

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS IN THE MANAGEMENT
OF THE GREAT LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTIER PARK**

by

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**Submitted in fulfilment of the requirements
for the degree**

DOCTOR ADMINISTRATIONIS (PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION)

**In the Faculty of
Economic and Management Sciences
University of Pretoria**

PROMOTER: Prof Dr C Thornhill

**PRETORIA
2007**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Studying is a lonesome journey which takes courage and patience. The support that I have received during the journey that ended up with a thesis has made the journey much easier and enjoyable. It is therefore important that I acknowledge the following people and institutions who/which contributed directly and indirectly to the final output of my studies:

- The first person I wish to acknowledge is Professor C. Thornhill who has unreservedly put his distinguished academic leadership, motivational skills and time at my disposal to provide a professional leadership and supervision from the writing of a research proposal until the submission of the last chapter and a consolidated thesis for examination. I am blessed to have learned from a distinguished academic;
- The defunct Technikon Northwest which became Tshwane University of Technology, has taken care of the tuition fees for my studies between 2004 and 2007. It is motivating be an employee of a distinguished University of Technology which encourage its employees to study through bursaries;
- Colleagues in the Department of Public Management under the leadership of Mr AJ Diale for the encouragement and moral support;
- Friends (Mr T Matlhare, Ms LM Mahlangu and Mr HM Maserumule) who offered technical support where my technological skills were found wanting; and
- Lastly, these acknowledgements will be incomplete if I forget to mention a formidable support structure at home. My wife Tshepo and our adorable daughter Mahlatse are specifically acknowledged for their willingness to sacrifice our quality time and allow me to work till late and often on weekends to complete my studies.

MELLO DM

SUMMARY

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE GREAT LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTIER PARK

South Africa has entered into a number of agreements aimed at the establishment of transfrontier parks. One of these agreements establishes the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GLTP) among South Africa, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The study on which the contents of this thesis are based was conducted during the period between 2003 and 2006. Chapter one of the thesis provides a general introduction, background to the area of study, objective of the of the GLTP, problem statement, research question, objectives of the study, limitations of the study, ethical requirements, research method, outline of chapters and the clarification of terms.

In chapter two the focus is on the requirements for effective and efficient management of natural resources. The study answers the question relating to the rationale for effective and efficient management of natural resources. Principles contained in *the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996*, *the National Environmental Management Act, 1998* and *the White Paper on Transforming Public Service Delivery, 1997* are regarded as a basis for effective and efficient natural resources management. Adherence to ethical standards, management skills, research and information management, conservation awareness, education, training and development, effective communication are important pillars in managing natural resources effectively and efficiently. The control function which determines the extent to which the GLTP function effectively also receives attention. It is for this reason that control measures, governing and management structures for the GLTP are assessed.

The GLTP agreement is international in nature. The agreement gives rise to international governmental relations. Although the agreement will ultimately lead to the removal all fences separating the three countries, the sovereignty of these states is still protected. It is argued in this thesis that the establishment of the GLTP is a direct consequence of

globalisation and the African Renaissance. In a globalised world nature conservation problems crosses borders of individual states hence cooperation becomes necessary. South Africa's foreign policy and friendly relations with its neighbours was instrumental to the establishment of the GLTP. International institutions necessary to pursue the ideals of GLTP are the United Nations, World Bank, World Conservation Union and the Regional Office for Southern Africa, African Union and Southern African Development Community. Bilateral and multilateral relations between SA Mozambique and Zimbabwe further harnessed friendly relations after relations which were characterised by hostilities.

It is further argued in this thesis that intergovernmental relations are influenced by the nature of the state and system of government. The *Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996* and other laws provide a framework for the facilitation of different forms of intergovernmental relations and creation of coordinating structures. The role of different departments, intergovernmental relations structures, provinces and municipalities involved in the management of the GLTP are explored.

Extragovernmental relations is another sub-theme elaborated on in the study. The concept cooperative governance is analysed. Furthermore, the nature and extent of public participation in the management of natural resources also receives attention. The essence of community based natural resources management is explored with specific reference to the Makuleke Community which owns part of the land in the GLTP. Different forms of partnerships and the Black Economic Empowerment are discussed.

The last theme of the thesis focuses on tourism management in the GLTP. The role of international and national role players is analysed. The state of tourism in South Africa, Mozambique and Zimbabwe as well as different options for revenue sharing are assessed. The economic significance of tourism and the challenges facing South Africa in tourism development receive attention. Finally, the thesis is concluded with findings and recommendations outlined in the last chapter.

Intergovernmental relations in the management of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park

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Abstract

The study probes intergovernmental relations in the management of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GLTP). The GLTP is established by trilateral agreement among South Africa, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Transfrontier parks are new phenomena in South Africa and Southern Africa. The novelty of the phenomena justifies the conduct of research with a view to uncover and add new knowledge to the study of Public Administration.

The focus of the thesis is on the different types of governmental relations necessary for the successful management of the GLTP. More emphasis in the thesis is on the contribution made by South Africa to the improvement of relations, successful management and development of the GLTP. The relations analysed in the thesis are international and national in nature. Furthermore, the essence of the sovereignty of the state, globalization, the African Renaissance, the contribution made by international institutions, provincial, and local government receive attention in the thesis. Tourism management, stakeholders, the state of tourism in the three countries and challenges facing South Africa and the GLTP in the promotion of tourism are assessed as tourism has become a significant growth area in the economies of most developing countries.

Key terms

1. Intergovernmental relations
2. Great Limpopo
3. Transfontier park
4. Tourism
5. South Africa

Declaration

I declare that the thesis, which I hereby submit for the degree *Doctor Administrationis* at the University of Pretoria is my own work and has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other tertiary institution.

David Mbatl Mello

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