DEDICATION

I dedicate this work, firstly, to my family. My husband, Fhatuwani Mulaudzi, your unwavering support and motivation throughout this PhD project was incredible. Your constant loving push and compelling and your words: ‘You are already halfway through just give this one more push, and you will be done!’

To my daughters, Anza, Masana and Wanga Madembe, I will always cherish your wise and encouraging words that there are things that one cannot give up without thinking of unintended consequences. I love you.

To my late father Samshehu S Banyini, I dedicate this to you. Dad-I know you would have been very proud of me and I always remembered you words ‘very few good things come easy’. This project was indeed hard and painful yet enjoyable –Inkomu tatana. To my mother Agnes, thank you for passing the wisdom of hard work and perseverance.

I also dedicate this to my late father-in-law, Esrom Mulaudzi, who constantly encouraged me and pulled me up when I would be down and under, ndou livhuwa. This is for you baba. Mma, thank you for listening.

Yes, I could not have done this without the Almighty God.