DECLARATION

Herewith, I Ngoako Prudence Bosch, declare that this dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for a Masters in Business Administration is a product of my own labour, is original in all design and execution. All material contained therein has been duly acknowledged.

Signed on this ..... day of November 2011

....................................................
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I express my deepest gratitude to the academic staff of the Graduate School of Leadership under the University of Limpopo for all the efforts in providing a thriving environment for learning. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Professor J. B. Pretorius, my supervisor, for the knowledge he passed on to me and for his constant encouragement.
DEDICATION

First and foremost, I thank the almighty God for the life he breathes in me. I dedicate this work to my father Dr. Abiel Matome Kgathi who, through his passing, I was motivated to trust myself to take on this challenge and to my mother Mangoedi Kgathi who through her continued emotional support, I was able to focus on doing my best to achieve the highest. Thank you for being a mother to my boys when I could not. To my strong husband Sthembiso Bosch who through his business successes I drew inspiration from and for his continued emotional support. You remained a case study throughout my coursework. To my sons Sithembiso and Monde for their understanding, love and a huge sacrifice of their time. To my son Lulwando for coming on earth precisely when the time was right. To my uncle Wilkus Modisha for pointing out the direction for this journey. I could not have achieved this without the strong and unwavering support you all have afforded me.

Furthermore I would like to thank all my friends and family for their words of motivation and encouragement. I am deeply grateful.
ABSTRACT

The potential for tourism to contribute to the economy of South Africa has been embraced by the new democratic government for a lengthy period. In order for government to benefit fully from tourism, it has charted out strategies and policies to make tourism grow and for communities to also benefit from the activities emanating from tourism. Although these measures to support the growth, development and sustainability of tourism SMMEs are in place, implementation remains a challenge.

The purpose of this study is to investigate how the growth and development strategies have been implemented in Limpopo province to support the sustainability of Tourism SMMEs in Polokwane. This is done through the interrogation of the literature to determine the major objectives of the tourism growth and development strategies in Limpopo Province, the challenges faced by tourism SMMEs and also to gain feedback through empirical studies on the effectiveness of, and support of the Tourism Growth and Development Strategies.
LIST OF ABBREVIATION

ASGISA  Accelerated Shared Growth Initiative South Africa
AG      Auditor- General
BEE     Black Economic Empowerment
DEAT    Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism
DTI     Department of Trade and Industry
EDFD    Enterprise Development Finance Division
GDP     Gross Domestic Product
GEAR    Growth Employment and Redistribution
GEM     Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
GVA     Growth Value Added
HDI     Historically Disadvantaged Individuals
LEDET   Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
LGB     Limpopo Gambling Board
LIBSA   Limpopo Business Support Agency
LIMDEV  Limpopo Economic Development Enterprise
LTP     Limpopo Tourism and Parks
NEPAD   New Partnership for Africa Development
NSDP    National Spatial Development Plan
PATII   Priority Areas of Tourism Infrastructure Investment
PCU     Policy Co-ordination Unit
PGDS    Provincial Growth and Development Strategy
RDP     Reconstruction and Development Programme
SAT     South African Tourism
SATI    South African Tourism Institute
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<td>SATOUR</td>
<td>South African Tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDI</td>
<td>Special Development Initiatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEDA</td>
<td>Small Enterprise Development Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMME</td>
<td>Small Medium and Micro Enterprises</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPSS</td>
<td>Statistical Package for Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>STATSSA</td>
<td>Statistics South Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>THETA</td>
<td>Tourism Hospitality and Sports Education Training Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>TIL</td>
<td>Trade and Investment Limpopo</td>
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<tr>
<td>WTTC</td>
<td>World Travel and Tourism Council</td>
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