female, divorced and illiterate].*

The above responses confirmed that the high unemployment in Thulamela Local Municipality forced people to engage in street vending.

### **Sourcing of products sold by street vendors**

In reality, goods or products seem to be cheaper where they are manufactured. The transportation fee was charged, if the goods were manufactured from one place to another. In general, self-produced products or goods purchased directly from manufacturers were cheaper than in wholesalers or formal businesses. Participants are asked to highlight the aforementioned opinions: "Where did you get the goods you often sell at your stall? The three participants answered the question differently but gave the same understanding as indicated below:

*We always go to nearby farms or orchards to buy vegetables and fruits for our stores. Look how fresh they are! However, small products such as sweets, chips and cold drinks are purchased directly from wholesalers or official stores. They are cheaper and therefore we can resell them at a reasonable and affordable price. [Participant 13, female and single with secondary education, Participants 14, male and single with tertiary education and Participants 15, female, single with primary education].*



First of all, the way in which the interviewees explained how and from where they obtained goods and products, emphasizes the importance of local producers and self-produced products in the street vending business and thus in the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality. Local products, like most agricultural products, were cheaper and therefore could be sold at an affordable price to meet the needs of the poor.

### **Street vendors and number of dependents**

The street vendors had a number of dependents ranging from one to six. Most street vendors have the responsibility to support dependents. When asked about how they are able to support their dependents. Some participants responded as follows:

*I have a brother and sister to support. My parents passed on due to Covid-19. I have no choice but to take care of them because I am the oldest. [Participant, 8, single and secondary education].*

### **Income generated by street vendors and its use**

The income of street vendors varies from R500 to more than R10, 000 per month. Many people could send their children to school and put food on the table. In addition, most street vendors had decent homes comparable to those who were officially employed by the government. Participants indicated the following:

*Every day when I woke up, I thought I would go to my stall and start selling my products. I managed to send all my children to school. One of my daughters is studying to be a nurse with money from street vendors. This is my life. [Participant 15, female and single with primary education].*

The main concern revealed in this study was that people are working from hand to mouth as most of them indicated that there is no need to save money for the future. Most of the street vendors indicated when responding to the question

about the use of the money from vending said that they use money to improve education of their children and buy other goods or products to sell.

### **Street vending income per months against the minimum wage in South Africa**

There are only three street vendors that had reported an average monthly income of less than R4000 whereas the rest reported an income above R4000 per month, this income is slightly lower than the minimum wage which was about R4953.09 per month (as from 1 March 2023) by South African standards, however the average income generated by street vendors (R5808, 89) is above the minimum wage as determined by South African standards. Earning such an amount could make street vendors to be self-supporting which had been one of the positive socioeconomic indicators. For most street vendors, anyone was considered an employee if they work for a government entity, a municipality or a recognized higher education institution such as a university or TVET college. When posed with a question about their average income per months, one of the participants responded as follows:

*I am getting a lot of money here. I do not even think of looking for another job anywhere. I managed to send all my children to tertiary institution, built a descent home and bring food on the table. What else did I need? [Participant 16, Female, divorced and illiterate].*

### **Problems faced by street vendors during vending process**

As revealed by participant 11 in theme 3, it seemed as if the problems always persisted in Thulamela Local Municipality. During semi-structured interviews, both participant 1 and 3 seemed to concur with participant 11. They all responded to the question as follows:

*Tell us about problems which affect street vending activities and solutions that could help minimizing them?".* Thereafter, participants 2 and 3 cited the same answers pertaining to the posed questions which goes like:

*Thank you very much for having included us in your interviews might be you are a delegate from the government and if that is the case, we are asking you to offer us job opportunities. We are now approaching more than 12 years working as street vendors in Thulamela Local Municipality. We have seen a lot of harassment and evictions from prime spaces, forcibly confiscating our goods by municipal officials. The most painful part is that we are working in unsanitary conditions as you can see sewage spills over there. There is always a lack of selling spaces even though there are a lot of spaces with no development in sight which we can utilize them. Solutions to our problems could be to allocate us proper spaces with stalls to rent as long as they provide electricity, water and proper ablution facilities. Thank you very much. [Participant 1, male, widow with primary education, Participant 2, female and single with primary education and Participant 3, female and divorced and with primary education].*

The confiscation of goods by the municipal authorities and theft reduced the profits of street vendors, and negatively affected their livelihoods because it was difficult for them to replace their goods. Selling on the streets of Thohoyandou CBD, street vendors face harassment from municipal officials and persecution by starving street kids.

Some street vendors became victims of crime at some point. Some interviewees said that they are victims of criminal activities such as burglary, sexual violence and prostitution, especially in the evening. Some street vendors have reported stock thefts in their store rooms, sometimes causing disruption of their vending business.

From the aforementioned excerpts, it implied that street vendors were experiencing a lot of problems in Thulamela Local Municipality although they proposed solutions, they are not implemented because they did not have a formal organization to represent them.

## **The role of Thulamela Municipality in bringing solution to problems**

Thulamela Local Municipality tried to solve the health problem by trying to provide street vendors with a basic infrastructure with all the basic needs, but the high unemployment rate forced informal sector to expand beyond the infrastructure available to the municipality. When municipal officials were asked about the problems associated with street vending, they responded as follows:

*Street vendors are the main source of garbage. They block the drains with wastes. They cause a lot of problems in Thohoyandou as some are involved in pick-pocketing and prostitution. Our streets cleaners do their work everyday but the next day our town is dirty. They should clean the street themselves [Thulamela Local Municipality official].*

## **The type of support from Thulamela Local Municipality and other non-governmental organizations**

Most of the street vendors reported that they did not get enough support from the Thulamela Local Municipality, but occasionally other NGOs advise the street vendors on how to improve their vending business.

Like all businesses, street vendors did not have access to finance and make their businesses grow. Almost all street vendors did not have the opportunity to get financing even to start a business. Street vendors seemed not to have recognized organization to represent them. There were only a few individuals who claimed to be the leaders of all the street vendors in Thulamela Local Municipality. The municipality is also not demarcating and making provision of business location. The registration and issuing of vending licenses is also sluggish as indicated below:

*Why am I paying for a vending license to sell when others are selling and there are no licenses? Go tell your municipality to find those who didn't pay for a license. Then I'll start paying for my vending license again. [Participant 18, Female, divorced with secondary education].*

## **The opportunities brought by street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality in assisting poor communities**

Every venture like street vending had the aim of assisting the street vendor and the poor customers who could buy the products at affordable prices. How did you as street vendors try to use available opportunities in order to assist the urban poor communities found in Thohoyandou town?" Participants indicated the following:

*You are welcome. We have been here vending for more than 8 years now and our experiences in conducting street vending business make us to be main source of information about street vending. In reality, the majority of our customers who buy our products are the poor urban communities in Thohoyandou town. The reason is that they are always next to our businesses. Even the street kids or unemployed job seekers bought our products at an affordable prices. They use the same money obtained from this odd job. Besides this, those unemployed parents did buy goods from our stalls after being involved in odd jobs like street vending. [Participants 12, male and divorced with tertiary education, 13, female and single with secondary education, 14 male and single with tertiary education and 15 female and single with primary education].*

The participants confirmed that they used the opportunities available to them to assist poor urban communities in Thohoyandou including the unemployed people and the street kids. From the above excerpts, it implied that street vending plays an important role in helping the rural or urban communities to earn their living.

### **4.6 FINDINGS EMERGING FROM THEMES OF THE STUDY**

The findings were categorized into different sections according to activities performed by street vendors. Each section answers specific research questions except the first section which illustrated the demographic information of Thohoyandou street vendors in Thulamela Local municipality. The results and observations were divided into the following parts: street vendor's operational

information, importance of street vending, contribution of street vending to Thulamela Local Municipality local economy and policies and regulations that guide street vending activities.

