

Factors influencing implementation of educational projects in public secondary schools in Manga District, Nyanza Province, Kenya

Abstract:

The study was investigating the factors that influence effective implementation of projects in public secondary schools since the introduction of free secondary education in Kenya; a case of secondary schools in Manga District. The statement of the problem was that the delivery of educational projects in Manga District remained sluggish despite efforts from stakeholders to fund the same projects. The objectives of the study were; To find out the stakeholder contributions on the introduction, implementation and performance of public projects, find out how resource allocation and utilization contributes to effective implementation of projects in public secondary schools, Asses the influence of management skills on effective implementation of projects. The literature review is related to the projects in public secondary schools; Funding and investment opportunities as projects in schools towards meeting the United Nations Millennium Development goals in education. The research adopted a descriptive survey design. The study target population was in all the public secondary schools and their project management teams in the District. Eighty four respondents were targeted. The study sample constituted 22% of the target population. The District officers were purposively included in the sample. Simple random sampling was used to select other respondents in the management team. The questionnaire was used to collect data. The data was analyzed using linear regression method in SPSS to establish whether one variable was dependent on another or a combination of other variables. The coefficient(s) of regression were determined for a sample and then made inferences on the population. Results of the study showed that all the four factors: resource allocation, resource utilization, management skills and stakeholder support were significantly related to project implementation with positive Pearson's correlation coefficients of (0.5775, 587, 0.627 and 0.778 respectively. The regression results also showed that 67.1% of the variation in project implementation can be explained by the changes in resource allocation, resource utilization management skills and stakeholder support. With these findings, this research study provides many implications for project management practices and contributes to knowledge of project implementation in schools. The model of project implementation can be used as guidance for actions to improve the project implementation in secondary schools. Further research can be carried out on other factors that may influence implementation of projects which may include but not limited to: Role of politics and role of the sponsor in the implementation of projects in public secondary schools.