

FACTORS AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF DONOR-FUNDED PROJECTS: THE MODERATING ROLE OF IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY AND BENEFICIARY SUPPORT.

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Abstract

Research has shown that many donor-funded projects in developing countries are rampantly challenged or fail to achieve their objectives. Some of the projects collapse or are abandoned during the implementation stage as a result of poor methods used. The purpose of this research is to assess and comprehend the factors that affect the performance of donor-funded projects. The mixed method approach of quantitative and qualitative was used for the study. The factors considered were the roles played by the local organizations, the donor partners, the social and the collaborative factors. This study also considered the moderating roles of the implementation strategy and the support from the beneficiary societies. The study showed that the role the local organizations play in the project implementation is crucial. The study revealed that the role of beneficiaries in donor-funded projects is very important in project development. The research revealed that other factors such as political interference, also affect the smooth implementation and the performance of donor-funded projects. The researcher has suggested how these factors could be managed to ensure better performance of DFPs. The number of projects that fail each year could be reduced if the factors identified in the study are properly addressed by the authorities. Recommendations have been made on how the various factors impacting on the implementation and the performance of DFPs could be managed to sustain the projects after their completion. This, the researcher believes, would help the citizenry to reap the full benefits of various projects and improve the economic wellbeing of the beneficiary communities.

Keywords: Donor funded project; beneficiary support; implementation strategy; project performance