#### **4.6.1 Demographic profile of street vendors**

The characteristics of street vendors such as employment status, gender, race, age, level of education and marital status were collected during semi-structured interviews. These characteristics reflected the socioeconomic conditions of the street vendors. Furthermore, for municipal officials' characteristics such as gender, qualifications and experience, level of education and age were also collected. Demographic data was used as a means to understand how the street vendors operate and how the municipal officials managed street vending activities in Thulamela Local Municipality.

The marital statuses of the street vendors were illustrated in Table 4.2 and in Table 4.3 as follows: 38.9% of the respondents were single, 16.67% were married, 16.67% were widowed and 27.78% were divorced. Table 4.2 and Table 4.3 further show more information about these street vendors. The information indicate that women street vendors support and take care of the most of dependents than men in Thulamela Local Municipality. The study also showed that there were more women than men who are engaged in their products on the streets. The two most common age groups of street vendors involved in street vending are 20-29 years old and 30-39 years old. The majority of unmarried (27.78%) and divorced (22.22%) street vendors are women, and this places a great responsibility on women to support families in Thulamela Local Municipality. The range between the youngest and the oldest street vendor was 43 years. This emphasized that street vending business was not reserved for specific age groups in Thulamela Local Municipality. The study revealed that the majority (88.89%) of street vendors were poor Africans, and 11.11% foreign nationals who started to venture in this sector.

Table 4.2: Results of thematic content data analysis of the semi-structured interviews for street vendors in Thulamela Local Municipality

Demographic information of street vendors				
Questions			Response	Percentage (%)
Q1	Gender	Female	12	66,70
		Male	06	33,30
		Total	18	100,00
Q2	Marital Status	Single	07	38,90
		Married	03	16,67
		Widower	03	16,67
		Divorced	05	27,78
		Total	18	100,00
Q3	Race	African	16	88,70
		Indian	02	11,11
		White	00	00,00
		Colored	00	00,00
		Foreign nationals	00	00,00
		Total	18	100,00
Q4	Age in years	10-19	01	05,55
		20-29	05	27,77
		30-39	05	27,77
		40-49	03	16,67
		50 and above	04	22,55
		Total	18	100,00
Q5	Do you have a street vending license?	Yes	16	88,89
		No	02	11,11
		Total	18	100,00

Table 4.3: Results of street vendors and dependents information in Thulamela Local Municipality.

Participants	Vending hotspot	Gender	Marital status	Age group & educational level	Dependents information				
					No. of dependents	Gender	Age	Education	
P1	A	M	Widow	30-39	2				
				Actual age: 39		1	M	18	Secondary
				<b>(Primary)</b>		2	F	15	Secondary
P2	A	F	Single	40-49	3				
				Actual age:38		1	F	3	Pre-school
				<b>(Primary)</b>		2	F	13	Secondary
P3	A	F	Divorced	50+	5				
				Actual age: 56		1	F	37	Secondary
				<b>(Primary)</b>		2	F	21	Tertiary
P4	A	F	Widow	20-29	3				
				Actual age: 28		1	F	4	Pre-school
				<b>(Secondary)</b>		2	F	6	Primary
P5	B	F	Single	20-29	2				
				Actual age: 29		1	M	28	Tertiary
				<b>(Secondary)</b>		2	F	35	Tertiary
P6	B	F	Married	30-39	4				
				Age: 37		1	F	15	Secondary
				<b>(Secondary)</b>		2	F	7	Primary
P7	C	F	Single	20-29	1				
				Actual age: 26		1	F	8	Primary
				<b>(Secondary)</b>					



P8	C	M	Single	10-19 Actual age: 19 (Secondary)	No. of dependents 0	0	Gender N/A	Age N/A	Education N/A
P9	D	M	Married	20-29 Actual age:28 (Secondary)	No. of dependents 2	1	Gender M	Age 7	Education Primary
						2	F	2	Pre-school
P10	D	F	Married	40-49 Actual age: 43 (Secondary)	No. of dependents 3	1	Gender F	Age 25	Education Secondary
						2	F	23	Secondary
						3	F	21	Tertiary
P11	D	F	Divorced	50 and above Actual age: 62 (Illiterate)	No. of dependents 6	1	Gender F	Age 35	Education Tertiary
						2	F	25	Tertiary
						3	M	40	Tertiary
						4	F	38	Tertiary
						5	M	41	Secondary
						6	M	43	Tertiary
P12	E	M	Divorced	40-49 Actual age: 45 Tertiary	No. of dependents 3	1	Gender F	Age 20	Education Tertiary
						2	F	16	Secondary
						3	F	13	Secondary
P13	E	F	Single	30-39 Actual age: 36 (Secondary)	No. of dependents 3	1	Gender F	Age 16	Education Secondary
						2	F	12	Primary
						3	M	9	Pre-school
P14	F	M	Single	20-29 Actual age: 28 (Tertiary)	No. of dependents 2	1	Gender M	Age 8	Education Primary
						2	F	11	Primary
P15	F	F	Single	40-49 Actual age: 49 (Primary)	No. of dependents 2	1	Gender F	Age 28	Education Tertiary
						2	F	15	Secondary
P16	F	F	Divorced	50 and above Actual age: 58 (Illiterate)	No. of dependents 5	1	Gender F	Age 22	Education Tertiary
						2	F	27	Tertiary
						3	F	45	Tertiary
						4	M	40	Secondary
						5	M	34	Secondary
P17	F	F	Widow	30-39	No. of dependents 4		Gender	Age	Education
						1	F	20	Tertiary

				Actual age: 37 (Primary)		2	F	11	Primary
						3	M	18	Tertiary
						4	M	4	Pre-school
P18	F	F	Divorced	30-39 Actual age: 39 (Secondary)	No. of dependents 3		Gender	Age	Education
						1	F	18	Tertiary
						2	F	15	Secondary
						3	F	9	Primary

#### 4.6.2 Factors motivating Thulamela Local Municipality communities to be involved in street vending.

Factors that motivate people to participate in street vending have been divided into two broad categories: economic and social factors. These two categories were discussed to identify the most common factors that motivated people to participate in street vending.

##### 4.6.2.1 Economic factors

According to the results of the study, the economic factors that encouraged people to street vending were unemployment, self-employment and supplementing income. Furthermore, a small proportion of street vendors cited higher tax rates and harsh government trade regulations as economic factors that forced them to engage in street vending. The ratio of unemployment to self-employment determines whether the local economy had been able to create jobs and solve the problem of unemployment. In this case, unemployment was mentioned by most street vendors as one of the economic factors that motivates people to engage in street vending. Many people were still dependent on government grants for their livelihoods. The study also revealed that most street vendors were between the ages of 20 and 39. This age group comprised of the majority of young people. This study revealed that high unemployment rates might have driven young people to street vending and therefore a street vending served as a way to earn a living in this economic situation.

Different reasons indicated as responses to the questions on the interview guide reveal the lack of employment and poverty as some of the factors informing the

choice of street vendors to be involved in street vending. According to Stats SA, unemployment rate is around 43.8% and the youth unemployment rate is 58.3% (StatsSA, 2022). High levels unemployment and poverty encouraged most people to engage in street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality (Mseleku, 2022). One of the importance of street vending was mentioned as job creation and benefited other industries, such as the agricultural sector in Thulamela Local Municipality. Self-employment could be another strategy to reduce unemployment in Thulamela Local Municipality. Some street vendors started street vending to use the street vending proceeds to improve their children's education.

