
PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE IN THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING IN UGANDA: WHAT ARE THE SUCCESSES AND FAILURES?

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The prime objective of the study is to examine the effect of project management on performance in the institutions of higher learning in Uganda. Given the role education plays to an economy by empowering the human resources with the much-needed skills to increase efficiency, productivity, to empower the future generation with the right attitude and values, a number of projects have been introduced to ensure growth and sustainability by the institutions. With good project management, institutions can be able to equip the learners with the necessary skills required in the world of work, manage change and adapt to the new work environment, promote creativity, innovation and idea generation among project participants, promotes team work, collaborations with the private sector to address existing community challenges, utilize the alumni to pass on skills to future generations, promote self-sufficiency with secure source of cash flows, institution credibility and ranking both in the local and international levels. Despite the multiple benefits offered by projects to the institutions of higher learning, many fail to take-off and meet the expectations of the founders, some remain in the shelves, many do not live for long after inauguration leading to time and cost overruns, low retention and enrollment of students, low or no profitability, low outreach, and graduate's employability which may be attributed to project planning difficulties, poor project monitoring and control, plus the failure to take projects as learning organizations to manage change and adapt to new work environments. The study is employing a cross-sectional research design with both quantitative and qualitative approaches with a sample size of 385 participants. Thematic analysis is employed to analyze qualitative data. Test for reliability is carried out using interraters or peer review. Normality test is carried out basing on Skewness and Kurtosis of the study findings.

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