#### **4.6.2.2 Social factors**

When responding to the interview questions, social factors such as family support, dysfunctional families, lack of education and entrepreneurial tendency were mentioned. These factors were ranked according to the frequency of participants' responses to identify the most common factors that motivated people to start street vending business. The study revealed that the main social factor among others that forced street vendors into street vending business was family support, while dysfunctional families and lack of education ranked second and third respectively. This revealed that most street vendors had a responsibility to support and care for other family members. This confirmed why most of the participants stated that they engage in street vending to support and take care of their families. Even some of those street vendors who were single reported that there were people whose livelihood depends on the money earned from street vending. Most of the street vendors were breadwinners and mostly women, emphasizing that the primary responsibility for caring for children still rests with women in Thulamela Local Municipality. Most street vendors were classified as either single, widowed or divorced. Therefore, there were a significant number of street vendors who had been forced to engage in street vending due to family separation or lack of commitment to family matters.

Therefore, of all street vendors who were forced to start vending due to family separation, were those who were forced to engage into street vending for reasons beyond their control, such as the death of a spouse, which left a huge responsibility to support and take care for the remaining family members, who would probably become a street vendor. However, some street vendors had to engage in street vending due to family divorce. Therefore, there was a significant number of dysfunctional families, which encouraged people to become street vendors as well. In both cases, the burden of supporting family members fell on the surviving members, who probably began supplementing their income as street vendors. The findings were consistent with the findings of previous studies that indicated that most street vendors have started street vending to support their families (Babere, 2013; Horwood, Haskins, Alfery, Masango-Muzindutsi, Dobson & Rollins, 2019; Steiler & Nyirenda, 2021; Ekobi, 2022).

Traditionally, formal education is seen as key to overcoming poverty, which affects most people, including people in Thulamela Local Municipality in Limpopo Province, South Africa. Lack of education was seen by most people as a disadvantage that negatively affects the social and economic development of South Africa. Literacy, including reading and writing, was considered a prerequisite to attaining at least a low-wage job, thereby making those illiterate people unemployable. The study had found that some street vendors reported lack of education as one of the factors motivating them to engage in street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality.

Regarding the education of street vendors, the study revealed that 38.8% of street vendors had a primary education or lower, and 50% had a secondary education. The proportion of street vendors who graduated from high school and university was 11.11%. The problem of the unemployment prevailing in the municipality of Thulamela was evidenced by the entry of university graduates into street vending. It had been more difficult for those with primary education to find formal employment in the current economic climate. Due to the situation, they find themselves in, they were looking for employment to earn a living. Most of these street vendors were regarded as uneducated, which motivated them to

become involved in street vending. Fifty percent of street vendors had FET band education, which is from grades 10-12, with matric as the exit point. Some of these street vendors would have attended colleges, but due to financial constraints of their households, they have become involved in street vending as an option to escape poverty. . Due to the high unemployment rate, 78% of the street vendors were likely to become Thulamela Local Municipality street vendors. Youth unemployment problems were also confirmed by the presence of some street vendors with a bachelor's degrees and postgraduate degrees working as street vendors. The findings of the study have confirmed the previous findings which indicated that lack of education has resulted in street vending (Mramba 2015), and other studies which educated the inability to get an employment due to lack of educational related skills (Workiye 2019 and Ndhlovu 2011)

Entrepreneurship is the creation of new businesses and innovative ways or solutions, and it could serve as an effective tool in the fight against youth unemployment. People should start encouraging this type of thinking by allowing street vendors to start their business. It is imperative that young people develop business, technical and life skills that go beyond entrepreneurship. These young people might not always be in the role of an entrepreneur, but they should have skills that give them an advantage in other opportunities and help break the cycle of unemployment in the long run. A major concern with this study was that only few street vendors reported that they engage in street vending due to entrepreneurial tendency.

#### **4.6.3 Street vendors' operational information in Thulamela Local Municipality**

Street vending did not seem to be a temporary occupation for most street vendors, as the majority have been street vendors for 3-10 years and few had been street vendors for more than 10 years. However, the study found that some of the street vendors started vending business less than three years ago, indicating that the sector is growing gradually and requires careful planning. The

study revealed that the majority (56%) of street vendors operated for 8 hours a day and 28% of street vendors for 7 hours. On average, street vendors work 5.5 hours a day, which justified the constant presence of street vendors in Thohoyandou even during the evening.

The study also found that street vendors with fixed or stationary stalls operate primarily at taxis and bus ranks and along sidewalks. Most street vendors (88.8%) were licensed and operated legally, but those without a license preferred to walk up and down the streets or enter public places to evade law enforcement officers.

There are three categories of products sold by street vendors: fresh produce, consumables and durable goods. Fresh produce includes fruits and vegetables, consumables include cooked meat, porridge, and eggs, and durable products include clothing, handbags, belts, soft drinks, and other homemade ingredients. Most of the street vendors were selling fruits and vegetables as they are common in Thulamela Local Municipality and some had been selling prepared foods. However, very few street vendors purchased items such as clothing from nearby shops and sold them at stalls near where they purchased those items.

#### **4.6.4 Economic contribution of street vending to Thulamela Local Municipality's economy**

Denying street vendors, the opportunity to sell their products would be a lost opportunity to generate income that could be used locally and contributed to the local economy. In terms of economic contribution, sourcing of products by street vendors and the income generated were discussed below:

##### **4.6.4.1 Sourcing of products by street vendors**

As already stated in the literature review, street vendors act as a link between producers and consumers. They buy products from producers and sell them to consumers at affordable prices. In Thohoyandou CBD, most street vendors reported buying products from local producers especially fruit and vegetables, while some reported buying products from wholesalers. Few street vendors

reported that they had been self-produced products. Street vendors boost the local economy by selling locally produced and self-produced products, while formal businesses outsourced most of their products from outside the municipal boundaries. Most of the vegetables on the street vendors stalls were locally grown within Thulamela Local Municipality boundaries and the local farmers were also benefiting from street vending activities.

The finding of the study confirms the previous knowledge where farmers, local producers, and other domestic industries all rely on vending activities to market their wares, as noted by Sharaunga and Mudhara (2021) and Mramba (2015). In this situation, street vendors strengthen the neighborhood by generating jobs for both themselves and others. Uwitije (2016) further underlined that through paying taxes, license fees, and other fees to the local governments, street vendors contribute to the growth of the urban economy. Chen (2020) and Kiaka et al. (2021) both mentioned that street vending can help the local economy.

#### **4.6.4.2 Comparison of street vending income in Thulamela Local Municipality against the minimum wage in South Africa**

Table 4.4 shows that the reported average monthly income of street vendors at the time of this study was R5808, 89 which is significantly above the South African minimum wage. From 1 March 2023, the national minimum wage for all employees was R 25, 42 for each regular hour of work (this amount to R4953.09 per month). From 2022, South Africa's poverty line defined a person living on less than R945 a month as poor (StatsSA, 2022). In addition, people who received R663 per month for food lived below the poverty line by South African national standards. Table 4.4 shows that most of the street vendors had reported an average income ranging from R500 to R11900 per month. Furthermore, most of the street vendors reported the income of above R4000 per month which was slightly below the minimum wage and above the poverty line. The figures above revealed that street vending operations did not only contribute positively to the income of street vendors, but also to urban residents. Furthermore, the income allowed them to buy goods and services from other local producers. As a result,

it was found that the income allowed the street vendors to be self-reliant and meet their personal needs and support their families. Income from street vending allowed them to pay school fees for their dependents, leading to improved human resources.

Education provides people with skills, and people with skills have been the means to positively change livelihoods (Badat, 2017). In fact, most of the street vendors were regarded as poor before they joined street vending, but they are now less poor because they could be self-reliant. Street vendors help not only street vendors but also other poor people by selling goods even in very small quantities at a reasonable price. This makes delivery of various goods within the town very accessible for poor people. Street vending strengthens economic connectivity by creating product markets for both large and small formal companies in both urban and rural areas (Mramba, 2022).

Table 4.4: Comparison of street vending income in Thulamela Local Municipality against the minimum wage in South Africa

P	VHS	Gender	Age Group	Dependents	Reported Average Income (per month)
P1	A	M	30-39	2	3500
P2	A	F	20-29	3	2500
P3	A	F	50+	5	11900
P4	A	F	20-29	3	4500
P5	B	F	50+	2	4700
P6	B	F	30-39	4	4500
P7	C	F	20-29	1	1500
P8	C	M	10-19	0	500
P9	D	M	20-29	2	4700
P10	D	F	40-49	3	7100
P11	D	F	50+	6	9500
P12	E	M	40-49	3	8060
P13	E	F	30-39	3	5900
P14	F	M	20-29	2	2500
P15	F	F	40-49	2	11900
P16	F	F	50 +	5	7100
P17	F	F	30-39	4	4700
P18	F	F	30-39	3	9500
			Average	2,94	5808,88



On the other hand, an economic contribution is a significant change in economic activity associated with an existing local economy or an industry, event, or policy in a local economy. Not allowing street vendors to sell their products would be like removing an industry from the economy, which could be a lost opportunity to generate income that should be spent locally (Notteboom, Pallis & Rodrigue, 2022). In this case, positive economic effects could result from the added value of income remaining in the economy through local spending in an industry such as street vending, which was more closely related to the local economy. The numbers included in the economic impact should be limited to additional money brought into the area or money kept in the local economy that would otherwise be spent elsewhere. Furthermore, the economic impact is the best estimate of what economic activity, such as street vending, would likely be lost to the local economy if an industry such as street vending are to disappear.

#### **4.6.5 Challenges faced by street vendors in Thulamela Local Municipality about street vending.**

Besides being undermined by local authorities, street vendors faced different challenges such as lack of vending spaces, infrastructure and environmental effects, theft and illegal activities, harassment and evictions and barriers arising from interpretation of local government bylaws.

##### **4.6.5.1 Lack of vending spaces, infrastructure and environmental effects of street vending**

About 88,89% of street vendors had vending licenses while 11.11% did not have licenses and occupy spaces illegally. This results in a lack of infrastructural support to enable their operations to function properly. Street vendors operated under difficult conditions emanating from the lack of basic infrastructure and services at the local government level, such as clean water, electricity and ablution facilities. These problems were compounded by illegal immigration and backlog in issuing licenses to street vendors. Illegal immigration and illegal street vendors contributed to overcrowding which led to problems like theft and other unruly behavior in Thulamela Local Municipality. According to the municipal

officials, the street vending had a negative impact on the environmental condition around Thohoyandou. One of the negative effects reported was that street vendors created land use conflicts, because they used spaces that were not intended for vending businesses. The study found that some street vendors slowed down the flow of traffic by selling their products without leaving enough space for motorists. In addition, the study found that street vending was the main cause of overcrowding because street vendors took over sidewalks for selling activities and thus encouraged theft. Clogged drains and garbage generation were some of the common problems in Thohoyandou that need to be urgently addressed as they posed a health hazard to local people.

#### **4.6.5.2 Theft and illegal activities**

Some of the participants reported that they were victims of criminal activities such as pick-pocketing, sexual assault and prostitution especially during the evening. Some street vendors reported stock theft in the storerooms which sometimes led them to stop vending.

#### **4.6.5.3 Harassment and evictions**

According to the results, harassment and eviction, confiscation of products, lack of working space, working in unhealthy and unhygienic conditions and lack of freedom while vending proved to be the biggest challenges facing street vendors in Thulamela Local Municipality. Street vendors wanted to work in a peaceful environment, free of harassment. Based on the results, street vendors would like to have authorized stalls that should be accessible and attractive to customers. These stalls should be near a road or other facilities like taxis and bus ranks.

#### **4.6.5.4 Local government bylaws as barriers**

The study found that Thulamela Local Municipality had well-formulated policies and bylaws guiding how street vending should be regulated. Typically, most of the street vendors were not aware of the existence and significance of these policies and bylaws when conducting their businesses. The study also identified

inconsistencies in the enforcement of municipal policies and bylaws making street vendors confused. The reason being that some street vendors without licenses were deliberately allowed to sell their products, while products others on the same category were confiscated. The study identified that lack of knowledge about policies and bylaws by street vendors may likely negatively affect the consumers and the street vendors themselves. This impact of policies and bylaws of the government have been documented to play an important role in street vending (Arias, 2019) however, According to Adama (2020), these regulations may have a significant impact on street vendors' ability to support their families and earn money. This include the activity were the municipal officers enforcing this policies confiscating their products.

#### **4.6.6 Support needed from government or non-governmental organizations.**

Street vendors reported that they do not receive enough support from Thulamela Local Municipality. Different types of support from the local government and even from NGOs or other interest groups were needed to promote street vendor's activities and livelihoods. The street vendors reported that they needed access to authorized workshops on business training and advice on street vending.

### **4.7 CHAPTER SUMMARY**

This chapter presented data collected through semi-structured interviews and document analysis. Purposive sampling was used to select participants and the sample comprised of 18 street vendors and 2 municipal officials in this study. Data was analyzed to develop themes that were used to present the findings of the study.

## **CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF THE RESEARCH FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION**

### **5.1 INTRODUCTION**

The data presented in Chapter 4 was collected from 18 street vendors and 2 municipal officials through semi-structured and document analysis. Thematic content data analysis method was used to analyze the themes developed from the gathered data. The study was intended to find out how street vendors contributed to the economy of Thulamela Municipality in Limpopo Province. The study examined factors that motivated people to start selling on the street, the economic significance of street vending on the economy of the municipality of Thulamela, the legislation related to street vending, the challenges faced by street vendors and what support street vendors need for their activities. This study provided answers to the following research questions:

To what extent are street vendors contribute to the economy of Thulamela Municipality in Limpopo Province?

What motivates Thulamela communities to become street vendors?

### **5.2 SUMMARY AND INTERPRETATION OF THE MAIN FINDINGS**

Summary of the main findings that emerged after different themes were analyzed is presented below:

#### **Most of the street vendors were unmarried and divorced**

The study revealed that family dysfunction is one of the social factors that motivated people to engage in street vending. Many street vendors started the street vending business more than 5 years emphasizing the importance of street vending to the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality. This suggests that concerned stakeholders have an obligation of assisting the street vendors to

contribute towards the local municipality's economy. The street vendors could not use the local municipality's spaces without paying no rental taxes.

### **Street vendors were mainly found at taxi and bus ranks**

People who were gathered for a specific purpose and those who had been moving up and down are the potential customers of street vendors. In this instance, knowing where the street vendors had been operating from, could enable the Thulamela Local Municipality to allocate them proper spaces to conduct their vending business. Apart from this, if the places of operation were unknown to the local municipality officials, even those without licenses could not operate freely or sell their goods at the wrong spaces. For example, they could cause unnecessary congestion or generate garbage where they were not supposed to be. Therefore, knowing the street vendors' operational areas could assist the local municipality's officials to control payments of licenses and contribute in the upliftment of the Thulamela Local Municipality's economy.

### **Due to unemployment, people were forced to start street vending businesses**

Unemployment presents great challenge to most people as some had to support their families. Some people had no choice but to turn to street vending to make ends meet. Supporting families was one of the social factors cited by most participants as the main reason for engaging in street vending. Other reason revealed by this study was family dysfunction. Although family dysfunction was not directly cited by any of the street vendors as it seems to be more personal, it was cited by this study as one of the factors that motivated people to enter into street vending.

### **Thulamela Local Municipality was known for its agricultural products**

There were many local fruit and vegetable producers. The best-selling products of street vendors had been fruits and vegetables. Selling cooked food was also more popular among street vendors in Thulamela Local Municipality. Many street

vendors had a working bank accounts. For some street vendors, bank accounts were not meant to manage street vending business, such as depositing street vending proceeds, but had been opened to receive government grants.

Most of the street vendors indicated that they used the money from vending to support their families, and improve the education of their children and buy other goods or products to sell. In this regard, it means that whatever business a person tries to do, after carefully saving the money, it could end up in assisting them in different aspects.

Needless to say that, most of the time when street vendors intended to buy their goods for selling, they usually got them from the main producers such as gardens, orchards or wholesalers, retailers, etc.), so that they could buy those goods at lower prices. They could then sell them to the poor communities at affordable prices. In this regard, it could help them to gain profits.

The place where they obtained goods and products to sell at their stalls, showed the importance of local producers and self-produced products in the street vending business. Local products, like most agricultural products, were cheaper at local markets and could be sold at an affordable price to meet the needs of the poor. Most street vendors obtained the products from the producers, retailers, wholesalers, and even used self-produced products for selling at their stalls because it helps them to get higher profits than if they bought those products from formal producers.

### **There are many challenges associated with street vending in Thulamela Local Municipality**

Most significantly, solutions to solve the problems affecting street vendors should be established. Every local municipality's vending hotspots should be known through making the regular monitoring. On the other hand, this could assist the Thulamela Local Municipality in controlling the collected street vending license fee. Ideally, it could also help in boosting the local municipality's economy. In places where these monitoring mechanism was conducted, more street vendors

had been paying rental fees or taxes and contributed to the upliftment of local economy.

The confiscation of goods by the municipal authorities and theft reduced the profits of street vendors and negatively affected their livelihoods because it was difficult for them to replace their goods. Selling on the streets of Thohoyandou CBD, street vendors face harassment from municipal officials and persecution by criminals. Like in other local municipalities found in South Africa, the issue of the proper financial control, appeared to be an acute problem. Pending problems include uncontrolled littering, blockage of the paths used by other road-users, garbage generation, and the blocking storm drains with waste.

Most of the street vendors reported that they did not get enough support from the Thulamela Local Municipality, but sometimes other NGOs advise them on how to improve their vending business. However, the study revealed that street vendors do not receive any assistance from Thulamela Local Municipality. To worsen the problem, the municipality did not even take responsibility to train street vendors on the entrepreneurial knowledge so that they could improve their own businesses in street vending. The officials would just come to evict street vendors and sometimes seize their goods without prior notice meaning that they only focused on the negative side of street vending. The street vendors could support and take care of their families as well as improving their children's education.

### **5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Considering the above findings, the study recommended that Thulamela Local Municipality should consider planning a suitable place for street vending in urban areas, registration of street vending organizations, facilitate registration and licensing and formulate street vending policies to strengthen relations between stakeholders. The following recommendations were made for Thulamela Local Municipality street vendors and NGOs.

### **5.3.1 Recommendation for the Thulamela Local Municipality**

The following recommendations were made to Thulamela Local Municipality:

#### **5.3.1.1 Demarcate and make provision of business location**

To take initiatives in helping street vendors with business premises, Thulamela Local Municipality should designate and demarcate the well-planned unrestricted street vending zones and restricted street vending zones within Thohoyandou CBD. Areas where street vending is prohibited must be clearly demarcated. It should also involve street vending in town management. In these business locations, the interests of street vendors and urban customers should be taken into account.

#### **5.3.1.2 Assistance in formation of street vending organizations**

The local government should help and encourage the street vendors to establish organizations that would focus on the livelihood and social security of the street vendors. The municipality should make the street vendors to be aware of the benefits, including easy access to business financing, entrepreneurial training and solution to the problems and needs of street vendors.

#### **5.3.1.3 Providing assistance with registration and with business licenses**

A street vendor license is a permit that allows an individual to conduct business related activities within the area under a local government. Based on the above statement, some street vendors in Thohoyandou are operating illegally as they are not licensed. Legal street vendors are required to pay a certain amount for taxes and levies. Efforts have been made to register street vendors, but Thohoyandou town needs to develop a mechanism to register all street vendors. Each registered street vendor must reserve a place in the designated space for the vending activities. License holders should be entitled to various benefits such as training, access to funding to start businesses and other available benefits in order to encourage those without license to register.



#### **5.3.1.4 Street vending legal framework**

National and local governments should develop standard policies for street vendors to address major challenges such as availability of space for business, licensing, tax implications, skills and entrepreneurial training. The guidelines should also include street vendors in urban planning regulations, and provide guidance on harassment by local authorities and confiscation of goods from street vendors. Furthermore, an overarching policy goal should create and promote a favourable environment for urban street vendors to practice their profession. In such an instance, it could prevent street vending activities from overcrowding and unhealthy public places and ensure the protection of street vendors to improve their livelihoods.

#### **5.3.2 Recommendations for the street vendors**

The following recommendations were made to street vendors:

##### **5.3.2.1 Formation street vendors' organizations**

Working conditions for street vendors could be improved by organizing themselves into groups and organizations. Street vendors need to recognize the usefulness of such connections in their day-to-day operations and livelihoods. Associations of street vendors need to be strong enough to protect their members and make their voices heard at the local and national level in order to improve the sector. Secure access to basic services is a platform for escalating issues aiming to appropriate local authorities for quick response. In addition to these services, members must be responsible for cleaning vending spaces, prevent land abuse, and be environmental friendly.

##### **5.3.2.2 Registration and acquisition of business license**

All street vendors must register their activities and obtain a permit to sell on the streets or in designated areas. Street vendors with licenses are entitled to certain benefits like access to funding to start business and capacity building.

### **5.3.3 Recommendations for NGOs**

The following recommendations were made to NGOs:

#### **5.3.3.1 Assistance to street vendors in forming associations**

NGOs need to help street vendors to secure livelihoods and social security through policies and changes, and build strong associations that are responsible for building the capacity of street vendors and their representatives.

#### **5.3.3.2 Capacity building for street vendors**

Governments should work with non-governmental organizations to increase the capacity of street vendors through business training. Business skills such as business strategy, accounting and general business management are essential. Additionally, business training should be organized for business people to maintain the urban environment so that they know the need to clean their environment to keep Thohoyandou town clean.

#### **5.3.3.3 Building partnerships with stakeholders who can assist street vendors**

For all the above-mentioned suggestions to be successful, there is a need to build mutual relationships between key stakeholders such as Thulamela Local Municipality, NGOs, financial institutions and street vendors. A strong mutual relationship could increase the income of street vendors, stop the conflict with the authorities, improve security and allow everyone to enjoy a clean and safe environment. Adequate skills and access to financial services could also increase, and street vending could boost the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality. In such an environment, street vending in Thohoyandou CBD would help improve the livelihoods of poor urban households and the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality.

#### **5.4 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH**

The study was conducted within a shorter period of time as it was part of the requirements for the Masters degree. Therefore, the study suggests that further studies should be done on the same topic. This could be beneficial to most beginner-researchers in the other institutions to come with other findings that could assist the local municipalities to drive the street vending businesses towards uplifting the economy. The chosen qualitative method had definitely urged for the smaller samples to be used resulting in lesser findings being developed. In addition, the use of the quantitative approach on the same topic, could clearly lead to the use of the larger samples and findings. This could ultimately influence the Thulamela Local Municipality to devise the rightful strategies and mechanisms to enable the street vendors to contribute to the local municipality's economy. This study also suggests further research interests in the following areas: The impact of hawking on the livelihoods of poor communities in urban areas. The focus should not only be on street vendors in Thohoyandou CBD only but also on the inhabitants of other towns in Thulamela Local Municipality. Further studies comparing street vending and other informal activities are also necessary to be conducted.

#### **5.5 STUDY LIMITATIONS**

According to Vargas and Mancía (2019), study limitations are factors that limit the conclusions that might be drawn from the study. Study limitations might arise from research design or methodology that might affect the findings of the study (Theofanidis & Fountouki, 2018; Ross & Bibler Zaidi, 2019). Furthermore, Brink, Van der Walt and Van Rensburg (2018) also defined the term "limitations" as meaning the action of preventing something from happening or even taking place the way the researcher would have thought it might occur such as time, financial, access to information, including participants' unexpected withdrawals.

In this study, purposive or judgemental sampling method was used to collect data but does not allow generalization because it is subjective. The study focused on the stationary street vendors or vendors with temporary structures that could be

erected on the same spot during their vending activities. The moving street vendors might pose a problem as this could lead to duplication as the street vendor could be interviewed twice. The chosen qualitative method used smaller samples that could not be used to generalize the findings in other areas.

Furthermore, some participants refused to be recorded. In such an instance, they indicated that they were not used to being recorded while talking. Some participants also decided to unexpectedly withdraw despite having agreed to participate and their replacement took time to be found and organized.

## **5.6 CONCLUDING REMARKS**

According to the study, street vending has been an important tool in the development of urban communities, as it allows many poor people living in urban areas to access various resources and goods. Street vending is another way many of the urban poor earn a living. With the necessary institutional and appropriate infrastructural development, the sector would become environmentally friendly and economically viable. Although street vending is not fully legally recognized in some local municipalities, it can alleviate poverty by reducing unemployment, increase vendors' income and help boost the economy.

Despite these advantages, the Thulamela Local Municipality mainly deals only with the negative effects of street vendors and harassment of street vendors by local authorities is inevitable. Therefore, to value and respect street vendors and recognize the importance of this industry, regulation and oversight of street vendors are necessary to ensure their sustainability and maximize their profits. Street vending needs to be integrated into SMEs. Like other formal businesses, street vending face business risks related to demand and supply. The study also concluded that while street vending may be a growing sector beyond survival options, it may be hampered by a lack of suitable fixed vending spaces. Another important limitation is the unfavourable legal environment in which street vendors operate, which exposes them to abuse of power by local authorities. In addition, street vendors face physical risks because they are unaware of the laws that can protect them. The policy must bring changes in the industry and provide a safe

and favourable working environment and the opportunity to obtain loans to increase assets. This could lead to an improvement in the welfare of the sector and street vendors.

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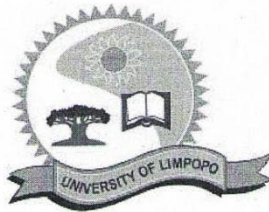
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## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX A: ETHICS CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO



**University of Limpopo**  
Department of Research Administration and Development  
Private Bag X1106, Sovenga, 0727, South Africa  
Tel: (015) 268 2401 Fax: (015) 268 2306, Email trec@ul.ac.za

**TURFLOOP RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE**  
**ETHICS CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE**

**MEETING:** 09 January 2023

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TREC/02/2023: PG

**PROJECT:**

**Title:** The contribution of street vendors on the economy of Thulamela Local Municipality, in Limpopo Province, South Africa

**Researcher:** DW Matshinge

**Supervisor:** Prof MM Kanjere

**Co-Supervisor/s:** N/A

**School:** Turfloop Graduate School of Leadership

**Degree:** Master of Business Administration

**PROF D MAPOSA**  
**CHAIRPERSON: TURFLOOP RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE**

The Turfloop Research Ethics Committee (TREC) is registered with the National Health Research Ethics Council, Registration Number: REC-0310111-031

**Note:**

- i) This Ethics Clearance Certificate will be valid for one (1) year, as from the abovementioned date. Application for annual renewal (or annual review) need to be received by TREC one month before lapse of this period.
- ii) Should any departure be contemplated from the research procedure as approved, the researcher(s) must re-submit the protocol to the committee, together with the Application for Amendment form.
- iii) PLEASE QUOTE THE PROTOCOL NUMBER IN ALL ENQUIRIES.

FINDING SOLUTIONS FOR AFRICA



**APPENDIX B: LETTER OF APPROVAL FROM THULAMELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**



Private Bag X5066  
Thohoyandou  
0952  
Limpopo Province  
Tel: 015 962 7500  
Fax: 015 962 4020

**Ref** : 4/3/4/1  
**Enquiries** : Mabasa N.H  
**Tel** : 015 962 7514  
**Fax** : 015 962 4020

**To** : Mr MATSHINGE D  
**From** : THULAMELA MUNICIPALITY  
**Date** : 09 march 2023

**Subject** : PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH AT THULAMELA MUNICIPALITY

1. The above matter refers.
2. Kindly note that permission to conduct research has been granted.
3. Contact Human Resources Section for more information.
4. Hoping that this will meet your favourable considerations.

**MUNICIPAL MANAGER  
MAKUMULE M.T**



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## **APPENDIX C: INTERVIEW SCHEDULE (ENGLISH VERSION)**

THE CONTRIBUTION OF STREET VENDORS ON THE ECONOMY OF THULAMELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA.

University of Limpopo

This interview schedule is designed for data collection on the contribution of street vending to local economy in Thohoyandou in Thulamela Local Municipality. The aim of interview is to gather data on the demographic information of the street vendors, working conditions, socio-economic benefit of street vending in Thohoyandou that will translate in economic contribution, etc. I (researcher) would like to promise you (the respondent) that all information provided by you will be used for educational purposes only and that your privacy and confidentiality will be ensured. Your names will not even be written down anywhere for future references. Provide any answer according to your will as there are no right or wrong answers, and you are free to withdraw from participating from this study at any time if you feel uncomfortable. Your permission to use a tape recorder is also required in order to capture your opinions accurately. I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Thank you.

Dzivhuluwani Matshinge

Note the following:

This interview will last approximately 25 minutes and you will be asked to answer questions honestly.

## Demographic Information

Kindly provide the following biographical information to the researcher

### 1. Gender

Male


Female

### 2. Marital Status

Single


Married

Widower

Divorced

### 3. Race

African


Indian

White

Coloured

### 4. Age in years

10-19


20-29

30-39

40-49

50 and above

### 5. Do you have a street vending licence?

Yes


No

## Interview Schedule for Street Vendors

Answer the following questions.

### **Section A:** Street Vendors Operational Information

1. When did you start street vending and why?
2. Where do you normally operate each day? Give reasons.
3. Suggest the factors that determine the location of street vendors.
4. What kind of vending activities do you embark on?
5. How many days and hours do you work each day?
6. Do you have a functional business bank account?

### **Section B:** The Importance of Street Vending

1. What were the main reasons that led you to street vending?
2. What are the advantages of street vending?
3. To what extent does the market serve poor communities?
4. What do you do with the money you get from selling different things?

### **Section C:** Contribution of Street Vendors to Local Economy

1. Explain how and where do you get some of the products to sell?
2. What is the size of your family? List each member's gender, age and education.
3. Estimate the average income you get from street vending per month.
4. Do you have any other work apart from street vending?

### **Section D:** Policies and Regulations that guide Street Vending Activities

1. Do you think street vending causes congestion and other anti-social activities in Thohoyandou? Explain
2. How do you manage the place where you operate before you cease with your vending activities?

3. Do you support the ban on street vending in Thohoyandou? explain
4. Suggest the problems that affect your current vending activities? What could be the solution to these problems?
5. What kind of support do you get from the municipality and NGOs? Explain?

#### Interview Schedule for Thulamela Local Municipality Officials

1. What factors lead people to street vending?
2. How many street vendors in different vending hotspots in Thohoyandou?
3. What are the problems (social, economic and environmental) related to street vending in Thohoyandou? Indicate each of them.
4. What opportunities does street vending offer to the national economy?
5. What opportunities does a street vendor offer to the poor communities of Thohoyandou?
6. What should the government do to solve the problems of street vendors?

## APPENDIX D: CONSENT FORM

### CONSENT FORM

Name of Researcher                      Dzivhuluwani Matshinge  
Title of the study                         The Contribution of Street Vendors on the  
Economy of Thulamela Municipality, in Limpopo  
Province, South Africa.

Dear Respondent

You are asked to give your consent to participate in the study. Before you decide whether you participate or not, tick the boxes below. Please take note that all the information given by the respondent is used only for educational purposes and the privacy and confidentiality of the respondents are ensured and their names are not even written anywhere for later use. Provide any answer as there are no right or wrong answers, and the respondent(s) is/are free to withdraw from participating from this study at any time if you/they feel uncomfortable. Your permission to use the tape recorder is also required. Further clarity will be given if needed.

### INFORMED CONSENT

Have you understood the purpose of this study?

YES       
NO     

Have you understood the conditions that I have explained to you?

YES       
NO

Are you willing to participate in the survey?

YES

NO

I give my consent to participate in the study of which the title is '***The Contribution of Street Vendors on the Economy of Thulamela Municipality, in Limpopo Province, South Africa***'. My participation is voluntary and I am also aware that I can withdraw at any time during my participation if I feel uncomfortable. I am also not expecting any rewards for my participation in this study.

PARTICIPANT No: \_\_\_\_\_ Vending Hotspot: \_\_\_\_\_

## **APPENDIX E: MBEKANYAKUSHUMELE YA INTHAVIYU (LOCAL LANGUAGE VERSION)**

THUSEDZO INE VHARENGISI VHA TSHITARATANI VHA DISA KHA IKONOMI YA MASIPALA WA THULAMELA KHA VUNDU LA LIMPOPO, AFURIKA TSHIPEMBE

YUNIVESITHI YA LIMPOPO

Inthaviyu iyi ya tsumbakushumele yo dzudzanyelwa u itela u kuvhanganya vhutanzi vhu kwameaho malugana na vhubinduzi/vharengisi vha tshitaratani zwi tshi kwama vhupo ha dorobo ya Thohoyandou kha Masipala wa Thulamela.

Ndivho ya inthaviyu iyi ndi u kuvhanganya vhutanzi malugana na matshilele a vhoramabindu/vharengisi vha tshitaratani, nyimele ya kushumele kwavho, mbuelo ya ikonomi na matshilisano kha vhubinduzi ha tshitaratani Thohoyandou zwine zwa do swikisa kha thusedzi ya zwa ikonomi/vhubinduzi na zwinwe.

Nne sa mutodulusisi kana muiti wa thodulususo iyi, ndi khou tama u vha divhadza zwauri vhutanzi hothe vhone ha do nekedzwa nga vho vhudzisiwaho vhu khou do vhudziswa kha zwa pfunzo fhedzi, nahone vhutanzi ha hone vhu do vha ha tshidzumbe. Madzina na vho vhudzisiwaho a vha nga nwaliwi fhasi u itela u do a shumisa tshifhingani tshi dahho. A hu na phindulo dza vhukuma kana dzi si dza vhukuma. Vha vhudziswa vha a dibvisa kha u vha tshipida tsha mushumo uyu arali vha tshi pfa vha songo vhotholowa. Thendelo yavho ya u shumisa theiphirekhoda yo tendelwa u itela u kuvhanganya mihumbulo yavho nga vhuronwane.

Zwo ralo, zwi tshi kwama ndivho ya inthaviyu, vhavhudziswa vha khou humbelwa u vha na tshumisano na mutodulusisi zwi tshi kwama u nea vhutanzi ho teaho na u dovha hafhu u tevhedza milayo I laulaho kulangele kwa malwadze angaho Covid-19

Ndo livhuwa



Mutodulusisi: Dzivhuluwani Matshinge

Hei inthaviyu I do fhedza henefha kha mithethe/minethe dza fumbilithanu [25] ngeno vhathu vha tshi khou humbelwa u fhindula mbdziso nga u fulufhedzea.

Vhutanzi ha Demogirafi

Vha khou humbelwa u nekedza zwidodombedzwa zwo bulwaho afho fhasi:

1. Mbeu

Munna

Mufumakadzi


2. Maimo a u malana

U sa malwa

U malwa

U lovhelwa

U taliwa


3. Murafho

Murafho

Muindia

Mutshena

Mukhaladi


4. Vhukale ha minwaha

10-19

20-29

30-39


40-49

50 na u ya ntha


5. Vha na laisentsi ya vhubindudzi ha tshitaratani?

Ee

Hai


TSUMBAKUSHUMELE YA INTAVIYU YA VHARENGISI/VHABINDUDZI VHA TSHITARATANI.

Kha vha fhindule mbudziso dzi tevhelaho:

TSHIGWI A: Vhutanzi ha kushumele kwa vhubindudzi ha tshitaratani

1. Vho thoma lini u bindundza/rengisa tshitaratani nahone ndi ngani?
2. Ndi ngafhi hune vha anzela u shumela hone nga duvha? Vha nee mihumbulo yavho/vha nee mbuno dzi pfadzaho.
3. Kha vha ambe zwitisi zwine zwa tutuwedza uri vha shumele fhethu henefho hune vha vha hone.
4. Ndi lushaka lufhio lwa lwa zwithu zwine vha zwi bindudza zwenezwo vha kha vhubindudzi na tshitaratani?
5. Vha shuma maduvha mangana nahone awara nngana nga duvha?
6. Vha na akhaunthu ya bannga ya zwa vhubindudzi naa?



## MBEKANYAKUITELE YA INTHAVIYU YA VHAOFISIRI VHA MASIPALA WA THULAMELA

1. Ndi zwifhio zwiitisi zwine zwa itisa uri vha dzhene kha zwa vhubindudzi ha tshitaratani?
2. Ndi vhabidudzi tshitaratani vhangana nga ungaredza vhane vha wanala fhethu hune ha vha tshivhilelani ho fhambanaho Thohoyandou.
3. Ndi dzifhio thaidzo dzi badekanyiwaho na vhubindudzi ha tshitaratani Thohoyandou (Matshilisano, Ikonomi na vhupo)? Kha vha tandavhudze nga vhudalo kha tshinwe na tshinwe.
4. Ndi zwifhio zwikhala zwavhudi zwine vhubindudzi ha tshitaratani ha vha nazwo kha ikonomi ya vhupo ha Thulamela.
5. Ndi zwifhio zwikhala zwavhudi zwine vhubindudzi ha tshitaratani ha vha nazwo kha vhashai vha no wanalesa doroboni ya Thohoyandou.
6. Muvhuso u nga ita mini u tandulula thaidzo dzo livhanaho na vhubindudzi ha tshitaratani

## FOMO YA U TENDA

Dzina la Mutodulusisi

Dzivhuluwani Matshinge

Thoho ya ngudo

THUSEDZO YA VHARENGISI VHA  
TSHITARATANI KHA IKONOMI YA MASIPALA  
WA THULAMELA KHA VUNDU LA LIMPOPO,  
AFURIKA TSHIPEMBE

Mufhinduli wa mbudziso

Vha khou humbelwa u tenda u dzhenelela kha ngudo. Musi vha sa athu u humbula u dzhenelela kana u sa dzhenelela, vha khou humbelwa uri vha swaye u ya nga ha tsheo yavho mabogisi a sumbedzaho zwenezwo afho fhasi.

Vha khou humbelwa u divha zwauri vhutanzi hothe ho netshedzwaho nga muvhudziswa vhu do shuma kha zwa pfunzo fhedzi ha dovha havha ho dzumbamaho nga ndila ya tshidzombe. Mufhinduli u do tsireledzwa, madzina

awe a do dzumbiwa ha nga nwaliwi fhasi hu u itela u do khwathisa vhutanzi tshifhingani tshi daho. Ahuna phindulo yone kana I si yone nahone muvhudziswa u a dibvisa kha u vha tshipida tsha uyu mushumo arali a tshi pfa a songo tsha vhofoholowa. Thendelo yavho kha u shumisa theiphirekhoda i a todea. Vho tendelwa u dibvisa kha u dzhenelela kha uyu mushumo tshifhinga tshinwe na tshinwe. Hunwe u bviselwa khagala hu do itiwa arali hu na thodea.

U TENDA HO NO PFESESWA ZWITHU/ U TENDA NGA MURAHU HA U TALUTSHEDZWA ZWITHU WA PFESESA.

Vha a pfesesa ndivho ya iyi ngudo naa?

Ee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hai	<input type="checkbox"/>

Vho pfesesa nyimele dze mutodulusisi a vha talutshedza dzone?

Ee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hai	<input type="checkbox"/>

Vha khou tenda u vha tshipida tsha ngudo idzi?

Ee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hai	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ndi khou tenda u vha murado kha ngudo ine thoho ya vha heyi: Thusedzo ine vaharengisi vha tshitaratani vha disa kha ikonomi ya Masipala wa Thulamela kha Vundu La Limpopo, Afurika Tshipembe. U dzhenelela hanga ndi ha u tou funa nahone ndi khou zwi vhona uri ndo vhofoholowa. Tshifhinga tshinwe na tshinwe ndi nga litsha arali ndi khou pfa ndi songo tsha vhofoholowa u isa phanda. A thi khou lavhelela u wana malamba a u dzhenelela hanga kha ngudo iyi.

Nomboro ya u dzhenelela : \_\_\_\_\_

Fhethu vhupo ha tshivhilela: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX F: RESULTS OF THE THEMATIC CONTENT ANALYSIS OF SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS FOR THE STREET VENDORS IN THULAMELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

<u>Section A:</u> Street vendors Operational Information			
	Questions	Emerging themes	Further comment
Q1	When did you start street vending and why?	Between 3 and 5 years Between 5 and 10 years Less than 3 years More than 10 years	Unemployment and to support family
Q2	When do you normally operate each day? Give reasons	Taxis and bus ranks Street pavement Public spaces	Many people looking for public transport
Q3	Suggest factors that determine the location of street vendors	Many people passing-by Many people are always gathered	Moving people and gathered people are potential customers
Q4	What kind of vending activities did you embark on?	Selling fruit and vegetables Selling cooked food Selling clothes Selling Mopane worms and other indigenous items Selling achaar Selling traditional medicines and medicinal plants Selling phone starter packs and fixing cell phones Operating makeshift hair saloons (Fixing hairs)	
Q5	How many days and hours do you work each day?	8 hours per day 7 hours per day 5 hours per day 4 hours per day	
Q6	Do you have a functional business bank account?	Have functional bank accounts (n=17)	To deposit money from street vending and grants from the government

Section B: The importance of street Vending in Thulamela Local Municipality			
	Questions	Emerging themes	Further comment
Q1	What are the main reasons that forced you start street vending?	To support family (n=9) Unemployment (n=3) To be self-employed (n=2) To supplement income (n=2) Lack of education (n=1) Entrepreneurial tendency (n=1)	
Q2	What are the advantages of street vending?	To support family (n=9) To be improve my livelihood (n=5) To create employment (n=3) Receive cash daily (n=1)	
Q3	To what extent do the market serve poor communities?	People can buy in affordable prices (n=10) People can buy in small quantity (n=2) Create employment opportunities (n=3) Available to the people every time and everywhere (n=3)	
Q4	What do you do with the money you get from vending different goods?	To support family (n=9) Save the money for future use (n=2) To improve the education of my children (n=4) To buy products to sell (n=3)	
Q5	What is your highest educational qualification	GET band (n=8) FET band (n=6) Bachelor's degree (n=3) Honours (n=1) Master's and above (n=0)	

Section C: Contribution of Street Vending in Thulamela Local Municipality			
	Questions	Emerging themes	Further comment
Q1	Explain how and where you get some products to sell	From the producers(n=9) From the retailers(n=3) From wholesalers(n=5) Self-produced products(n=1)	
Q2	What is the size of your family? List each member's gender, age and education	More than 4 members(n=3) From 2 to 4 members(n=14) Less than 2 members(n=1)	
Q3	Estimate the average income you get from street vending per month	Between R2001 to R4000 (n=1) Between R4001 to R6000 (n=4) Between R6001 to R8000 (n=5) Between R8001 to R10000(n=3) Above R10001(n=5)	
Q4	Do you have any other work apart from street vending	Vending only (n=11) Vending on the part time basis (n=3) Vending occasionally (Opportunistic vending (n=4)	

Section D: Policies and regulations that guide of Street Vending in Thulamela Local Municipality			
	Questions	Emerging themes	Further comment
Q1	Do you think street vending causes congestion and other anti-social activities in Thohoyandou CBD? Explain	Theft from the formal businesses (n=8) Pickpocketing (n=4) Prostitution(n=3) Other illegal activities(n=2) Accidents(n=1)	
Q2	How do you manage the place where you operate before you cease your vending activities	Carry the products to safe storerooms (n=6) Cleaning the vending places (n=4) Carrying their makeshifts tents to storeroom (n=6) Not to throw garbage on the storm drains (n=1) Collecting the wastes to garbage bins (n=1)	
Q3	Suggest problems that affect current vending activities. What could be the solution to these problems?	Harassment and evictions from selling places by municipal officials (n=8) Confiscations of commodities or products (n=5) Lack of selling spaces (n=3) Working in unsanitary and unhygienic conditions (n=3) Lack of freedidm during vending (n=2)	
Q4	What type of support do you get from local government and non-governmental organizations	No support (n=10) Training on entrepreneurship (n=3) Advice on how to improve the business (n=2) Funding to start businesses (n=3)	



**APPENDIX G: RESULTS OF THE THEMATIC CONTENT DATA ANALYSIS OF SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS OF THULAMELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OFFICIALS.**

	Questions	Emerging themes	Further comment
Q1	What are the factors that lead people to street vending?	Unemployment	
Q2	How many street vendors in different vending hotspots in Thohoyandou?	Mvusuludzo Taxi Rank Tshifhiwa Muofhe Street Thohoyandou New Bus Rank Thulamela Municipality Taxi Rank Thohoyandou Old Bus Rank Main Street from Vhembe District offices	
Q3	What are the problems associated with street vending in Thohoyandou (Social, economic and environment)? Elaborate on each	Garbage generation Blocking storm drains with waste. Theft from formal businesses Unnecessary competition to formal businesses Pickpocketing Prostitution Illegal gambling on the pavements. Illegal street vending or vending without licence. Blocking the paths used by other road users. Littering Working in unsanitary and unhygienic environment	
Q4	What are the opportunities that street vending has to the local economy	Job creation Providing people with affordable products Opportunity to sell agricultural and other products on a local market. Opportunity to develop vending business into a well-established formal business	
Q5	What are the opportunities that street vending has to the urban poor communities in Thohoyandou town	Supporting and care for the family	
Q6	To solve the problems faced by the street vendors what is to be done by the local government.	Organizing themselves by forming street vendors' associations Training on entrepreneurship Advice on how to improve business. Advice on how to get a start-up funding	